

FOOTPLATE

NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH / LOCOMOTIVE DIVISION

ISSUE 39: November 2018

Sydney Trains Membership Concerns and Issues Taskforce

The recent Electric Train Drivers Committee (ETDC) meeting served to highlight the desperate need for Sydney Trains to seriously address the concerns of members across a myriad of issues including but not limited to access to leave, payroll issues and critical incidents.

Your ETDC Delegates unanimously supported the creation of a Taskforce to work through the issues as identified and driven by members and report back to ETDC at regular intervals.

The ETDC is represented on the Taskforce by the following Depot Organisers;

Chris Noble - Leppington
 Giovanna Bonelli - Central
 Kevin Wilson - Blacktown
 Luis Heredia - Mortdale
 Scott Harland - Flemington
 Nathan Turnbull - North Sydney

The Taskforce had its initial meeting on Monday, 26th November at Mortdale Train Crew facility with the above Delegates meeting with Sydney Trains management.

Supporting your ETDC Delegates was Divisional Assistant Secretary Passenger Andrew Holt and Locomotive Division Lead Passenger Organiser Bob Newham. Future meeting will see the inclusion of Farren Campbell on behalf of the Locomotive Division.

Coming from Monday's meeting is in-principle agreement (subject to ETDC endorsement) of the following issues;

- The inclusion of schedule numbers for all Stand-By shifts in the master roster.
 (Excluding Relief Lines)
- If a public holiday occurs during rostered annual leave, the leave will be extended by the number of public holidays that occurred
- Reintroducing a payroll issues register at each depot to identify and address ongoing issues

It must be emphasised that the Task Force cannot make agreement but is for the purpose of talking about the issues and making recommendations/reporting back to ETDC; which is the decision making body for Locomotive Division Members in Sydney Trains.

The Locomotive Division will continue to seek ways to resolve long-outstanding issues of interpretation/application and important issues like access to leave which continue to cause frustration to members.

In efforts to achieve further improvements for Drivers, the Taskforce has committed to meet again Tuesday, 4th December 2018 at Blacktown Depot to focus on the following;

- Improving access to unplanned leave
- Clarifying the application of lift up/lay back and overtime bonus
- Improving the consistency and accuracy of communications
- Prioritising facility improvements at Central and Hornsby Stations

Following Tuesday's meeting, the Taskforce will report back to the ETDC in the first half of December to seek further direction/endorsement to continue working to further the interests of all Drivers.

Depot Organisers will continue to keep members updated as progress is made.

Additionally, Taskforce Delegates will construct a newsletter following each meeting informing members of discussions and advising of next steps.

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