



**Mr Gerard Hayes
General Secretary
Health Services Union**

L2/109 Pitt St
SYDNEY NSW 1215

secretary@hsu.asn.au

RE: Consultation regarding proposed change to Allied Health Manager role in CCLHD Mental Health Directorate.

Dear Mr Hayes

I am writing to formally advise and invite the Health Services Union to participate in consultation regarding a change process occurring within the Mental Health (MH) Directorate within the Central Coast Local Health District (the District).

As you may be aware over the last few years the Mental Health Directorate has undertaken reviews and restructures to best orient our resources to provide the services that the District has committed to and the community needs.

The Mental Health Directorate has been working to align allied health roles and responsibilities with the District's Allied Health Directorate. This is an important direction for our mental health services to ensure consistent support and guidance to allied health staff employed across the District. Please find attached information on a proposed structural change within Central Coast Local Health District.

We propose to repurpose the vacant Mental Health Manager position from professional support for Mental Health to a HM3 Allied Health (Mental Health) Manager position, reporting directly to the Director of Mental Health. The role would move the reporting lines of inpatient allied health staff from NUMs to the new Allied Health Manager role. The role would only be open to allied health staff, including psychologists and would maintain professional responsibility for all allied health staff within mental health.

We had a preliminary conversation with affected allied health staff and managers and are sending the attached information. Unfortunately, there have been several significant clinical issues since the staff meeting, which has caused a delay in providing information. Because of this and our commitment to consultation, I would like to propose that we extend the consultation dates for the fortnight from the date of this correspondence.

We are advising you that we have commenced consultation with staff on Friday 11th June 2021, when the attached presentation was made to them. Further consultation can occur, though with the proposed changes essentially being reporting line changes they are unlikely to be considered contentious by staff. In fact, these changes have been requested by allied

health staff who wanted an allied health role on the MH executive. The District's Allied Health and Mental Health Directorates support this change.

We will also continue to ensure that our staff regularly update their training and skills.

It is important to advise that the total number of Full-Time equivalent allied health positions within the inpatient mental health services is 14.6 and there is no intention to displace existing permanent staff.

I would expect that if any members have concerns they will contact you, however I believe this is unlikely given they have been involved and contributed to the proposal, but I am happy to provide you further information if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Critchley', written in a cursive style.

Anthony Critchley
Director, Mental Health
Central Coast Local Health District
18/06/2021