



15 April 2026

Ms Tracey McCosker
Chief Executive
Hunter New England Local Health District
tracey.mccosker@health.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms McCosker

HSU members have recently met with Clayton Barr MP to discuss concerns around the current lack of parking availability at Cessnock Hospital. In particular, future onsite parking being reserved for contractors once the dirt has been removed, fleet cars taking up on site parking and the timed parking in surrounding streets. These concerns have also been raised with the Cessnock Hospital management but remain unresolved.

A number of hospital staff have been issued parking infringement notices as most of View Street is timed parking. Staff have also reported vandalism and abuse from residents for taking up parking in front of their houses. There was one staff member who had her back window smashed.

Furthermore, staff cannot park on Jurd St as there is a nursing home located across from the new build and signs have been erected saying nursing home staff and residents only.

It is our understanding that the Cessnock Hospital building works will continue until approximately February 2028. The lack of parking is having an impact on staff being able to park a safe distance from work and patients are arriving late for appointments or cancelling altogether due to no parking availability.

Our members are requesting that all parking spaces in the rear car park be made available again once the dirt is removed and that contractors are not prioritised for these spots. It is

also requested that the fleet cars be relocated to View Street as the previous 150 spots are currently down to approximately 45 spots of which 23 are taken by fleet cars.

Furthermore, we would appreciate Cessnock Hospital management being flexible in allowing staff on afternoon and night shifts to move their vehicles closer to the Hospital during their shift so it is safer for them to return to their vehicle at the end of their shift.

HSU has written to Cessnock Council requesting that parking permits be issued to healthcare workers to be displayed on their dashboard so that timed parking in surrounding streets does not apply. Any support you can offer with the Council would be appreciated

Please liaise with Matthew Ramsay on 0419 553 105 or matthew.ramsay@hsu.asn.au if you wish to further discuss.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gerard Hayes AM
Secretary
HSU NSW/ACT/QLD