

## APA (NSW) Member Update: Bans on dangerous staff movement

5 November 2021

Dear member,

In May, the IRC made a [recommendation](#) about the maintenance of Planned Ambulance Rosters, which included a recommendation that staff should not travel more than one hour to fill a vacancy in another station's roster.

This recommendation was made to minimise the significant safety risks associated with longer travel times. Unfortunately NSW are failing to appropriately manage these risks, and continuing to fluidly deploy staff to stations more than an hour away.

As such, we are implementing **immediate bans on any staff movement which entails a one-way travel time greater than 60 minutes.**

This includes staff movement where:

- Paramedics are asked to travel >60 minutes, either single or in a dual crew
- A Paramedic is tasked to collect a Paramedic from another station and drive back to their own or a subsequent station, totalling a cumulative travel time of >60 minutes for either party
- The return travel time can reasonably be anticipated to exceed 60 minutes, even if travel at the start of shift does not (i.e. where travel time is significantly impacted by peak hour traffic, per Google Maps)

If you are asked to go to a station more than 60 minutes away (other than your home station) to fill a roster gap, **state the following:**

*"My union has implemented bans on staff movements of over 60 minutes to fill roster gaps. I believe the travel time for the requested movement will be over 60 minutes. I/We will not be undertaking that movement."*

Please also [report](#) instances of dangerous staff movement/requests to APA (NSW).

If you experience pushback, contact the APA (NSW) office or your local delegate.

If your manager has any issues, you can also direct them to contact APA (NSW) Secretary Gary Wilson, whose contact information is listed on our website.

As Paramedics, we have a duty—to ourselves, our colleagues, and our patients—to put our safety first. This ban is just one step in our fight for our safety at work.

Regards,

APA (NSW) Executive

Your Choice, Your Voice