



Virgin Australia Update

EBA Bulletin # 29 – 28 August 2019

Virgin Australia announces cuts and misses the marks

Today Virgin Australia has announced massive cuts to staff in it's Head Office, although in conversations today Virgin couldn't confirm that these cuts would not extend to other areas across the network.

News reports said 750 jobs across the business. ASU members are understandably shocked at the announcement, especially given that there has been no warning that such drastic action was being considered.

In case you were unaware, Union members at head office have been seeking to sit down with Virgin Australia and negotiate an agreement for wages and conditions for staff for over six months. These discussions would have been an opportunity to discuss these concerns. Unfortunately Virgin has refused to negotiate and continues to fight to prevent negotiations in the Fair Work Commission.

If Virgin was committed to limiting the adverse impact of their financial position on staff, they would agree to negotiate, rather than spend money on lawyers to avoid genuine discussions.

Your union office has had a conversation with Todd Reynolds, General Manager, Group Workplace Relations following his email to your union office.

Your Union office has requested an urgent a meeting be held with delegates at head office and Virgin representatives to discuss these proposals, including proposed timeframes and measures to avoid or reduce the adverse effects of the changes on employees.

The ASU is waiting for a response from Virgin to this request – if they don't meet with your union delegates and office – this may enliven a dispute at the Fair Work Commission, to force meaningful consultation.

Here is what your union office knows so far:

Head Office Staff:

- Virgin has not committed to discuss this announcement further yet. Pressure is being put on them about this.
- The wage freeze may affect you – this is because you are not currently on a collective agreement.
- Your union is unsure about what this means for your Remuneration Review, which has been promised over the past months.

Airport Staff and the GCC:

- Virgin has committed to discuss this announcement further with your union delegates in consultative committees and/or other appropriate forums over the next few months
- The wage freeze is not affecting you, but negotiations are coming up in coming months – and may be something VA seek to force.

It's important that at times like these, union members stick together – support each other and ensure that everyone knows their rights.



Virgin Australia Bargaining Update

If you need to discuss matters further, please don't hesitate to reach out to your team at the union office or your union delegates.

Your Local ASU Organisers:

State	Name	Contact Number
NSW	Thomas Russell	0419 761 320
VIC	Imogen Sturni	0433 339 656
QLD	Billy Colless	0419 736 886
SA/NT	Scott McFarlane	0426 291 572

Your ASU workplace representatives:

State	Name
NSW	Lorry Parissakis
NSW	Tara Stewart
NSW	Karen Oviedo
VIC	Sarah Hogan
VIC	Shannon Chirgwin
QLD	Josh Brady
QLD	Emma Golder