

## **NNSWLHD Laundry Allowance Update**

Dear Member,

As you would be aware, the HSU recently went to the Industrial Relations Commission to get Laundry Allowance paid for the final group – mainly those employed in Allied Health.

The LHD stopped processing the backpay due to concerns about the new Uniform Policy raised by the HSU, after members objected to not being able to opt out of wearing a uniform for both safety and clinical reasons.

At the IRC it was requested that the HSU provide a written clause to allow staff to exempt themselves from wearing a uniform if the uniform was going to place their safety at risk. After discussions with a manager in the Executive, it was agreed that we could also put forward wording for a clause to allow staff to exempt themselves from wearing a uniform for clinical reasons.

Last week the Northern NSW LHD wrote to the HSU advising that they will not be altering the Uniform Policy to include the provisions to exempt staff from wearing a uniform for WHS and Clinical reasons.

The LHD are continuing to hold to ransom the backpay of the Laundry Allowance for 265 people.

The staff not being paid are as follows:

- Allied Health staff employed in hospital and community (including Aides, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Dietitians, Speech Pathologists, Exercise Physiologists, Podiatrists, Diversional Therapists, Orthotists/Prosthetists, Audiometrists, Technical Officers and Assistants.
- Trades – all Trades Staff
- Scientific & Technical Staff – Surgical Dressers, Operations Assistants
- Oral Health (including Dental Assistants, Dental Technicians, Dental Therapists)

The HSU has again relisted the Laundry Allowance dispute in the Industrial Relations Commission.

If you know someone who is not yet a member of the HSU, encourage them to join today and help to make our Union stronger. They can join at [www.hsu.asn.au](http://www.hsu.asn.au) or by calling the Union on 1300 HSU NSW.

More to come...

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