

Liverpool Hospital: Have you been paid your laundering allowance?

Dear Member,

Well done to Administration Officers from the Emergency Department for raising concerns around non-payment of basic entitlements. Union members expressed frustration around not receiving their Laundering Allowance and, unsatisfied with the response, escalated the matter through to the union office. This matter has now been resolved for most involved, with paperwork being finalised for those still remaining.

What is the Laundering Allowance?

The Laundering Allowance is an entitlement for NSW Health employees who are provided with a uniform and are required to wash it themselves. You can read more about this allowance in Clause 23 of *the Health Employee Conditions of Employment (State) Award 2018*. This weekly allowance should be automatically allocated to those who receive a uniform but there are numerous instances where this has not been properly processed on the employee's record. Generally this shouldn't be an issue but with backpay taking months, it has become a headache for those not receiving what is a basic entitlement.

How did this come to our attention?

Credit goes to a key representative and union members in the area for raising this directly with the union office. The matter was raised internally in June 2018. A follow up email in August 2018 indicated the paperwork was still being processed. A painful nine months later, payment has finally been processed.

What happens next?

This small group of members have highlighted that others may not be receiving their Laundering Allowance. Please check your pay slip to see if you're receiving what you're entitled to. Those who are allocated a uniform and launder it themselves are entitled to this allowance. And if you aren't receiving it? Email your Organiser directly, who will then put forward collective claims on behalf of union members. Contact sarah.gleeson@hsu.asn.au with your name, membership number and location in which you work to progress any claims for unpaid entitlements.

It is only by working together that we build power in the workplace. Talk to your colleagues, let them know what's happening at Liverpool Hospital and, if they're

not a member, encourage them to get on board. Together we have the capacity to create workplace change.

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