

FAIR WORK AUSTRALIA

Update on the Approval of Your Agreement

Your Australian Services Union (ASU) representatives raised a number of issues to be dealt with in the Tribunal of Fair Work Australia (FWA) when your Agreement was lodged for approval.

FWA dealt with these issues (listed below) in a hearing on 20 December, 2011.

- Provision for new employees (post approval) to have the casual loading compounded.
- The reduction of minimum hours for casuals.
- Higher duties – loss of payment after two (2) hours.
- Uniform allowance.
- Meal Allowance.
- Annual Leave – the provision for the employer to require employees to take annual leave.
- Annual Leave Loading – the reduction of the leave loading for continuous shift workers.

These items were all dealt with and FWA accepted that these were finalised satisfactorily. FWA made their own declaration that the Agreement did not contain provisions for annual leave for shift workers and that these workers should be entitled to five weeks annual leave.

The approval of the Agreement has now been delayed due to UnitingCare Health seeking an adjournment to the hearing while they investigate the impacts of including such a clause. Since that time UnitingCare Health have advised FWA that they wish to wait until other health care providers Agreements with similar issues have been approved or not.

This is a complex industrial matter and we will keep you updated on the progress of the Agreement's progress before FWA.

In the mean time if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your workplace Union Delegates: Beth Barnes (Saint Andrews War Memorial Hospital), Noeleen Blatchley (St Stephens Hospital Maryborough), Jenni Lawes (Sunshine Coast Private Hospital), Annette Roberts (Wesley Private Hospital) and Wayne Bald (Wesley Private Hospital).

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