

**RETAIN.
RECRUIT.
RECOGNISE.**



TASMANIAN NURSES AND MIDWIVES

Nurses and Midwives EA Ballot

Urgent update

Ballot compromised

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Tasmanian Branch has today discovered that the ballot for the nurses and midwives agreement has been compromised. Therefore, to ensure the integrity of the ballot, it will need to be conducted again.

The ANMF became aware on Friday that THS members who had elected their preferred email address as a Tasmanian Health Service, did not receive the ballot. Despite ANMF having previously received written advice from the Department of Health that THS were not blocking ANMF email, it appeared that this was still the case. After investigation the email distributor 'Mailchimp' used by ANMF appeared to be being blocked by the THS. ANMF immediately sent individual emails to each member with a THS email direct from ANMF email accounts to ensure that everyone had the ballot. However, after this it is clear that the ballot was compromised.

ANMF received hundreds of votes in a matter of minutes from the same IP address and from other IP addresses which indicate that there has been outside interference and possibly robot activity.

Therefore, ANMF have requested that Government allow ANMF to re-ballot members through the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). This will ensure that the ballot cannot be compromised, and members can have confidence in the results. This has been approved by Government.

ANMF are awaiting dates as to when the AEC can conduct the ballot and once we have this confirmation, members will be advised. In the interim members are encouraged to update their contact details with ANMF to include a personal, and current, email address and a current mail address to ensure that all members can vote when the ballot is sent.

ANMF wish to reassure members that the Government have given assurances that due to the unforeseen circumstances that the current improved offer will remain open until the subsequent ballot can be conducted and that this will not compromise any back-pay arrangements.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Member Support Team on (03) 6223 6777 or 1800 001 241 (if outside Hobart). Alternatively, email membersupport@anmftas.org.au.

Authorised by Emily Shepherd, Branch Secretary
23 December 2019