

2018 MECA BARGAINING

protect & improve



2nd August 2018

Dear Members,

We initiated bargaining New Year's eve 2017, eight months ago. We have had seven sets of bargaining dates two of which have been cancelled by the DHBs due to their focus on nurses bargaining. When these two rounds were cancelled we demanded that going forth bargaining would be efficient and effective. This is not what has transpired.

In the last 8 months:-

- The DHBs have tabled no claims
- The DHBs want to talk about schedule 10 in the absence of any related claims
- The DHBs constantly want to relitigate the 2016 disputes
- The DHBs have made no offer in respect to the claims we have tabled

In short over the last two days the DHBs made clear that they are not going to make any reasonable offer in line with what the nurses have been offered. They demanded further delay to discuss their issues yet again including a remuneration model that would result in 10% of run categories dropping now and potential future run category drops driven by roster changes as a result of the new model. Finally to cap it all off they told us they wanted to table their claims in September (despite our continuous requests for them to do so since bargaining commenced).

To say we are frustrated and angry is an understatement. To have had 5 rounds of bargaining and to be back at square one with essentially no real progression made is appalling. We have a set of dates for the next round of bargaining early in September and a National Executive meeting and full delegate meeting shortly thereafter where we will discuss the situation and then report back to you all.

Please as always provide us with your feedback and we will of course keep you posted of any developments.