



Public Service Association of NSW
General Secretary Stewart Little **President** Nicole Jess

160 Clarence Street, Sydney NSW 2000 GPO Box 3365, Sydney NSW 2001
1300 772 679 (02) 9262 1623 psa@psa.asn.au www.psa.asn.au ABN 83 717 214 309

In reply please quote: NB:mb

The Hon. David Elliott, MP
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
52 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister Elliott

The Public Service Association of New South Wales (PSA) writes in regards to an announcement by the NSW Police Force that they will be relocating the Penrith Radio Operations Centres (ROC) to Surry Hills. Staff have been informed that they will be relocated by the 6th February 2022. This decision will see 70 jobs forcibly relocated from Western Sydney to Surry Hills.

This will have a devastating effect on the majority of the hard working and dedicated Communications Officers at Penrith, with NSWPF confirming that if these individuals want a job, it will only be in Surry Hills.

The consequences of this move go well beyond the effect on these individual employees. It is most unlikely that the majority of staff currently at Penrith will be able to continue to work as Communications Officers, given the travel times from their homes to Surry Hills. This will cause a significant reduction in the number of Communications Officers available to Radio Operations Group (ROG) for dispatching. The PSA has received initial indications from the staff affected that approximately 30% have confirmed they will resign due to this decision.

Given that the current staffing situation in ROG is already critical with approximately 20 current vacancies state-wide, the closure of Penrith ROC will cripple the entire ROG operation for at least 12 months, as the lead in time for training any new staff is significant in this extremely important and specialised role.

The PSA seeks your assistance in reviewing and overturning the decision to remove jobs from Western Sydney, and the critical effect this will have not only for the Penrith Community, but the entire Police Service.

To discuss further, please contact Sandra Lockey at my office on 9220-0982 or by email slockey@psa.asn.au to arrange a meeting.

Yours sincerely,

STEWART LITTLE
GENERAL SECRETARY

23 November 2021