



## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON OFF-PROTOCOL PRESCRIBING OF CHEMOTHERAPY IN NSW

26 October 2016

D16/34842

Ms Suzanne Wallace  
Partner  
Moray & Agnew  
Level 24, 233 Castlereagh Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

*Via email: mdelvecchio@moray.com.au*

Dear Ms Wallace

I refer to your correspondence of 20 October 2016 on behalf of Dr Kiran Phadke regarding the Select Committee inquiry into off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy in New South Wales. This letter is an interim response to some of the issues raised in your correspondence. The correspondence will be considered in detail at the next committee meeting on 31 October 2016.

### ***Media release***

In relation to the committee's media release regarding the establishment of the inquiry, as you have observed, the content reflects that of the Minister for Health's media release of 2 August 2016 and was included in the committee's media release to give context to the inquiry. As an interim measure the committee has agreed to remove the media release from its website and will give this matter further consideration at its next meeting.

### ***Submission and appearance as witness of Dr Phadke***

Your letter refers to an incomplete local health district investigation and your advice to Dr Phadke to not participate in the inquiry, either by submission or appearance as a witness at a hearing on 1 November 2016. The committee will be hearing from the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District on 1 November and has received a number of submissions regarding Dr Phadke that may be made public, with this in mind Dr Phadke may wish to reconsider your advice that he not participate in the inquiry. In order to provide Dr Phadke with an opportunity to respond to allegations regarding his medical practice that he believes to be untrue the committee has agreed to formally request that Dr Phadke appear at a later hearing on 29 November 2016.

### ***Submissions made by employees of the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District***

Your correspondence refers to claims made to Dr Phadke regarding the alleged censorship of submissions to our inquiry by the Ministry of Health.

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 will therefore contact the Minister for Health to seek assurances that employees 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 [chemotherarpyinquiry@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:chemotherarpyinquiry@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**