

11 February 2021

Mr Gerard Hayes  
Secretary  
Health Services Union NSW  
Locked Bag 3  
AUSTRALIA SQUARE NSW 1215

Email: [secretary@hsu.asn.au](mailto:secretary@hsu.asn.au)

Dear Mr Hayes

### **Port Macquarie Base Hospital Ward 1B Expansion**

I write further to my correspondence of 5 February 2021 surrounding the expansion of Ward 1B at Port Macquarie Base Hospital (PMBH).

The Mid North Coast Local Health District (MNCLHD) has approved the opening of 10 additional beds, being six beds on Ward 2C and 4 beds on Ward 1B at PMBH. This brings the total number of operational beds on Ward 2C to 28 and Ward 1B to 16.

To support the increase, additional Full Time Equivalent (FTE) for Allied Health and Cleaning Services has been determined in consultation with Senior Allied Health Managers and in line with the Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) Standard Operating Procedure (PD2020\_022).

We are satisfied we can operate effectively with the current level of administration resourcing assigned and we are already focused on our level of Health and Safety Assistant (HASA) resourcing from a different perspective as you are aware.

Permanent recruitment will commence shortly for the additional FTE as below and we will work to address any gaps as a result in associated casual resourcing.

- 1.82 FTE Environmental Services
- 1.68 FTE Allied Health Level 2

As Food Services is associated with HealthShare and therefore not a part of the MNCLHD, whilst I can confirm the Food Services team have been advised of this planned increase in bed utilisation we are unable to provide any further information regarding how they plan to deliver their service to us.

The MNCLHD is satisfied that it can operate these additional beds safely and in compliance with Award obligations with this planned increase to FTE.

We commit to continue to work with the HSU and the members through appropriate forums such as the Staff Consultative Committee and look forward to the expansion of operations as soon as possible.

If you would like to discuss any concerns further, please contact me on 5524 2100 or via email at [MNCLHD-PMBH-HGM-PA@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:MNCLHD-PMBH-HGM-PA@health.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



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**General Manager Port Macquarie Base Hospital**  
**Hastings Macleay Clinical Network Coordinator**

**Mid North Coast Local Health District**  
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