



Mr Gerard Hayes
HSU NSW/AC/QLD Secretary
Locked Bag 3
AUSTRALIA SQUARE NSW 2000

Via email: secretary@hsu.asn.au

Dear ^{Gerard} Mr Hayes,

You will be aware that Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) has been working towards a district wide solution for a community duress system.

I am pleased to advise that following a thorough, transparent and robust environmental scan and procurement process, including multiple trials of vendors, a contract has been executed between SLHD and Work Safe Guardian (WSG) Australia Pty Ltd.

WSG has, for a number of years, provided the community duress solution for Mental Health Services. WSG has made a significant number of enhancements to its solution, including a wearable push button device to activate a duress call, and the ability to notify staff of locations identified as potentially unsafe. These will be of enormous benefit to our staff who conduct home and community visits.

The enhanced solution has been through a trial with multiple community services and the feedback has been positive.

The continued roll out of the WSG solution is overseen by the SLHD Community Duress Implementation Committee which is co-chaired by the Director Workforce and Corporate Operations and the A/Clinical Director, Mental Health Services. A Project Manager (with community mental health nursing experience) has been appointed to assist with the roll out of this solution.

Currently, an education and training video is being completed with Worksafe Guardian and eHealth to provide an online module for staff training with discussions re competencies and scenario training to ensure training is localised and appropriate to the service or individual. I am pleased to advise that mobile phones and wearable devices have been procured.

WSG will be rolled out to a range of community services who conduct home visits, including mental health; drug health; district nursing; midwifery; population health; aged care and chronic health; flying squads and some allied health services.

We are excited to partner with WSG in implementing this important initiative to keep our staff safe, no matter where they are delivering care.

Please do not hesitate to contact Gina Finocchiaro, Director, Workforce and Corporate Operations on gina.finocchiaro@health.nsw.gov.au should you wish to discuss this matter.

Yours sincerely

Dr Teresa Anderson AM
Chief Executive

Date: 12-7-22