

FRIDAY 22 JULY 2016

Public sector EBA campaign update #19

Draft agreement finalised

1. Draft EBA finalised

On Thursday 14 July, following months of painstaking drafting work, the ANMF, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Victorian Hospitals' Industrial Association (VHIA) completed the drafting of the new enterprise agreement to replace the current agreement.

2. Single Interest confirmed

VHIA have made a Fair Work Commission 'single interest agreement' application in the week commencing 18 July which covers all of the current respondents, other than Ballarat District Nursing Service. This means all of the community health centres and regional aged care facilities covered by the 2012 agreement will be covered by the 2016 agreement. The ANMF is approaching Ballarat DNS to resolve this matter. A Ballarat DNS members meeting is scheduled for 3pm, Thursday 4 August. The single interest application still requires the approval of the Federal Industrial Relations Minister, which has been delayed because of the federal election. This step can now be concluded as the minister Michaelia Cash, has been reappointed to the industrial relations portfolio.



3. Pay rises start early August

ANMF has almost finalised a draft 'Deed' with the VHIA and the Victorian Government, and we are seeking that the public sector nurses' and midwives' pay rises commence on the signing of this Deed, i.e. prior to the completion of the ballot. It is proposed that initially the new rates will be paid from the first pay period after the Deed is signed and the back pay from the first pay period on or after 1 April to be paid in subsequent pays.

4. Next steps and employee ballot

The ballot, to accept the new agreement, of all public sector nursing and midwifery employees will occur as soon as possible. **ANMF will be strongly encouraging a YES VOTE.** VHIA on behalf of the employers are now in discussion with the company Elections Australia finalising the process and conduct of the ballot. As with the 2004 Public Sector EBA, the ballot will be conducted electronically. Both ANMF and your employer will provide clear instructions so this can take place smoothly.

5. Support your mental health colleagues

Please continue to support your public sector mental health colleagues who have been taking protected industrial action for more than 60 days. Their negotiations are complicated by the fact that two unions are involved and the agreement covers multiple professions and occupations.

Leave messages of support on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/respectourwork and sign our petition <https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/introduce-nursing-ratios-for-victoria-s-mental-health-nurses> to let mental nurses you support their campaign for a fair pay rise and improved patient and client care through the introduction of mental health nursing inpatient service ratios and improved community mental health nursing workloads.