

## Gosford Hospital Environmental Services concerns

Dear Member,

For a number of months now, the HSU has been negotiating with Gosford Hospital and CCLHD Management regarding ways to ensure the Environmental Services department is well staffed, resourced and provides the best service to patients and the community.

Despite members already having taken industrial action once, we have concerns that members are still not being heard.

It seemed there was a glimmer of hope when an increase of 22FTE was announced – although we are still waiting for half of those numbers to materialise – our members are reporting that this glimmer has faded and we are back to where we were prior to taking industrial action. Concerns have not been addressed and are in many cases getting worse.

The HSU has been made aware of, amongst other things: bed cleans taking 6 hours to be allocated; mould on carpets being found; staff not being given access to ADOs; staff turning up for shift only to be told 'you're not rostered today'; 3 PSAs only rostered on afternoon shifts to cover 6 wards; staff leaving shift because of the disrespect shown to them by supervisors or management; and management falsely claiming the union have agreed staff can be moved outside of their zone to cover shortfalls due to understaffing.

On the last issue of moving staff between zones, let me be very clear: the HSU **has not agreed** to this practice, and any claims otherwise are simply a poor attempt to divide union members. It is clear that this measure has been pushed by management. The HSU has stated we are willing to negotiate an agreement regarding workloads if short staffed. We are advising members that until this agreement is signed, you should continue to stay in your zone. If you are pushed or threatened, let your HSU delegates know straight away.

The HSU has also been made aware by other members that these issues are having an impact in other areas and departments, resulting in detrimental effects on service delivery and patient care. If you are an HSU member in another department and have experienced difficulties in accessing Environmental Services, or have examples of patient care being compromised, we encourage you to make use of the Chief Executive's alleged 'open door policy' he boasted of during the [NBN News report](#) on our recent stop work meeting. You should do this by following the usual channels to reporting these concerns, but also at the same

time reporting them to the Corporate Services manager directly via email [craig.walsh@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:craig.walsh@health.nsw.gov.au) so he is aware of what is actually happening.

Your union will continue to fight for the best possible service for the Central Coast community – a service that is fully staffed and resourced, but one that is also treated with the respect and dignity it deserves.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', with a long, sweeping underline.

Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD