

## Liverpool Hospital Update

Dear Member,

There are ongoing issues at Liverpool Hospital but, thanks to key representatives raising concerns within these departments, the HSU has been able to seek resolution and have these concerns addressed.

### **Emergency Department**

Members have raised serious concerns on multiple occasions about the Quick Reg desk in the Emergency Department. A series of incidents led to the HSU verbally raising concerns about the safety of Administration Officers in the area. The department is one of the more dangerous in the state and with their back to the entrance, workers are unable to see when danger presents. In one incident a patient attempted to obtain a gun from a police officer and, in another, an aggressive patient needed seven security personnel and police officers in order to be restrained. Most recently, an Administration Officer had two large gas canisters thrown at her head.

The breaches of the Workplace Health and Safety Act have been noted and your employer has now been asked to provide a response to address our members' concerns. Simply moving the desk in the opposite direction is one avenue but, at the very least, workers affected need to be consulted with to comply with legal obligations.

### **Sterilising Services Department**

Rostering concerns continue to be addressed within Sterilising Services, with the HSU seeking a fair and equitable roster. Other hospitals have had similar issues that were addressed with a review of the roster to ensure equitable roster patterns. Rostering is a difficult task in a 24/7 system but has enormous impact on worker's lives. Done well, it can create a happy workforce. The introduction of shift swap forms, at the request of members, has enabled more streamlined processes and reduced conflict amongst the workforce. HSU representatives will meet in early January to continue discussions on how we can improve workplace culture.

### **Redevelopment**

The HSU has written to your employer, notifying them of the obligations under your Award to negotiate with your union in relation to staff amenities. This is more than telling workers what is happening and involves an active process of discussion. Once we receive a response the HSU will provide an additional update to members.

### **Survey**

A survey is being conducted to establish what is important to members on site across all public hospitals in New South Wales. Organisers will be out on site on 27 November 2019

to ask for your input. In the meantime, those wishing to participate online can do so by clicking here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ph-survey-2019>.

### **Staff Amenities**

Site visits have established concerns around access to staff amenities, with some areas more affected than others. The HSU will also seek to connect with members about their staff amenities and begin to negotiate directly with your employer to improve these. The HSU will be seeking key representatives from each area. It's important to have representation from those affected as you are best placed to comment on your work environment and conditions.

If you know someone who isn't yet a member of the Union, encourage them to join and have a say in their conditions at work. Our ability to make positive changes like these is thanks to our strength in numbers. New members can join by visiting [www.hsu.asn.au/join](http://www.hsu.asn.au/join) or by calling the Union on 1300 478 679.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', written in a cursive style.

Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD