

1 May 2023

Mr Gerard Hayes  
Secretary  
Health Services Union  
Email: [secretary@hsu.asn.au](mailto:secretary@hsu.asn.au)

Dear Mr Hayes

**Re: Transition of the Non-Coronial Autopsy Service to Forensic Medicine Lidcombe**

I am writing to advise you that NSW Health Pathology (NSWHP) proposes to transition its non-coronial autopsy service to the Forensic Medicine service located at the Forensic Medicine Coroners Court Complex at Lidcombe NSW.

NSWHP performed approximately fifty non-coronial autopsies (NCAs) over the past twelve (12) months, which have been undertaken by Anatomical Pathologists (APs) at various hospital mortuaries administered by NSWHP. In response to the relatively low number of NCAs performed, changes to the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia training curriculum for APs, the need for maintenance of skills and the declining number of APs who perform NCAs, NSWHP has taken the decision to centralise the service at FMCCC Lidcombe.

It is proposed that the service will initially operate one day per fortnight with the potential to expand to an additional day per fortnight should numbers dictate, which is considered unlikely at this time. NSWHP has engaged an AP resource and will resource the one day per fortnight service with Forensic Mortuary Technician, Administration and Nursing staff.

NSWHP is proposing to commence the service at FMCCC Lidcombe on 1 July 2023 following a period of training for staff.

Transition of the NCA service to FMCCC will provide a range of benefits to referrers and families of deceased persons who require answers from an NCA.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Jack Gautray, Associate Director, Industrial Relations, on [Jack.Gautray@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Jack.Gautray@health.nsw.gov.au) or 0436 627 992.

Yours sincerely



Michael Symonds  
Director  
Forensic & Analytical Science Service  
NSW Health Pathology

cc: Jack Gautray, Associate Director Industrial Relations