

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

- Acknowledgement Letter
- Acknowledgement Email
- Acknowledgement Not Required
- Thank you & Noted Letter

Department Ref #: MI198178

Policy Advisor: Anthony

Re-Issue: Premiers [Redacted]

RESPONSE:

- Minister
 - Dept Contact required
- Assistant Minister
 - Dept Contact required
- Chief of Staff
 - Dept Contact required
- Hospital and Health Service
- Action Direct – Dept to provide
 - Minister's office copy of Response or details of response
- No Response Required (Note and File)
- BRIEFING NOTE REQUIRED
- BRIEFING NOTE NOT REQUIRED

TF/14/6769

Closure of the Barrett Adolescent Centre

Previous Dept Ref #: M1189992 - NRR
M1197841 - min 17/6/14

INSTRUCTIONS:

Refers MI197841, MI189992

Reviewed by: _____ [Redacted]

Date: 18.6.14

Sent to ESU by: _____ [Redacted]

Date: 18 JUN 2014

ESU ONLY min/NRR

Action Officer: MDOG

Due Date: _____

Template: _____



Office of the Premier

18 JUN 2014

For reply please quote: *MC/SDB – TF/14/6769 – DOC/14/64164*

16 JUN 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 27 March 2014 about the closure of the Barrett Adolescent Centre (BAC). I have been requested to reply to you on the Premier's behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I understand you have also brought your concerns to the attention of the Minister for Health, the Honourable Lawrence Springborg MP.

The Premier appreciates your concern for the wellbeing of the young people at BAC and your views about these services. As you may know, an expert clinical reference group considered a range of options for young people at BAC and recommended a number of strategies to better support their needs, including both inpatient and community-based services. West Moreton Hospital and Health Service (HHS) has considered these recommendations, and consulted with key stakeholders, including Queensland Health, the Queensland Mental Health Commissioner, the Department of Education, Training and Employment and Children's Health Queensland (CHQ).

Following this, a decision was made that BAC is no longer an appropriate model of care for young people with complex mental health needs. The expert clinical reference group has determined that young people require specialised and appropriate care options, where they can be as close as possible to their community, families and support systems. This, along with ongoing redevelopment at The Park, which is a secure adult forensic mental health facility, means BAC is no longer a suitable place for young people.

B/C The Honourable the Minister for Health.

**By direction. For your information.
Copy of inwards correspondence is attached.**

ORIGINAL SIGNED

**KATE DAVIES
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

As such, it is expected that young people requiring extended mental health treatment and rehabilitation will receive services through a new range of contemporary service options. Children's Health Queensland HHS and an implementation group will use the expert clinical reference group recommendations, and broader consultation, to identify and develop these service options.

While BAC will continue to provide care to young people until suitable service options have been determined, the young people currently receiving care from BAC will be supported to transition to other contemporary care options that best meet their individual needs.

West Moreton HHS will work closely with HHSs across the State and mental health care providers, as well as families and mental health consumers, to ensure appropriate care plans are in place. In addition, West Moreton HHS will continue to provide information and support to staff at BAC.

I have been told there is a comprehensive communication strategy to ensure parents, carers and BAC staff are provided with updates on BAC and future service options. This has included fact sheets, personal emails and phone calls, and face-to-face meetings. Importantly, the contributions of parents and carers have been sought on the development of the new service options.

Further information about the Statewide Adolescent Mental Health Extended Treatment Initiative can be found by visiting www.health.qld.gov.au/rch and clicking on (1) 'Health professionals', (2) 'Division of Child and Youth Mental Health Services', and (3) 'Extended Treatment and Rehabilitation Services for Young People'. Additionally, I would encourage you to contact Ms Deborah Miller, Acting Executive Director, Office of Strategy Management, CHQ on telephone [REDACTED] if you would like further information.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write to the Premier about this matter.

Yours sincerely

KATE DAVIES
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Nadia Cecil

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, 27 March 2014 9:51 AM
To: The Premier; [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: State Government closure of the Barrett Centre in Brisbane

Dear all,

I am writing in relation to the State government's closure of the Barrett Adolescent Centre.

I am extremely concerned about the increasing levels of mental illness being experienced by young people. [Redacted]
[Redacted]

Clearly, these figures mean that most of us are going to know individuals and families who need help. It also seems clear to me that there will be significant consequences for all of us if help is not available. [Redacted]
[Redacted]

I strongly believe that a residential facility that offers care and treatment for young people with severe mental health issues is needed in Queensland.

I have heard the Queensland Government repeatedly provide reassurances that alternative services would be provided as a result of the closure of the Barrett Centre, but I understand this has not happened.

I urge you all to listen to the expert advice that is being provided and to ensure that replacement services are put in place urgently.

Regards,

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Brisbane

*Standard
Words.*