



ACT
Government

**Canberra Health
Services**

Ms Eileen McEvoy
Health Services Union
eileen.mcevoy@hsu.asn.au
secretary@hsu.asn.au

Dear Ms McEvoy

Women, Youth and Children Community Orthoptics Service Canberra Health Services (CHS)

In accordance with Section G1 in the *ACT Public Sector Health Professional Enterprise Agreement 2018-21*, I am writing to inform you of a proposed change to the operational reporting line for two orthoptists in the Division of Women, Youth and Children (WYC).

The WYC orthoptists provide vision screening for babies and children at three CHS Community Health Centres (CHCs), together with general orthoptics support at the Canberra Hospital Paediatric and Adult Ophthalmology Outpatient Departments. The orthoptists currently report operationally to the Allied Health Team (AHT) Manager in the Division of WYC and clinically to three different team leaders across the Divisions of WYC and Surgery. It is proposed that the reporting line change from the AHT Manager in WYC to the Ophthalmology Clinic Coordinator in Surgery, to enable provision of operational and clinical leadership under a single governance structure.

The proposed change would achieve the following results:

- 1) Improved professional governance for the orthoptists who would join an established team of 3.0 full time equivalents (FTE) under a dedicated Clinic Coordinator.
- 2) Improved succession planning, particularly in the specialist area of paediatrics.
- 3) Increased service flexibility and responsiveness with greater capacity to backfill staff on planned and unplanned leave.

The proposed change will not lead to any foreseeable changes in service delivery but may result in a broadened scope of practice through training and peer support. The impacted staff members have been consulted on the proposed change to the reporting structure and the potential impact on their scope of practice and are supportive of the change.

If you wish to discuss this proposed change in more detail please contact Pip Golley, Director of Allied Health, Women Youth and Children by email on pip.golley@act.gov.au before **COB Friday 18 December 2020**.

Kind Regards,



Boon Lim
Executive Director
Women, Youth and Children
Canberra Health Services



Lisa Gilmore
Executive Director
Surgery
Canberra Health Services

04 December 2020

4 December 2020