



General Media Enquires

P: (08) 9323 3800

(request Publicity Office)

F: (08) 9323 3878

E: publicity@cpsuca.org

Wednesday March 20, 2013

ATTENTION: Hayley Goddard

Questions raised about privatisation trial

Department of Transport plans to privatise truck driving assessments in the Bunbury region have been slammed by the Community and Public Sector Union/Civil Service Association.

The department has launched a trial that will see major South-West driving schools become both instructors and assessors for HR and HC driving licences but the union feels it will become more than a trial and be rolled out to other areas across Western Australia.

CPSU/CSA Branch Secretary Toni Walkington said it was another example of government privatising a service that should remain in the public hands and be free from any temptation of corruption.

“We call on the department to shelve any further privatisation trials and to listen to the major concerns of assessors,” Ms Walkington said.

Assessors want to have genuine consultation with senior staff from Driver and Vehicle Services and Regional Services within the next four weeks.

“If the department does not communicate with us properly in that time frame we will have another meeting to vote on possible industrial action.”

The strong message from a meeting of Perth assessors last week was the credibility around the auditing of private companies.

“We can’t understand why the government would be handing over something like this to an unregulated industry,” Ms Walkington said.

“The public will assume the government will put in resources to audit these operators and make sure they all comply.

“The public needs to know what is happening and no doubt road safety advocates will also be alarmed.”

WE MAKE
WORK LIFE
BETTER

Ms Walkington said the community needed to know that a test anywhere in the state will be to the same standard.

Assessors are also concerned there will be reduced career paths within the department that has a high rate of turnover.

“Deskilling the workforce seems to be high on the agenda.”

FOR COMMENT:

Toni Walkington
CPSU/CSA Branch Secretary
(08) 9323 3800

FOR INFORMATION:

Darren O’Dea
CPSU/CSA Media Liaison Officer
M: 0421 934 794
P: (08) 9323 3855
E: darren.odea@cpsucsa.org

WE MAKE
WORK LIFE
BETTER