

Hon Chris Hipkins



MP for Remutaka

Minister of Education

Minister of Health

Minister of State Services

Leader of the House

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Janet Quigley
President
Public Service Association
c/o janine.bridgeman@psa.org.nz

Ref. CH200958-5

Dear Janet

Thank you for your correspondence of 31 July 2020 seeking my support for progressing the bargaining to settle the District Health Board (DHB) Clerical and Administration Pay Equity Claim. My colleagues and I recognise the significant value that this workforce contributes to the health sector.

I am pleased to tell you that DHBs now have a mandate that will enable them to commence bargaining. I know that PSA and DHBs have been having a number of planning meetings to prepare for bargaining, and I understand that bargaining itself is scheduled for the week of 17 August 2020.

Settling this claim is a priority for this Government. I have made my expectation to the DHBs clear that they prioritise bargaining and work with PSA to resolve this claim in a timely way.

I want to acknowledge the work that PSA has done on behalf of its members in progressing this pay equity claim. I know it is a complex claim, covering more than 8,400 DHB employees, and covers a wide range of roles.

I look forward to being updated on progress and encourage PSA and DHBs to work together in good faith as you enter the bargaining process.

Thank you again for writing. I wish you the very best.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CH', written over a light blue circular watermark.

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Health