



Australian Salaried Medical Officers'  
Federation (New South Wales)

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Elizabeth Koff  
Secretary  
NSW Ministry of Health  
Locked Mail Bag 961  
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059

**Attention:** Annie Owens, Director Workplace Relations and Management

By email: [aowen@doh.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:aowen@doh.health.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Ms Koff,

**Matter no 2016/00366747: ASMOF v HNELHD re Shift Work in Hunter Retrieval**

ASMOF notified of a dispute in this matter in December 2016 which specifically included the Ministry as a respondent (see attached Notification).

The matter was the subject of two conferences before the Commission: by teleconference on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016, and a further compulsory conference in Newcastle on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The Ministry did not make an appearance on either of these occasions. ASMOF understood from representatives of HNELHD that this was considered by the Ministry to be a matter to be resolved at Local Health District Level.

Commissioner Stanton issued a Recommendation today (attached) which indicates in paragraph 8 that the Staff Specialists' Award is deficient in that it *"fails to recognise the 24/7 operational requirements and industrial importance of Staff Specialists engaged in retrieval medicine"*. The Commissioner then in paragraph 10 recommended that the parties, specifically including the Ministry of Health, confer at the earliest opportunity with a view to reaching agreement on the terms of a variation to the Award to correct the current inequity.

Please contact ASMOF Senior Industrial Advisor Bob Morgan to arrange to confer as a matter of priority, noting that the matter has been stood over for 21 days.

A copy of this letter has been sent to HNELHD for their information.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Morgan'.

Dr Tom Karplus  
Secretary

19th January 2017

2 Attachments