

Westmead Hospital: Still no discussions on staffing levels

Dear Member,

As we draw closer to the expansion of Westmead Hospital opening, currently expected around the 20th of October, members are becoming increasingly concerned about the lack of information and consultation around increasing staffing levels to cope with potential additional services and activity.

With only 8 months until opening, neither Western Sydney LHD nor Westmead Executive management have provided any details or proposals to increase staffing levels.

Over the past month, your HSU Organiser Brendan Roberts has been speaking with members about what increases they believe are needed to ensure there are adequate staffing levels. Four departments in particular need immediate attention: Environmental Services, Orderlies, Radiology, and Security. We know that each of these departments have made requests for increased staffing totalling over 100FTE.

We also know that many other areas are in need of increased staffing levels. Your Organiser will be continuing to meet with members and arranging meetings to hear from you.

While it's true the Western Sydney community deserves these upgrades, they must also be matched by adequate and appropriate staffing levels to provide the best possible patient care.

We all know the time and effort it takes for new staff members to be recruited, trained and oriented, and with only 8 months until opening we are concerned there may not be enough time left to fill these new roles.

We are now calling on Western Sydney LHD and Westmead Executive management to provide the HSU and our members a list of proposed staffing enhancements, and to begin consultation immediately.

If you would like to discuss further please feel free to contact Brendan on brendan.roberts@hsu.asn.au or 0425 181 361.

Do you know someone who isn't yet a member of the Union? Encourage them to join and have their say. New members can join at www.hsu.asn.au/join or call 1300 478 679. We are stronger together.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD