

MEDIA RELEASE

TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018

Central Coast workers in call to Change the Rules

Around 200 local union members are expected to attend the Central Coast launch of the Change the Rules campaign in Gosford TONIGHT (Tuesday 31 July, 2018).

ACTU Secretary Sally McManus said recent polling in the Federal seat of Robertson on the Central Coast showed strong community support for the Change the Rules agenda.

“People on the Central Coast are telling us that the rights of local workers are under attack,” Ms Manus said.

“Over 82 per cent of people surveyed believed there should be a substantial increase to the minimum wage, and over 67 per cent wanted legislative protection for penalty rates.

“Wages have stagnated or declined, while the cost of living and corporate profits have gone up. Meanwhile permanent full-time jobs have been turned into casual or part-time.

“It’s time to change the rules so that working people on the Central Coast can have more secure jobs, better pay and better quality of life.”

Unions NSW Secretary Mark Morey said that union members on the Central Coast were particularly concerned about issues such as youth unemployment, the future of TAFE, poor infrastructure and cuts to penalty rates.

“Over 5,000 workers in the electorate of Robertson have had their pay cut twice in the space of 12 months because of the Turnbull Government’s cuts to penalty rates,” Mr Morey said.

“When you combine this with the lack of jobs growth, the terrible state of local roads, and the rising cost of TAFE courses, it’s clear the Central Coast has been getting a dud deal from the Turnbull Federal Government.”

Ms McManus, Mr Morey and other speakers will be available for interview prior to the launch event tonight at the Central Coast Leagues Club, 1 Dane Drive, tonight at 6.30pm.

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