

Fairfield Hospital: Where is our audit report?

Dear Member,

HSU Members at Fairfield Hospital called an urgent meeting to discuss ongoing concerns about rostering and unsafe work practices. Your union requested an external audit into the department back at the end of 2017, with concerns raised around rostering, cleaners moving large bins around the facility and workplace health and safety issues. Despite numerous requests from union officials and your workplace representative, the report is yet to be forthcoming. In the meantime, there are a number of mistruths being circulated.

Remember: Union members are informed workers

Myth 1: The HSU agreed to the current roster

Yes, Union officials and your workplace representatives met with management to discuss a proposed template roster. **Yes**, this roster template was to be shared with affected employees to ensure transparency. And **No**, the process of consultation which was supposed to take place has not occurred. The HSU actively encourages our members to have input into workplace change that affects them and would never agree to a roster being implemented without our members being consulted with.

The roster now in place is vastly different to the template previously viewed by HSU representatives and places permanent employees at a financial disadvantage due to loss of penalties. This doesn't promote a safe workplace or an engaged workforce; in fact, it creates high levels of frustration for all involved.

Myth 2: The current roster is now permanent

The current roster is not the original roster template agreed to at a meeting with management, union officials and your workplace representative.

The new roster was to be implemented with consultation and an additional review after three months. One of our repeated requests at Staff Consultative Committees is the review take place as soon as possible. This review is still yet to take place and the employer continues to ignore our requests.

Myth 3: Cleaners will continue to stay in the dark about their working conditions

As we saw at today's meeting, this is incorrect. Members and potential members joined together to discuss concerns about the lack of transparency. Last week, your employer presented their version of the external audit, which we can only

assume is a snippet of the report. Problems are placed at the feet of cleaners, requesting our members to yet again clean up the employer's mess. Members, who will no longer be willing to be blamed for the hospital's problems, voted unanimously to take industrial action if their concerns aren't addressed.

All of this was achieved under the watchful eye of management. Those who participated in the meeting must be congratulated for having the courage to stand up and say:

'We've had enough.'

It's crucial to stick together and support each other. Those who are not members of the HSU are encouraged to join now. It's only through collective action that we can hold your employer to account. Join at www.hsu.asn.au or by calling your Union on 1300 HSU NSW.

As for the report, where is it? We don't know. The only conclusion HSU members can come to is the report is so damning of the employer they won't release it to us.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD