



Newsletter: 1378/2020
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Distribution: All ambulance members
Contact: Your HSU delegate



Sydney Inspectors call late night industrial action to defend numbers

Sydney was at Status 2 on Monday and at least status 1 Tuesday, with extended bed block, multiple emergency jobs with no response – the lot. The chances that paramedics caught a break during this was near zero. Risk to paramedic safety, both physically and psychologically, is extreme during these periods when there are more time-critical jobs than crews.

The West Sydney Nepean Blue Mountains Sector has funding for and requires five DOMs on day/afternoon shift. Delegates were informed last night that sector management is refusing to backfill at least one DOM vacancy, leaving struggling paramedics one or more DOMs down. This puts pressure on paramedics who rely on DOMs to assist in keeping them safe, but also to push back on workload demands if things are getting unreasonable.

DOMs themselves have horror shifts when their numbers are depleted, because they know that if they aren't able to give each issue enough time, paramedics, patients, and the Service can suffer.

NSWA hasn't told us why they wouldn't backfill the vacancy – we hope it's not about money. Regardless of the reason, ADHSU paramedics (including DOMs) have started to push back on NSW's continued corner-cutting and are taking a stand.

All Sydney DOMs immediately banned attending to hospital delays and non-paramedic safety related IMMSs. The management who refused the backfill will have to cover this work themselves.
This industrial action has spread to all ADHSU Sydney DOMs.

Two other actions continue to be in force:

[The black ban on driving single for 60 minutes](#) or more and the [Sydney ban on shift movements across sectors and some zones](#).

No individual member can be disciplined for taking authorised industrial action. If you hear the words '**are you refusing duty**', please politely let the officer know you are adhering to ADHSU industrial action and that NSW should take it up with the Union office.

If you continue to be threatened, ring your delegate immediately and a state-wide response to the intimidation will be implemented.

Two previous ban newsletters here:

[Black ban on travelling unsafe distances to cover gaps in rosters](#)

[Sydney Delegates ban shift movements across sectors](#)

In unity,

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD