



# THE MARITIME UNION OF AUSTRALIA SYDNEY BRANCH

A DIVISION OF THE CONSTRUCTION, FORESTRY, MARITIME, MINING & ENERGY UNION

Paul Keating – Branch Secretary | Paul Garrett - Deputy Branch Secretary  
Nathan Donato - Assistant Branch Secretary | Brad Dunn - Assistant Branch Secretary

Saturday, 17 July 2021

All Maritime Employers

Dear Employer,

## COVID-19: PAID PANDEMIC LEAVE

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The Sydney Branch Executive of the Maritime Union of Australia writes with regards to the announcement from the NSW Premier and NSW Chief Medical Officer about the developing COVID-19 health pandemic and the subsequent tightening of lockdown controls.

As it is currently understood, residents from the Fairfield, Liverpool and Canterbury-Bankstown Local Government Areas shall be placed into lockdown from midnight tonight until 30 July 2021 and exemptions shall only be given through the Public Health Order to emergency services workers and aged care workers.

As the corresponding Public Health Order is yet to be released, it appears that your employees who live inside of these Local Government Areas may not be able to access their workplace.

Accordingly, the MUA Sydney Branch Executive calls on your workplace to immediately place any affected workers on paid pandemic leave until such time as these restrictions are lifted. This paid pandemic leave needs to be separate from the workers own accrued leave entitlements including personal leave, annual leave and long service leave.

Furthermore, we call on your company to cease the practice of bringing in employees who are currently on workers compensation during this lockdown period and instead allow them to perform their return to work duties from home.

The responsible MUA Official for your site shall be in contact shortly to discuss and the Union is available to meet as a matter of urgency.

We ask that you immediately liaise with the MUA Sydney Branch, as well as Committee members and HSRs in your workplace about this matter.

Sincerely,

**Paul Keating**  
Secretary

**Paul Garrett**  
Deputy Secretary

**Nathan Donato**  
Assistant Secretary

**Brad Dunn**  
Assistant Secretary