



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON OFF-PROTOCOL PRESCRIBING OF CHEMOTHERAPY IN NSW

31 October 2016

D16/34955

Mr Gerry Marr
Chief Executive
South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
Corner The Kingsway & Kareena Road
CARINGBAH NSW 2229

Via email: gerry.marr@health.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Marr

Inquiry into off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy in New South Wales

As you are aware the Legislative Council has established a select committee to inquire into and report on off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy in New South Wales.

The committee has received a report of alleged censorship of submissions to our inquiry by the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District and the Ministry of Health.

I understand the NSW Health Code of Conduct provides that employees may make public comment on issues, provided they do not indicate or imply that their views are the official views of NSW Health.

During this inquiry it is vital to ensure that employees within NSW Health feel able to come forward freely to make submissions and share their views without fear of repercussion. While it would be appropriate for a submission prepared on behalf of a section of NSW Health to be submitted through your office if requested, it would be inappropriate for there to be any expectation that individual submissions by employees be required to go through formal channels.

The committee takes very seriously any suggestion that people may have been dissuaded from participating in its inquiry, or may be disadvantaged subsequent to such participation. I seek your assurances that employees of the local health district are able to participate freely in the inquiry.

If you have questions regarding the issues outlined in this correspondence please contact Ms Merrin Thompson, Inquiry Manager, on 9230 2895 or via email to chemotherapyinquiry@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Green', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

The Hon Paul Green MLC
Chair

cc: The Hon Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health
Via email: Michael.Evangelidis@minister.nsw.gov.au