

Staff amenities at NSW Health facilities

Dear Member,

The state of staff amenities at many Public Hospitals is a disgrace. With many Hospitals going through redevelopment, you would think that staff amenities would be improving across the Public Hospital system. Unfortunately this is often not the case. In fact, in many new developments, staff amenities have actually got worse. Whether it is the closure of staff dining rooms, the lack of provision for staff lockers, change rooms, toilets or rest areas or a lack of accessible childcare, the new developments often appear to prioritise greed over valuing staff. This constant undervaluing of staff is a poor reflection on the leadership of the Public Health system and your union the HSU is committed to fight it. Not only does the lack of staff amenities demonstrate poor leadership, it is also in breach of your Award rights.

With that in mind, your Union the HSU has written to your employer to enforce the right for staff amenities in any development to be negotiated between the parties (e.g. the HSU and the employer). With new development planned for your hospital, this is an opportunity for your employer to fix the staff amenities, improve the health and wellbeing for staff through the built environment and become compliant with the Award.

Once your employer has agreed to negotiate staff amenities, your union will survey HSU members on the staff amenities that are important to you and ensure HSU member representation in the negotiations.

To paraphrase: *'It is about how people treat one another. It is about human dignity. Let us make the employers treat us as equals, to sit down and talk to us about the work we do'*

Harry Bridges (Australian Born Leader of the American Trade Union ILWU)

Only HSU members will have a say in the negotiations for staff amenities. Encourage your workmates to join online at www.hsu.asn.au/join or phone 1300 478 679.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD