

Joint Statement on Northern Beaches Hospital

Healthscope, AMA, ASMOF, Northern Sydney LHD and the Ministry of Health met this morning.

The parties engaged in a productive discussion to identify current issues and agree on a framework for working together to resolve current and any future concerns.

The parties agreed on a statement of intent and 4 critical principles for ensuring JMOs have a voice in raising concerns. In addition, the parties will meet regularly to review and address issues raised related to safety of care, JMO workloads and doctor well-being.

Statement of Intent by the Parties

We are, as a group, committed to making Northern Beaches Hospital a safe, enjoyable and professionally stimulating environment for all our Junior and Senior medical staff, recognising the vital role they play in delivering the best care to the community of the Northern Beaches.

1. We agree to meet periodically – Healthscope, AMA NSW, ASMOF, NSLHD, and MOH to discuss relevant issues with the agenda to be agreed 48 hours prior. We commit to weekly meetings for the next month with frequency to be reviewed thereafter.
2. As Public and Private Patient numbers increase, Healthscope commits to work with the State to ensure workload distribution to JMO staff is appropriate to the number of patients allocated.
3. All parties agree to work within this group as the primary channel of engagement. Further, this group commits to consistent messaging to encourage confidence of the community and staff.
4. Healthscope agrees to expand our engagement channels with all staff to include a form of communication that can be anonymous and separated from current local channels. This mechanism will act to receive, acknowledge, and address issues and feedback to staff.

The first meeting under this framework will occur in the next week.

The parties are committed to supporting the success of the Northern Beaches Hospital.

END.