

Gerard Hayes
Secretary
Health Services Union NSW/ACT
Level 2, 109 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Email: secretary@hsu.asn.au and josh.dodsworth@hsu.asn.au

Dear Mr Hayes,

Re: Change in location – Parramatta Acute Team

The Mental Health Service was recently notified that Jeffrey House, Parramatta will no longer be appropriate for after-hours activity such as that provided by the Parramatta Acute Team.

This has resulted in the need to consider both immediate (interim), medium and long term solutions for the location of either the entire team or the after-hours component.

The team was notified of the need to vary after hours arrangements by Mr Hemal Joshi, A/Director Community Mental Health Services with Ms Kim Daniel, Director Human Resources Business Partners, People and Culture, WSLHD attending via TEAMS on 30 October 2024.

Mr Joshi and Ms Daniel took the opportunity to seek some initial feedback on the options from the team about their preferences which would be:

OPTION 1 - only relocating the after-hours component

OPTION 2 - relocating the entire team (including the Homeless Team which forms part of the Acute Team).

OPTION 3 - interim measure of relocating the after-hours component whilst a location for the entire team is identified.

There did appear to be general consensus across the team that 'splitting' the team into 'Monday to Friday 8am to 430pm business hours' and after hours would be less than optimal for the Team and their consumers.

Staff Impact

The variation being proposed does not in any way vary the scope, remit nor roster of any of the Allied Health professional roles working with this service however it will result in a variation in primary work location for some if not all of the team – depending on which service model is adopted.

Given the above, we advise as follows:

1. Effective as the date of the variation – ALL after hour work will be conducted at an alternate work location – still to be identified.
2. Work systems and work practices will need to be revised (temporarily or permanently) to ensure that there is no impact on 'handovers' or any other aspect of front line consumer related activity performed by the Acute Team
3. No employees will lose their jobs – nor will the Allied Health professional roles at Westmead's Mental Health Service be varied in their Key Accountabilities, classification.

Consultation

The MHS now seeks to further progress consultation/discussion about the proposed options with the staff and their relevant unions/ Association.

Whilst the Mental Health Service is yet to determine if a temporary or permanent arrangement will be adopted, the Mental Health Service is in a position to notify and consult with our employees and the Health Services Union regarding the options/preferred operational and professional reporting line model, noting however that the after hours activity cannot remain at Jeffrey House beyond 18 November 2024.

The MHS WSLHD remains committed to engage productively with the HSU and our employees and as such we would like to extend an invitation to the HSU Organiser to contact Mr Joshi should they have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further. Mr Joshi's contact details are 0427 280 375 or hemal.joshi@health.nsw.gov.au

Alternatively, please contact Ms Kim Daniel, Director, Human Resources Business Partners via kim.daniel@health.nsw.gov.au

We thank you for your support whilst we continue to enhance our Mental Health services.

Yours sincerely,



Jason Sevil
General Manager
Mental Health Services

Date: 7 November 2024

cc : Frances Cavallaro (NSWNMA Cumberland Branch Secretary)
Nicholas Howson (NSWNMA Cumberland Branch President)