

CONFIDENTIAL

7 July 2021

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

Via Email: secretary@hsu.asn.au

Dear Mr Hayes

Re: Identification of Legionella species in warm water at Ellimatta House – Morton Street Port Macquarie

I write to advise of the identification of a Legionella species in a hand basin at Ellimatta House – Morton Street Port Macquarie.

As you may be aware, routine testing of water samples is undertaken throughout the Local Health District. Recent testing at Ellimatta House identified a Legionella species in a hand basin.

While the risk is very small, it is possible that this type of Legionella may cause illness. The usual incubation period is between two to 14 days and the symptoms may include cough, fever, shortness of breath, lethargy, generalised aches, pains and headaches.

Relevant actions have been taken in accordance with the MNCLHD Health Care Facility Legionella Monitoring Response Protocol.

Staff have been advised if they have, or are experiencing any of the above symptoms between 01 June 2021 and 18 June 2021, and are concerned or remain unwell, to visit their GP with their letter so that appropriate investigations can be undertaken.

A meeting for staff of Ellimatta House was held on 5 July 2021 where an update was provided.

If you require any further information please contact Penny Jones on Penny.Jones@health.nsw.gov.au or mobile 0418 208 498

Yours sincerely



Penny Jones
Director Integrated Mental Health, Alcohol & Other Drugs