

TRIM Ref: H18/107134

Dr Tom Karplus
Secretary
ASMOF
Level 3, Suite 46
330 Wattle Street
ULTIMO NSW 2007

Dear Dr Karplus

Re: Northern Beaches Hospital: Medical Officers

Thank you for your letter regarding the arrangements for junior medical officers (JMOs) working at Northern Beaches Hospital.

The letter raises a number of concerns regarding the arrangements and there is clearly further work to be done by the representatives from NSW Health and Healthscope to provide the assurance for the JMOs.

JMOs who are employed at NSLHD are rotated to work at a number of public and private health facilities in the area; this now includes Northern Beaches Hospital.

JMOs who are allocated to work at Northern Beaches Hospital remain employees at NSLHD during this rotation. TMF cover applies to these JMOs as employees at NSLHD; JMOs have no employment relationship with Northern Beaches Hospital and do not receive any income from patient billings.

As you are aware, Northern Beaches Hospital is responsible for the conduct and direction of the JMOs who are working there. This includes providing JMOs with appropriate and adequate supervision at all times and providing a safe work environment.

Our agreement with the Healthscope operator requires the JMOs to be directly associated with the treatment of public patients, but it does not prohibit JMOs from seeing compensable patients. As a result, Northern Beaches Hospital can require JMOs to see compensable patients consistent with their level of experience. However, the JMOs are not entitled to receive any Medicare rebate or private billings.

We are working closely with Northern Beaches Hospital to ensure that the appropriate JMO arrangements are in place and these will be further communicated to you over the coming days.

Please contact Paula Williscroft, Director Workforce, Northern Sydney Local Health District on 0476838910 should you wish to discuss the matter further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Minns', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Phil Minns *21.11.18*
Deputy Secretary, People, Culture & Governance