HSU fights back against NSW Government Health cuts

Dear Member,

You may have seen some unsettling headlines in the news this week: the revelation that the NSW Government is hatching plans to cut $252 million from the Health budget over the coming financial year (see 9 News story here and Sydney Morning Herald story here).

Unfortunately, the hatchet gang is at it again.

The HSU is committed to fight these cuts every step of the way. As any member working in public health knows only too well, there is no room for further cuts in the NSW Health budget. Health workers are already stretched to the limit, with unfilled vacancies and understaffing rife across the state. Something has to give, and there can be little doubt that patient outcomes and ambulance response times will suffer should these cuts be allowed through.

We’ve fought against the NSW Government’s cost-cutting measures before, and we won. When the Government tried to privatise five regional hospitals, we never stopped fighting – until they backed down. When they tried to sell off public linen services to private interests, we never stopped fighting – until they backed down. Even recently, when they brought a massive legal challenge to try and crush a rightful claim for HSU Patient Transport Officers, we never stopped fighting – until they backed down.

We’ll have more material for members to get involved in the campaign soon, but for the meantime, please visit our Facebook page and Twitter and like and share as much as you can. Let’s get the news out!

In unity,

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD