

To: The Hon John Ajaka,  
The Board Chair,  
Sydney Local Health District.  
  
and  
  
The Board,  
Sydney Local Health District.

From: Winston Cheung,  
Chair, Medical Staff Council,  
Concord Repatriation General Hospital.  
Email: [REDACTED]

21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

**Re. Outcome of meeting of Concord Repatriation General Hospital (CRGH) Medical Staff Council (MSC) on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023, and further invitation to SLHD Board to attend a meeting with Concord Hospital Medical Staff Council members, and the nursing and allied health staff.**

Dear Mr Ajaka and Board Members of the SLHD,

The Concord Repatriation General Hospital (CRGH) Medical Staff Council (MSC) met yesterday, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023, to discuss the letter that the Medical Staff Council received from the SLHD Board Chair dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023, in response to the vote of no confidence in the SLHD Chief Executive on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

The Concord Hospital Medical Staff Council strongly advises the SLHD Board to reconsider its decision not to meet with the Concord Hospital Medical Staff Council members, and the nursing and allied health staff, until after the findings of the proposed independent review at Concord Hospital.

The Concord Hospital Medical Staff Council strongly advises the SLHD Board to meet with the Medical Staff Council members, and the nursing and allied health staff, sooner rather than later, and before the independent review begins.

One of the major grievances with the SLHD Chief Executive, leading up to the vote of no confidence in her, was her failure to listen to staff at Concord Hospital.

In October last year, I sent a letter to the SLHD Board (dated 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022) detailing many concerns that the staff had at Concord Hospital, and requesting a meeting of the SLHD Board with a delegation from the Concord Medical Staff Council, and nursing and allied health staff. This meeting only occurred with selected members of the Board, the Chief Executive and myself.

I attach this letter again for your reference.

Had this meeting occurred with the entire Board and the Concord staff, and had appropriate action been taken, then the events that have transpired in recent weeks may not have occurred.

We would like to provide each individual SLHD Board member with the opportunity to avail themselves of the facts that led to the vote of no confidence in the SLHD Chief Executive. The best way for this to occur is for the staff directly involved to provide a direct briefing to the SLHD Board members.

The Concord Hospital Medical Staff Council want the problems that have continued, since the offer to the SLHD Board to meet with staff in October last year, to be addressed in a fair and reasonable manner, consistent with the expectations of the staff, our patients and the community.

The first step is to listen to our concerns.

Once again, I extend a cordial invitation to the entire SLHD Board, excluding the Chief Executive, to attend a meeting, via videoconferencing, with the Concord Hospital Medical Staff Council members, and the Nursing and Allied Health staff at Concord Hospital, at a time and date that is suitable for the Board in the next 2 weeks.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.

Please be advised that I will circulate the Board's written response to this letter to the Concord Hospital Medical Staff Council members, unless it is requested that this does not occur.

Yours Sincerely,

Winston Cheung,  
Chair,  
Medical Staff Council,  
Concord Repatriation General Hospital.  
Senior Staff Specialist,  
Intensive Care Unit,  
Concord Repatriation General Hospital.  
Clinical Associate Professor,  
Sydney Medical School – Concord, University of Sydney.