

Mr Gerard Hayes
The General Secretary
Health Services Union (HSU)
Level 2, 109 Pitt Street Sydney NSW 2000
secretary@hsu.asn.au

RE: NSLHD MHDA - Realignment of new Child and Youth Mental Health Services

Dear Mr Hayes,

I write with reference to a proposed realignment within Northern Sydney Local Health District, (NSLHD), Child and Youth Mental Health Service, (CYMHS).

NSW Ministry of Health Perinatal, Child and Youth, Mental Health Branch, have funded NSLHD to deliver a new evidence-informed therapeutic, mental health program. This new program is specifically for parents and caregivers who are pregnant or have children 0-4 years experiencing difficulties in the caregiver-child relationship associated with caregiver mental ill health and psychosocial vulnerabilities. The program is initially funded until June 2025.

The Nurturing Connections: Caregiver- Child Relationship Service will be a multidisciplinary mental health service supporting these vulnerable priority populations.

Separately, NSLHD has also received additional recurrent funding through the Bilateral Perinatal Mental Health Program funding to employ a permanent 0.5 FTE Safestart Coordinator, within Child and Youth Mental Health Services.

The two newly funded services will enhance the NSLHD CYMHS capacity to meet the needs of families experiencing complex mental health and other vulnerabilities, as well as provide collaborative leadership for the Safestart processes across the district.

Please find attached a detailed consultation document including current and proposed Organisation Charts for your consideration and review. Additionally, I have attached the proposed new Position Descriptions.

This letter marks the commencement of a formal two-week consultation period. I invite you to provide any feedback, comment, questions or concerns on this proposal. The consultation period will conclude two weeks from the date of this letter.

Feedback can be emailed to Gerard Drinan, Senior Human Resources Business Partner at Gerard.Drinan@health.nsw.gov.au .

Northern Sydney Local Health District is located on the traditional lands of the Eora Nation

All correspondence to be emailed or sent to:
NSLHD-Mail@health.nsw.gov.au

PO Box 4007
Royal North Shore Hospital LPO
St Leonards NSW 2065
Tel (02) 9462 9955

Northern Sydney Local Health District
ABN 63 834 171 987

The NSW Nurses and Midwives Association, the Association of Salaried Medical Officers Federation (ASMOF) and impacted employees within CYMHS have also been provided with the proposal on the same date as this letter.

Further, in accordance with the NSW Health Policy Directive Industrial Consultative Arrangements (PD2011_002) I extend the opportunity for a Union Specific Consultative Committee (USCC) meeting to discuss the proposal in detail (if requested or deemed required).

I wish to advise that if you do not provide feedback on the proposal or request a USCC within two weeks from the date of this letter it will be deemed that the HSU has no concerns with the proposal, and I will progress to implementing the realignment accordingly.

If the HSU, or your members have any queries, questions, or concerns regarding this, please contact me via email at Ayisha.Chitakunye@health.nsw.gov.au I can also be contacted via telephone on 02 88774049 Alternatively, you may wish to contact Gerard Drinan, at Gerard.Drinan@health.nsw.gov.au .

Yours sincerely



Ayisha Chitakunye
Service Director | **Child & Youth Mental Health Service (CYMHS)**
Mental Health Drug and Alcohol NSLHD
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Ayisha.Chitakunye@health.nsw.gov.au

Date: 9 May 2024

CC: Andrea Taylor, Director MHDA; Elizabeth Penman, Director of Allied Health, MHDA; Gerard Drinan, Senior Human Resources Business Partner

Encl. Consultation Proposal Document
TAB A Position Descriptions