



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Tuesday 22 January 2019

### **Sterilising Technicians Strike Tomorrow at Hawke's Bay Hospital**

20 Sterilising Technicians and APEX members at Hawke's Bay Hospital will take strike action on Wednesday 23 January from 7am to 11pm.

Sterilising Technicians are responsible for cleaning, sterilising and packaging surgical instruments and equipment.

The District Health Board (DHB) has refused to provide APEX members working as Sterilising Technicians with the same salary increases offered to their colleagues at other DHBs.

"Before Christmas, our members were offered nationally standard pay rises, but with a ten-month delay compared to all other DHBs. The DHB is proposing a pay deal that would see our members be at least \$5600 worse off over the term of the agreement as their colleagues at other DHBs," says David Munro, APEX advocate.

"Hawke's Bay District Health Board has been funded to deliver nationally standard salary increases but is refusing to do so. The DHB has provoked tomorrow's strike."

"We expect some disruption to normal hospital operations during the strike and urge the DHB to stop messing their hardworking employees around and to present an offer in line with the national standard of salary increases for this profession," concludes Mr Munro.

APEX advocate David Munro is available for comment.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

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