

24 June 2024

Mr Gerard Hayes
Secretary
Health Services Union
Locked Bag 3
Australia Square NSW 1215

Dear Gerard

Move of Immunology Sutherland to the NSWHP Randwick site in 2024

This letter is to provide a further update on the staff consultation that has been occurring between NSWHP, the HSU and staff representatives from the Immunology Laboratory at Sutherland.

NSWHP have written to the HSU on 12 September 2023, 30 November 2023, 7 February 2024 and 22 May 2024 in relation to consultation activities to date.

Since this time NSW Health Pathology held another USCC meeting on 20 June 2024 with the HSU representatives Tom Stevajna and Shaibu Cbalan present along with staff from the Immunology Laboratory. At this meeting NSW Health Pathology were asked to respond to a number of questions which were addressed at the meeting which include:

Have extra chairs been purchased for the tearooms?

No additional chairs are required as each meal room has an adequate number of chairs per table in each tearoom but equally there are additional chairs in the Microbiology tearoom if required at any time which are stacked in a corner.

Extra fridge for tearoom?

There are numerous fridges in the various tearooms which on review are well utilized. The Chemistry tearoom has 1.5 fridges and to provide additional space for the Immunology staff NSWHP will replace the bar fridge with a full-sized fridge.

Can we request to have a Safety Inspection before and after the move?

NSWHP normal practice is to have a safety inspection prior to a new laboratory being occupied and equally after a move a safety inspection will be conducted. NSWHP will ensure this occurs in partnership with an Immunology representative.

There is no space available in the crowded lab for any additional scope of work if it arises.

Once the chemistry analysers are installed some immunology tests will be moved onto the Cobas lines and one BNII will be removed from the lab which will provide some additional space. Equally if additional scopes of work are identified the expectation is that these will be undertaken on existing instruments rather than those requiring additional capital purchases.

Evidence of the parking response from the ministry?

Providing parking and transport costs are not an Award entitlement when it involves a change in the accustomed place of work.

Concerns of additional/change of duties that may be assigned to our lab. For example 'Add-on' requests.

There will always be a potential for work changes/additional work and all laboratories need to manage this as it arises.

There was additional discussion in relation to the move date and it was raised by the Senior Operations Manager that there had been discussions with the Laboratory in relation to the date change to October 2024. To be clear, there was no commitment that the relocation would occur in October. The date for relocation is heavily reliant on building contractors informing NSWHP of a completion date. This proposal has since been discussed in detail with the Director of Operations Metro and it has been decided that the move date needs to be maintained as July 2024 with a final date being agreed as 24 July 2024. All staff have been issued with a revised letter in relation to this date change.

NSWHP will continue to work with the staff and support them in this transition and developing the new space on the Randwick Campus.

NSW Health Pathology has established a project team led by Teresa Hewlett, A/Senior Operations Manager Southeast Sydney to progress the move to the Randwick Campus and is actively working with the staff in transitioning to the Randwick Campus.

If you have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Siobhan Cunliffe
Associate Director of HR Metro
NSW Health Pathology