

19 November 2022

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

**Delivery via email: [secretary@hsu.asn.au](mailto:secretary@hsu.asn.au)**

Dear Mr Hayes,

**NSW Health Pathology North – Extension of hours of Operations – Taree Laboratory, Manning Hospital.**

This letter is to advise you that NSW Health Pathology proposes to extend the hours of operation at our Taree Laboratory as below

- It is proposed that the current 8.30am to 5.30pm weekday shift will be converted to a 9.00am to 6.00pm shift.
- It is proposed that the current 3.30pm to midnight weekday shift will be converted to a 6.00pm to 2.00am shift.

It is proposed that the change will be implemented as soon as practical for an initial three month period, with monthly reviews to assess the anticipated benefits.

An increase in the local population has led to an increase in presentations and admissions at the Manning Hospital. This in turn has led to an increase in the number of call-ins required by the on-call staff outside of current hours of operation. A recent review of the call-backs demonstrated that approximately 1/3 of these occurred between midnight and 2am.

These proposed changes will alleviate the number of late night/early morning call-backs for staff and support fatigue management of shift workers.

Initial discussions with our relevant staff members at Taree have been positive and I understand are generally supportive of the proposed changes.

Please make contact with me on 0413 936 800 should you wish to discuss the proposal and share any feedback or concerns with me by close of business 1 December 2022

Yours Sincerely

Tarquin Pollock  
HR Manager, Regional, North  
New South Wales Health Pathology