

Gerard Hayes
Secretary
Health Services Union NSW/ACT
Level 2, 109 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Email: secretary@hsu.asn.au and josh.dodsworth@hsu.asn.au

Dear Mr Hayes,

Re: Relocation of the Bunya Forensic Unit to the Blacktown Mental Health Recovery Centre, Mental Health Services, Western Sydney Local Health District

A capital works program for the build of the Blacktown Mental Health Recovery Centre (BMHRC) on the Blacktown Hospital Campus commenced in early 2022. BMHRC is a purpose built 44 bed unit which will provide medium and low secure forensic mental health inpatient services. The new Service is to be commissioned during September 2024 with all 24 Bunya patients to be transitioned from the Cumberland Hospital Campus during Q4 of 2024.

Staff Impact

The general service roles at the Forensic Unit on the Cumberland Hospital Campus (Bunya) are classified as Patient Services Assistants (PSA) in recognition of the scope of the tasks performed.

The new/relocated Forensic Units in the Blacktown Hospital Campus will be employing Hospital Assistants Grade 2 (HAG2) – Cleaners. Food services and other tasks which warranted the PSA classification at Cumberland Hospital will be provided via HealthShare NSW at Blacktown Hospital.

Given the above, we advise as follows:

1. No employees will lose their jobs as current Bunya PSA employees will be afforded the opportunity to remain at Cumberland Hospital as a PSA or to be appointed to a vacant PSA position at another facility with WSLHD (in line with their preferences).
2. Some Bunya PSA's have indicated an interest in moving to the BMHRC to continue to work with the patient cohort and MDT team, noting that this would be at the HAG2 level.
3. Item 1 and 2 will be progressed via an Election Form with preferential consideration given to the substantive Bunya PSA's in the first instance.
4. Should the full FTE required to support the BMHRC not be taken up by the Bunya PSA's an Expression of Interest to ALL PSA's on the Cumberland Campus will be made.
5. Should more than four (4) PSA's indicate interest in being considered for HAG2 positions at Blacktown Hospital a 'closed merit process' will be undertaken.
6. Any Bunya PSA who makes no election will be allocated against current PSA vacancies on the Cumberland Hospital Campus.
7. Any employees electing to accept a HAG2 position with Blacktown Hospital will be provided with structured induction, training and relevant support to integrate them into their new work units.

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Email: WSLHD-MentalHealth@health.nsw.gov.au

Consultation

Whilst the relocation of the Bunya Unit to Blacktown Hospital has been well communication across the preceding 18 months to 2 years, we intend to meet with some of the four (4) Bunya PSA's on Thursday 9 May 2024 and the broader PSA team Tuesday 14 May 2024.

I am aware that Ms Kim Daniel, Director, Human Resources Business Partners, People and Culture, WSLHD contacted Mr Josh Dodsworth, HSU Organiser to notify of the relocation of the Bunya unit and the proposal regarding staff on Thursday 02 May 2024.

Please be assured that WSLHD remains committed to engage productively with the HSU and our employees in a manner consistent with the *Health Employees Conditions of Employment (State) Award* and the *NSW Health Industrial Consultative Arrangements Policy Directive PD2011_002* to the fullest extent possible in the circumstances.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me via wslhd-mentalhealth@health.nsw.gov.au.

Alternatively, please contact Ms Daniel via kim.daniel@health.nsw.gov.au

We thank you for your support whilst we continue to enhance our Mental Health services.

Yours sincerely,



Jason Sevil

General Manager Mental Health Services

9 MAY 2024.

Date: