



Lobbying MPs

One of the ways we can take action is to lobby. This means taking steps to influence those in power, such as MPs, to make changes on our behalf.

The best way to lobby MPs is in a group and person. You can write to:

**Minister of Health,
Hon Ayesha Verrall**
a.verrall@ministers.govt.nz
Private Bag 18888
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

**Minister of Disability, Hon Priyanca
Radhakrishnan**
PriyancaMP@parliament.govt.nz
Private Bag 18888
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington 6160

Use the prompts below or the template we've provided below.

Prompts

- Describe how short staffed you are what this means for your work/clients.
- Explain that the pay is too low and how hard it is to attract new workers.
- List any sacrifices you have to make in your daily life because of your low pay.
- Spell out why your work is important – what would happen if no one turned up for a shift? Describe the impacts on the people you support, on yourself, and colleagues.

Letter template

Tēna Koē /Dear ...

Congratulations on being appointed to the position of Minister of ...

I would like to introduce myself and the work I do for you. I am a support worker working in Home Support/Disability/Mental health and Addictions.

I provide support to ... people a day/people a week. My work involves...

This enables some of the most vulnerable people in the community to remain living in the community with dignity.

If I was not working with clients/people I support... **Explain what would happen to clients/people you support.**

I am a support worker covered by the care and support workers' equal pay claim. I am asking for you to support our pay equity claim to be concluded and funded to ensure we are paid fairly for our skill, responsibility, and effort, and that you support a pay increase immediately.

The 3% increase that we received on 1 July 2022 was not enough. The support workers' starting pay rate is now the minimum wage!

Ngā mihi/Thank you,

Your name and address