



Newsletter: 659/2019
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Distribution: All ambulance members
Contact: James Fox



Annual Leave Debacle Update

The Annual Leave dispute returned to the IRC yesterday.

There has been some movement from the Ministry. The pro-rata leave accrual (that's the leave building up before your anniversary date) will not be counted towards excess leave. Delegates think this should deal with some of the issues that members are experiencing.

Additionally, they have indicated that programmed (planned) leave should not be deducted when assessing whether someone has excess leave.

The Ministry has indicated that as many as 53% of all staff have some level of excess leave. We find that hard to believe. We are going to scrutinise this when we receive some data about the spread of excess annual leave.

Going forward the plan is to develop a policy and some rules around the management of excess leave that takes into account the particular needs of ambulance employees in a way that is fair and allows for annual leave to be used in a meaningful way. Annual leave is a right that was won decades ago and union members should always be entitled to take it at the best possible time for themselves and their families.

Many members have contacted ADHSU about being incorrectly accused of having excess leave. Each example has been taken up with the Ministry.

If you have an outstanding issue or if you dispute whether any leave you have been directed to take is in fact excess, please contact James.Fox@hsu.asn.au

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', written over a white background.

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD