

# Transport Workers' Union of Australia

National President  
Tim Dawson

ABN 18 559 030 246



3 September 2024

## MEMBER UPDATE: TRANSFER OF GOVERNANCE

Dear Member,

The TWU National Council wishes to advise Victorian and Tasmanian members that the Vic/Tas Branch has been disbanded and an interim governance arrangement has begun under the stewardship of the National Committee of Management. This comes as a result of an independent investigation into the culture and governance of the Vic/Tas Branch, which found that the branch was not functioning effectively.

The TWU is unwaveringly committed to robust representation and advocacy for members, and strives to achieve the highest levels of governance. This action is not taken lightly, but is to ensure we can remain focused on what matters – fighting for the rights and interests of transport workers.

The comprehensive inquiry conducted by retired judge, The Honourable Frank Marks, followed unfounded allegations against former Branch Secretary Mem Suleyman, which were cleared. However, the inquiry uncovered operational and cultural issues within the branch that we take extremely seriously and have acted upon with this interim governance arrangement.

The important day-to-day work of the union will continue, including bargaining and enforcing enterprise agreements, supporting delegates and members to resolve workplace issues, providing legal advice and representation, and campaigning for a fairer, safer transport industry. Any personnel changes will be accommodated to ensure members continue to receive the best possible level of union representation. Where applicable, delegates and members will be updated of any changes to your point of contact.

The National Committee of Management has great pride in the achievements of TWU members. Over the last 12 months, these have included:

- Winning world-first legislation to set and lift standards across road transport and the transport gig economy, and submitting the first applications during the first week of laws taking effect;
- Defeating Qantas in the High Court over the illegal outsourcing of 1700 workers and continuing to fight for compensation for those workers;
- Achieving strong enterprise agreements, including in major transport operators and Virgin cabin crew and ground crew;
- Over 1,000 members and their families holding national convoys for reform; and
- Gaining commitments to improve safety and conditions for bus drivers.

We know the next 12 months and beyond will bring more successes as, together, we work to lift standards for road transport and aviation workers in Australia.

Work is underway to utilise the groundbreaking new laws we've won as a union. Applications were recently submitted to make road transport supply chains fairer, provide a safety net for gig workers and owner drivers in food and last mile deliveries, and a Same Job Same Pay application to lift the pay of cabin crew working at Jetstar. Meanwhile the campaign for legislative reform of aviation has commenced and will ramp up as we call for a Safe and Secure Skies Commission. FedEx bargaining is being finalised, while StarTrack and other negotiations begin. There is no shortage of exciting and ambitious work being carried out across the TWU.

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National President  
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The National Committee of Management will keep members updated as this matter progresses.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Tim Dawson", written in a cursive style.

Tim Dawson  
TWU National President