HSU fights health cuts: The campaign begins

Dear Member,

As members would be aware, the HSU has been bringing public attention to the $252 million cut that the Government has made to the NSW Health Budget for this financial year. We know that the financial cut will mean:

- $150 million cut from Local Health Districts and the Sydney Hospital Network
- $67 million cut from Ambulance, Pathology, HealthShare and other Health Administration Corporation functions
- $35 million cut from the Ministry of Health and "pillar" organisations such as the Cancer Institute NSW, Bureau of Health Information, Agency for Clinical Innovation, Clinical Excellence Commission and Health Education and Training Institute.

We also know that this cut will inevitably also mean:

- Cuts in jobs/positions
- Even more unreasonable workloads
- Higher stress and more unsafe workplaces
- Further push the privatisation agenda
- Worse patient outcomes

With a growing population and the demands on the Health system increasing all the time, this cut is a disaster for the health workforce, health users and for the state of New South Wales.

Your union the HSU is going to fight these cuts every step of the way.

As part of this fight, we are writing to all your employers to require them to inform the HSU how they intend to make these cuts. We will not let these cuts be buried and hidden from the workforce.

But we need your help to fight these cuts. You can help by:

- Encouraging your workmates to join the HSU today! We can only win big campaigns with a strong union membership. Your workmates can join online www.hsu.asn.au/join or phone 1300 478 679.

- Letting us know if you become aware of any cuts in jobs or workplace changes by emailing publichealth@hsu.asn.au. The sooner the union office finds about a cut, the more time we have to fight against it.

In unity,

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD