

14 September 2022

Mr Gerard Hayes
Secretary
Health Services Union
Email: secretary@hsu.asn.au

Dear Mr Hayes

Re: Security Arrangements - Forensic & Analytical Science Service (Lidcombe)

I write to inform you of a review into the operational arrangements and procedures for the Forensic & Analytical Science Service (FASS) Lidcombe site, including changes to security arrangements. The review is being conducted by the FASS Executive team and covers both the Science Centre and Forensic Medicine & Corners Court Complex.

Current arrangements and procedures for the site have been in place for several years. The aim of the review is to ensure FASS maintains a working environment with appropriate arrangements, including level of security and coverage, for its staff and the site.

Additionally, after hours security for the site currently provided by NSW Police Force Special Constables will change from 16 September 2022. For the period 16 September 2022 until 30 September 2022, a private security company will provide coverage for the site between the hours of 1800 – 0600 that would have otherwise been provided by Special Constables.

The change in security comes following a review by the NSW Police Force, resulting in their decision to withdraw the Special Constables. This change has presented an opportunity for FASS to review the security arrangements in place for its site, including necessary changes beyond 30 September 2022. It has also provided an opportunity to strengthen procedures around working arrangements and emergency response.

Consultation has commenced with staff to inform them of the review and changes to security arrangements. A summary of the actions currently underway as part of the review include:

- Continuity of current security coverage on site through until 30 September 2022
- Consideration by the Executive team of arrangements and procedures, including emergency response
- Risk assessments will be undertaken in line with the NSW Health Protecting People and Property Manual
- Communication with and clarification of processes with NSW Police Local Area Command
- Review of relevant reported incidents in IMS+ (incident management system)
- Consultation with FASS staff and other stakeholders

The FASS Executive team are committed to ensuring staff interests and operational service provisions are considered as part of the review, including its outcomes, to maintain delivery of critical services to communities.

If you have any questions or comment regarding the review, please contact Yasmin Fashik, Human Resources Manager, via email at Yasmin.Fashik@health.nsw.gov.au

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Symonds".

Michael Symonds
Director
Forensic & Analytical Science Service
NSW Health Pathology