

Ms Jodi Nieass
General Manager
Manning Base Hospital
20.10.2023

By Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Jodi,

We write with concerns regarding the impending opening of nine more patient beds in the refurbished old radiology area at Manning Base Hospital. We note that this area has been developed without consultation with the HSU or its members regarding staffing and the impact on workloads.

Further, as you are aware, over the past two years additional patient beds have been established on Levels 6, 4 and 3 along with a transit lounge which is often used for admitted patients from the Emergency Department receiving treatment and awaiting ward beds. This increase in hospital capacity has not seen an increase in staffing beyond nursing classifications.

Our members previously tolerated this on the advice that these beds were for brief and infrequent surge use. However, it is now apparent that the level of activity at the hospital has increased to a point where these beds are in constant use with the hospital fully surged most days. The imminent opening of the nine additional beds will put even more undue pressure on our members. The Sub-Branch calls for a corresponding increase in staffing across all HSU classifications as this situation has created unreasonable and unsafe workloads.

We respectfully request you detail your plans for an increase in staffing across all HSU classifications to address this situation. We request this information by **COB: 27.10.2023**, upon receipt of which the members will consider whether further action is required and advise you accordingly.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

HSU Manning Base Hospital Sub-Branch