

Private and Confidential

25 September 2023

Mr Gerard Hayes
NSW Secretary
Health Services Union
Level 2, 109 Pitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: info@hsu.asn.au; secretary@hsu.asn.au

Dear Mr Hayes,

Re: Lake Macquarie Community Mental Health Service realignment

I write to notify the Health Services Union (HSU) of consultation with respect to a proposed change involving the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie Community Mental Health Service.

By way of background, since 2017 there have been a number of movements and adjustments in service that has resulted in specific services coming under the control of either the Greater Newcastle Acute Care Team (ACT) or Newcastle Community Mental Services.

Further, a restructure of the Nursing Management structure at the Mater Mental Health Centre (MMHC) which merged inpatient services together on this site removed by default operational responsibility for units that were managed by Newcastle and Lake Macquarie portfolios.

As a result, the Service Manager for the Lake Macquarie service now manages a portfolio that is less than half its original size with a similar reduced portfolio experienced for the Service Manager Newcastle service. In May 2023 the Service Manager for Newcastle service vacated the role. This has created an opportunity to review and propose changes.

It is proposed that the Lake Macquarie Community team move under the operational Management of the Newcastle service resulting in a proposed change of the Service Manager title to Greater Newcastle Community Service Manager.

Overall, these movements result in no change to established FTE, individual classifications and their respective role responsibilities and scope with the exception of a change of line report.

In essence, the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie Community mental health teams will combine to form the Greater Newcastle Community Mental Health Service.

As a result of the proposed changes it is acknowledged that 4 staff will be affected. We will continue to work closely with these staff in accordance with the relevant policies to provide them with suitable alternatives and opportunities.

We are committed to working with all staff and keeping them informed during the consultation process. I welcome any feedback or comments from the HSU by **COB Thursday, 9th October 2023**.

If you have any further questions regarding the above please contact me on 4033 5172.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca North
Operations Manager
Mental Health Services
Hunter New England Local Health District

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1. Current and Proposed organisation charts