

GMB@WORK

GMB

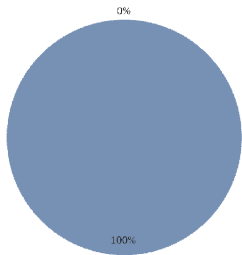
GMB@WORK

Summer 2010 - Issue 1

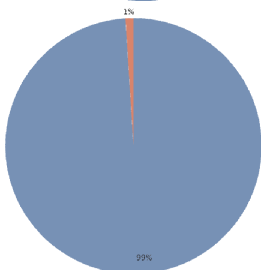
FOR MEMBERS IN SOUTHERN CROSS

STAFFING LEVELS IN SOUTHERN CROSS UNACCEPTABLE

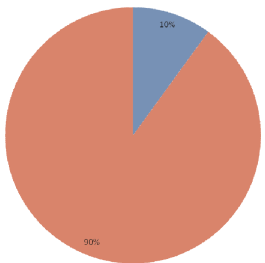
GMB members in Southern Cross recently took part in a survey on staffing levels following a number of complaints raised by staff across Southern Cross homes. Our findings are alarming but sadly of no surprise.



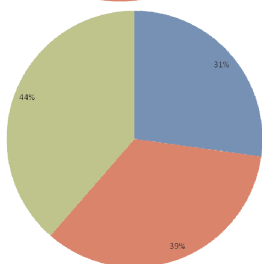
100% of those who responded said their workload had increased in the past 12 months.



99% said that their shift works short in the event of staff being absent and that no cover is provided for sickness or holidays.



90% said that this happened more than once a week.



44% said this was due to staff shortages.

Staff then are being made to work harder for no extra pay. This is a risk to health and safety and so directly affects the standard of care received by residents.

We asked you about staff to resident ratios and your responses differed dramatically from home to home. 13% of homes responding indicated that they operate with 1 carer per 15 residents. The majority (41%) said that it is normal to work with 1 carer to between 8 and 11 residents.

SURVEY FINDINGS

Overwhelmingly, responses indicate that staff have never been involved in risk assessments relating to residential needs and work related stress. This is unacceptable and we will be presenting our findings to management shortly.

To effect real change in Southern Cross these practices must be challenged. The greater our number, the greater our chance of success. Please encourage a colleague to fill in the membership form overleaf & return in the pre paid envelope.

To see a fully comprehensive copy of the survey and results email rachel.dix@gmb.org.uk.

Make your voice heard and elect a GMB representative!

A quarter of Southern Cross homes now have an elected representative which serves to empower members in these homes. For more information on becoming a rep contact Rachel Dix either on rachel.dix@gmb.org.uk or ring:

07958-156839

**In Issue 2:
MEAL BREAKS...
DO YOU GET YOURS?**

HOW DO I JOIN?

Just fill in parts 1,2 and 3 or 4 overleaf and hand the form to your local GMB representative or post it to GMB, Freepost, Grove Hall, 60 College Grove Road, Wakefield, WF1 3RN

Join online today at
www.gmb.org.uk

GRADE 1 £2.55 A WEEK

GRADE 2 £1.43 A WEEK

