

BUNDABERG DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE

INCORPORATING - Bundaberg, Gin Gin, Mount Perry and Childers Hospitals and Community Health Services
Dr Pitre Anderson
Bourbong Street
BUNDABERG Q 4670

7th August 2000

Dear Dr Anderson

I refer to your letter of 7 August 2000, seeking clarification of the your status in relation to a number of issues should you chose to resign from your position.

I wish to provide the following advice in respect of each of the matters raised.

1. Should you resign from this position, it is the intention of the Health Service District to advertise the full time vacancy of Director, Department of Surgery, immediately. The creation of any VMO session/s in general surgery would, in the future, be considered on a needs basis and if such a need does arise, you would be considered along with any other applicant/s, should you choose to submit an application.
2. The District would have no objection to you attending education sessions at the Bundaberg Base Hospital. You would be aware that the participation of outside medical practitioners in such training and education programs is encouraged by Queensland Health.
3. Treating intermediate patients would only be permitted in circumstances where you were appointed to undertake public VMO sessions at the Bundaberg Base Hospital.
4. Your participation in an after hours on call roster would similarly be contingent upon appointment as a VMO.

With regard to your question relating to the effect of resignation, I wish to advise that the Regional Health Authorities Senior Medical Officers and Resident Medical Officers Award – State, requires that, except in the case of misconduct, three months notice of termination shall be given by either party, however, a lesser period of notice may be agreed to by the parties. Should you chose to resign with the giving of three months notice, you would still be suspended from duty without pay until such time as the investigation into allegations against you has been finalised.

Should you seek to resign from your position by the giving of less than three months notice, please contact me to discuss this further.

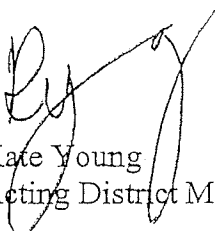
As previously advised in my letter to you of the 2nd August 2000, those allegations against you have been referred to the Criminal Justice Commission, via the Audit and Operational Review Branch, Queensland Health, for investigation. Once details of the members of the investigation team and their Terms Of Reference are available to me, I will notify you immediately.

In relation to your question of the likely disciplinary action that may be initiated are defined under section 88 of the Public Service Act 1996. (Copy enclosed for your information.) I am not in a position to provide an answer to this question as the investigation into the allegations against you has not taken place and therefore no adverse finding can be presumed.

The range of penalties that may be imposed by the District does not in any way interfere with other action that may be pursued by the Criminal Justice Commission.

I note your comments in relation to the purchase of the Rochard's Retractor. You will appreciate that given the allegations raised against you relating to the use of equipment, it is important to correctly establish ownership of such equipment. Accordingly, I will need to have the District records examined and review your evidence of ownership before I can resolve this matter. Should this process establish your ownership of this equipment, I will ensure its prompt return.

Yours sincerely



Kate Young
Acting District Manager