

GMCT Report Recommendations and SWAHS response

GMCT Recommendation	SWAHS response
<p>1.The reviewers support the realignment of services at Blacktown Mt Druitt Hospital.</p>	<p><i>(Not a recommendation)</i></p> <p>The SWAHS noted that the reviewers supported the realignment of Blacktown Mt Druitt Hospital.</p> <p>A media release to this affect will be released in due course</p>
<p>2. Mt Druitt Hospital should appoint a clinical executive team. This should include the Director of Medical Services, a Physician, Surgeon, a Nurse and a Community Representative.</p>	<p><i>The SWAHS supports the principle underpinning this recommendation (2).</i></p> <p>The SWAHS has agreed to examine the merits of having a clinical team at Mt Druitt Hospital and has talked with some clinicians about implementing this recommendation.</p> <p>The SWAHS organisation structure includes a senior executive team for Blacktown and Mt Druitt hospital. <i>(This is a significant change to the previous organisational structure which was more centralised resulting in decisions being made at an Area level rather than locally).</i></p> <p>The new SWAHS structure also includes clinical networks, which is a mechanism for senior clinical leadership at a senior level within the organisation.</p> <p>The interface between the Clinical Executive in Mt Druitt with the senior management and the community is being progressively increased. The</p>

	<p>executive has met with the local representatives and will continue to do so to ensure that they are informed about the current activities occurring at Mt Druitt Hospital.</p>
<p>3. Centres of Excellence at Mt Druitt should involve: Elective Surgery, Paediatrics, Palliative Care, Aged Care/Rehabilitation and Aboriginal Outreach services.</p>	<p><i>The SWAHS supports the principle underpinning this recommendation (3).</i></p> <p>The SWAHS has already put in place processes to develop the Centres of Excellence.</p> <p>Discussions have commenced with the University of Western Sydney to facilitate academic appointments in these specialties.</p>

4. the Emergency Department should either be closed or re-badged as an Urgent Care Centre operating only between 0700 and 2300.

The SWAHS does not support this recommendation (4)

The Emergency Department at Mt Druitt Hospital will remain open.

All the initiatives included in the realignment plan are still being implemented and therefore it is too soon to be able to access the impact of these changes. For example:

- The SWAHS will continue its endeavors to recruit medical staff for the Emergency Department. Services in the Department will continue to be provided commensurate with the staffing available.
- Patient safety and clinical governance matters will continue to be monitored.
- The rapid transport system will also continue to transport patients when required.
- The use of telehealth technology between Blacktown Mt Druitt Emergency Department is being examined.
- Realignment achieved so far has already reduced clinical risks for patients
- The new Ambulance matrix, once implemented, is expected to positively impact on the Emergency Department services at Mt Druitt
- The commissioning of an independent report (Kerry Goulston Report) was one method of monitoring the realignment of services. The SWAHS also regularly monitor the services.

<p>5a. that Mt Druitt Hospital clinicians should communicate with the community about the changes.</p>	<p><i>The SWAHS supports the principle underpinning this recommendation (5a).</i></p> <p>The SWAHS has a responsibility to communicate with the community that it serves about many matters that relate to the delivery of health care.</p> <p>Clinical involvement in communication is appreciated and will be sought for clinical matters.</p>
<p>5b. that a member of the community should be appointed to the Mt Druitt clinical executive team.</p>	<p><i>The SWAHS supports this recommendation (5b)</i></p> <p>The Public Affairs Officer works with the volunteers at Mt Druitt Hospital on a regular basis.</p> <p>The SWAHS will include community members in the processes for planning health services in Mt Druitt</p> <p>It is SWAHS policy to seek advice from community members in the processes for planning health services</p>
<p>6. that this proposal should be evaluated after 12 months</p>	<p><i>The SWAHS supports this recommendation (6)</i></p>