

Uniting Goonellabah Update

Dear Member,

The HSU and senior management from Uniting held an urgent meeting at 2:30pm Thursday 2nd May after the HSU filed a WHS dispute citing serious concerns about unsafe staffing levels in all four work groups at Goonellabah. Given the current low staffing levels, the workforce cannot possibly operate with the proposed substantial cuts to staff. HSU raised the issues of the current low staffing levels, constant roster reviews, staff not being replaced and in some cases lack of consistent management. Uniting acknowledged there have been staffing issues, which is good start.

The WHS dispute requires all parties to come to an agreement in writing. Should there be no agreement, parties can seek arbitration. The HSU is hoping for a positive outcome. Parties will meet again on Monday 6th May to discuss a consultation process. The HSU made it abundantly clear that safe and sustainable staffing levels are the only acceptable outcome.

Your local organiser will be visiting all three facilities on Monday 6th May at the following times:

Jarman 9:00am – 10:30am

Kalina and Central Kitchen 11:00am – 1:30pm

Marima 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Only union members will receive union support. If you know anyone who isn't a member of the HSU, now is a good time to have the conversation. They can visit www.hsu.asn.au or call the Union on 1300 478 679. Meanwhile, the HSU will keep members up to date as information comes to hand.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD