

## Morisset Hospital Security Update

Dear Member,

Attached for your reference is correspondence the HSU has received from HNELHD regarding the new gate at Morisset Hospital.

The HSU is now urgently seeking feedback on the proposal. Please send any concerns to your local HSU Organiser Matt Ramsay via email [matthew.ramsay@hsu.asn.au](mailto:matthew.ramsay@hsu.asn.au) using the subject line *Morisset Hospital Security*.

Matt will also be on site in the near future to discuss this correspondence with members.

Do you know someone who is not yet a member of the HSU? Encourage them to join and have a say in their conditions at work. Our Union grows stronger with each new member. Your workmates can join by visiting [www.hsu.asn.au](http://www.hsu.asn.au) or by calling 1300 HSU NSW.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD

**Peter Kemp**  
Acting General Manager  
Hunter New England Mental Health  
Mater Campus, Edith St, Waratah NSW 2298  
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Telephone: (02) 4033 5161  
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**Health**  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

23<sup>th</sup> May 2019

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

Attention: Matthew Ramsey  
Email: [Matthew.Ramsay@hsu.asn.au](mailto:Matthew.Ramsay@hsu.asn.au)

Dear Matthew,

**Re: Proposal Surveillance Morisset Hospital**

I refer to previous discussions and communication in relation to this matter, along with the meeting between parties on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019, at Morisset Hospital. Morisset Hospital is an operational mental health facility and has recently extended the lockdown hours, from the evening hours only to full time. The site is now secure for authorised visitors only, to ensure the welfare of the patients and staff at Morisset Hospital.

Initially the existing gates at the bridge, on the main road leading into the site, have been locked permanently. In the meantime, Mental Health are working on coordinating the installation of custom built solar powered gates. These gates will have swipe card access, intercom and video cameras included. Once the installation is completed, the site will again support two access points.

Hunter New England Mental Health Services (HNEMHS) are requesting your assistance, to seek a resolution being found, to support the intercom system and ongoing security to the site, following the construction of the gates.

HNEMHS would like to propose, that the surveillance position, within the Kestrel Unit, accepts the role of answering all intercom enquiries, during hours they are operational, for the following reasons:

- The Surveillance Officer is currently acting in a capacity to coordinate all Emergency responses for the site.
- The Surveillance Officer is currently completing the role of Hospital switchboard enquires outside of normal business hours, as part of their existing duties.
- The Surveillance Office is covered at all times between the hours of 6am and 11pm.
- The Surveillance Office has the appropriate equipment and set up to be able to add additional camera views.

Hunter New England Mental Health Services have reviewed options to coordinate the monitoring of access points.

The implementation of after hour's lockdown was completed two years ago, during the hours of 6pm to 6am and there has been no change to workload reported over that period. A breakdown of visitor numbers following the installation of the lockdown has been analysed, and it is believed to be a minimal increase to workload.

Surveillance staff will be supported, via the Nurse Manager and the Engineer on site, at times any issues arise.

Your assistance in progressing this matter is appreciated and I would seek your reply to the proposal by 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019, following your consultations.

I note that this information has also been communicated with the Healthshare.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Kemp', with a horizontal line under the 'p'.

Peter Kemp

**Acting General Manager**

**Hunter New England Mental Health Services**

HNE Local Health District

cc     Marcia Fogarty, Director HNEMHS  
       Nathan White, Senior HR Consultant, HNELHD  
       Kim Nguyen, Executive Director Workforce and Allied Health, HNELHD