

# AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES



Circular: 33/20  
Ref: COVID - 19 Update  
27/03/2020

## COVID - 19 Update – QR Regional

Dear members,

The AFULE has been and will continue to be in regular contact with QR management as we all work together through this health emergency. In efforts to keep you all informed with communications as close to real time as possible, the AFULE has been posting regular updates to our Facebook page. If you are not already following the page I encourage you to do so.

Decreases in Traveltrain services have been announced, these downgrades are as followed;

- The Spirit of Queensland, 5 services reduced to 3
- The Rockhampton Tilt, 7 services reduced to 4
- The Bundaberg Tilt, 5 services reduced to 2

Temporary cancellations have also been announced for the following;

- The Spirit of the Outback
- The Westlander
- The Inlander
- The Gulflander
- The Kuranda Tourist service

**There will be training etc that affected drivers can undertake, however, if you are not required to work, then you will continue to be paid as if you were.**

The AFULE has put its support behind keeping the Tilts running as they are a vital lifeline for connecting regional Queenslanders to necessary health services. We commend our members who are working hard keeping these services going.

What is really important right now is to stay positive, support each other and check in with each other. The AFULE is the oldest Rail Union of Workers in the world. You are the latest in a long line of mighty men and women who have weathered wars and economic downturns again and again and come out the other end united and strong.

We are going to do our part now to keep Queensland strong and safe and when we have, we'll get back to work and do our bit to get Queensland going again.

**There is absolutely nothing to panic about. Keep referring to the document the CEO sent us with your leave and work arrangements in it. If you are worried pick up the phone and talk to someone, we can help.**

**Remember when this is over your job will be there and you'll be needed back at work.**

The AFULE have requested that our No. 7 Divisional Councillor Anthony Chalker be kept in the loop with daily conversations to occur. We are conscious this is a difficult time for everyone and together we are working hard to provide solutions and reassurance wherever possible. Should you have any queries or concerns please contact Anthony or Mel at State Office.

**Traincrew representing Traincrew**

Make sure you ask every question you may have, when it comes to your health and safety, there are no dumb questions. Now is the time to remember a union isn't just insurance, it is all of us standing together making sure we stay safe and come out the other end as best we can.

Just to reiterate AFULE are posting regular updates to our Facebook page, the page is a public page as such members who are not Facebook users are still able to access the information. To be directed to our page [please click here](#).

If you have any issues or concerns you would like to raise with AFULE please email these in to [statesecretary@afule.org.au](mailto:statesecretary@afule.org.au) or call your State Office on 3844 9163 or Divisional Councillor Anthony Chalker on 0402 178 404.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. McKittrick', is written over a solid black horizontal line.

Michael McKittrick  
State Secretary