

Westmead Hospital Environmental Services reduced by 35.8FTE since 2014

Dear Member,

For the better part of 2019, cleaners from within the Environmental Services Department have been crying out for help and telling management they are understaffed. Meanwhile, management have continued to spin, hide the truth or misrepresent problems.

On Friday afternoon, the General Manager finally confirmed what we already knew to HSU representatives and our Environmental Services delegates, and admitted that the current FTE for the Department is 204.2. Why is this significant? Because it represents a reduction of 35.8FTE or about 15% since November 2014 when the FTE was 240.

Management at Westmead and indeed Western Sydney LHD should be condemned for overseeing this reduction by stealth and they now need to be held to account.

We have now demanded the vacant 35.8FTE positions be filled immediately. We have also demanded information about how this reduction occurred, to be provided by 20 January.

This discovery only represents one department and given the current efforts of Western Sydney LHD to save money due to dire budget restraints, we can only presume these sorts of staffing reduction are not limited to Environmental Services.

If you feel you are working harder with less staff in your department, we want to know. Please contact your HSU Organiser Brendan Roberts via brendan.roberts@hsu.asn.au or 0425 181 361.

We will also be holding a series of member meetings on 23 January to discuss this matter and our response. Further information will be circulated to members closer to the day.

Not a member or know someone who isn't? Now is the time to join. We are stronger together. Join online at www.hsu.asn.au/join or call 1300 478 679.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD