



# Health

Mid North Coast  
Local Health District

13.04.2023

Mr Gerard Hayes  
Secretary  
Health Services Union NSW/ACT/Qld  
AUSTRALIA SQUARE NSW 1215

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

Dear Mr Hayes

I am writing to advise you of a change to an Occupational Therapist position within the Occupational Therapy Department at Port Macquarie Base Hospital.

The Occupational Therapist Level 4 position...30971 for 6hrs/week is vacant. The Mid North Coast Local Health District (MNCLHD) is proposing to shift vacant FTE from this position to an existing Level 3 Occupational Therapist position...30970 within the same team. There will be no change to location or reporting line.

The benefits of employing an Occupational Therapist at this level will allow for an improved staffing profile and enhance value of occupational therapy outpatient services at Port Macquarie Base Hospital.

Consensus within our team is that this vacant FTE is best utilised in outpatient service with primary focus in hand therapy, given significant activity and limited existing pathways for development into this clinical area within our own team. Employing an Occupational Therapist at this level will allow for a clear development pathway and succession planning into the hand therapy service.

Should you require further information or assistance please contact myself on 0428 660 068 or through email at [Ben.Walkling@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ben.Walkling@health.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Walkling', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ben Walkling  
**Occupational Therapist in Charge**  
**Port Macquarie Base Hospital MNLCHD**

cc. [Michael.Kearns@hsu.asn.au](mailto:Michael.Kearns@hsu.asn.au)

Mid North Coast Local Health District  
ABN 57 946 356 658

Wrights Road Port Macquarie NSW 2444  
Tel 02 5524 2171

Website [www.mnclhd.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.mnclhd.health.nsw.gov.au)