



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

21 December 2021

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

Attention: Tracey Gaddelin, Organiser via email ([Tracey.Gaddelin@hsu.asn.au](mailto:Tracey.Gaddelin@hsu.asn.au))

Dear Mr Hayes,

**RE: HNE Imaging New Maitland Hospital**

I am writing to you in relation to your notification of dispute sent via email on Thursday 16 December 2021.

I refer to the New Maitland Hospital presentation at the JUSCC which Ms Tracey Gaddelin attended on 12 October 2021. I have reattached this presentation for your reference. Contrary to Ms Gaddelin's email, the presentation foreshadowed proposed changes to rosters to ensure staff coverage as a result of the inclusion of two extra services – MRI and Fluoroscopy and rationale regarding the same. Further consultation with staff and the Union was planned to occur once there was a clear and approved proposal.

On this basis, I now provide the following proposed changes associated with the service moving to the New Maitland Hospital.

- Change to current shift time of 4pm to 12am shift time to 3pm to 11pm to provide more appropriate coverage of the service based on demand on Monday to Friday between 3pm and 4pm.
- Introduction of MRI Modality on 31 January 2021 with limited capacity of two days per week.
  - MRI will be supported by an additional 0.9FTE (2 headcount) as a result of enhancement funding (0.5FTE) and via a reallocation of existing resources (0.4FTE). Specifically, the additional radiographer allocated to Theatres (over and above what is required) will be allocated to MRI. A trial has occurred with Theatres already in relation to this and it was proven to be effective with minimal impact of the service or staff which supports this proposal
- Introduction of Fluoroscopy on 28 February 2021 for very limited number of Modified Barium Swallows with Speech Pathology.
  - No additional FTE due to the minimal activity with a proposal to run 2 x 1 hour sessions per week in the afternoon from existing staff
- Ultrasound and CT departments to close for a 1 hour lunch period to ensure staff can have their breaks.



I wish to confirm that there are operational processes in place to ensure the addition of the services will not increase the reasonable work load of staff. With exception of the new modalities, the activity level of the other modalities will remain the same when the service initially opens.

The Health District is committed to reviewing this proposal after the opening of the New Maitland Hospital, allowing for the shifts appropriateness to then be reviewed. This proposed change has been raised at a staff meeting on 2 November 2021 but no formal communication has occurred with staff regarding the change.

If the HSU has any concerns or feedback regarding the above, I ask they are provided to myself at [Olasunbo.Olalere@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Olasunbo.Olalere@health.nsw.gov.au). I am also happy to discuss further via phone, I can be contacted on 02 4921 4139.

Yours sincerely,

**Olasunbo Olalere**

*General Manager, Hunter New England Imaging*  
HNE Local Health District

CC: Darrin Gray, Chief Radiographer GMHS Mr Olasunbo Olalere  
Matthew Erskine, Chief Radiographer, Maitland Hospital  
Ms Jenna Bell, A/Senior HR Consultant

Attachment

1. Presentation