

**Executive Support Unit**  
**MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE – ACTION SHEET**

Recfind Doc Type: MIN ☒  
 MINPREM ☐  
 MINPREMD ☐  
 MINMP ☐  
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 RCVD IN ESU: MINAD ☐  
 23 / 10 / 13 MINNRR ☐  
 MINU ☐

Reg No: MI 193180

**DUE EXECUTIVE SUPPORT:**

14 / 11 / 13

**ACTION OFFICER:** m009

**COPIED TO:**

**Response required:**

Yes

☒

No

☐

Action Direct / Board to respond

☐

**Response signatory:**

Minister for Health

☐

Assistant Minister

☒

Chief of Staff

☐

**Closing contact details:**

Departmental

☐

N/A

☒

**Response Template\*:**

A **B** C G

**Standard Letter:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ESU Option Letter Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Redirect to:** \_\_\_\_\_

\* Templates can be found on QHEPS by clicking on Corporate Templates under *I am looking for* or from the tool bar click on Business Support, and under Administration click on Templates. Alternatively, in Word, File / New and then click on Qld Health Templates (in the task panel on the right hand side of the page). It is important that you access the templates from the website *every time* (and not use a previous template) as the templates are updated regularly.

**Briefing note required:** YES / **NO**

**Briefing note template\*:** A B C

**COMMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

- ☐ Acknowledgement Letter  
☒ Acknowledgement Email  
☐ Acknowledgement **Not Required**  
☐ Thank you & Noted Letter

Department Ref #: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Advisor: MARKRe-Issue: Justine Oxenham**RESPONSE:**

- ☐ Minister  
    ☐ Dept Contact required  
☒ Assistant Minister  
    ☐ Dept Contact required  
☐ Chief of Staff  
    ☐ Dept Contact required  
☐ Hospital and Health Service  
☐ Refer to Department for  
    Direct Reply (**Action Direct**)  
☐ No Response Required (**Note and File**)  
☐ BRIEFING NOTE REQUIRED  
☐ BRIEFING NOTE NOT REQUIRED

Previous Dept Ref #: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 22/10

Sent to ESU by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 23 OCT 2013

**Donna De Brenni**

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**From:** M & J Oxenham  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 9 October 2013 10:57 PM  
**To:** Health  
**Subject:** RE: Save the Barrett Centre

Thank you for responding to my email.

My name is Mrs Justine Oxenham and my postal address is [REDACTED]  
If the Minister would like more information concerning my correspondence and opinion, please do not hesitate to contact me as I work directly with the children of the Barrett Adolescent Centre and can give specific detail to the impact of this situation on the lives and of these children.

Yours Sincerely,  
Justine Oxenham

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**From:** Health [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 9 October 2013 11:57 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Save the Barrett Centre

Thank you for your email to the Honourable Lawrence Springborg MP, Minister for Health.

If you would like to provide an opportunity for the Minister to respond, please email back with your title, postal address and your correspondence will be actioned as appropriate.

We appreciate the time you have taken to contact our office.

Kind regards

Office of the Minister for Health

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 7 October 2013 11:03 PM  
**To:** Health; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Save the Barrett Centre

Dear Sir

Since late 2012, the people of Queensland have been waiting to find out if young people suffering with severe mental illness will continue to receive the outstanding treatment that the Barrett Adolescent Centre has been providing for 30 years.

The announcement of the centre's closure at Wacol has devastated many. But compounding that with more waiting about future mental healthcare options is too much to ask of people whose lives are already filled with daily pain and distress.

The Expert Clinical Reference Group has recommended retaining a model of care that includes INPATIENT EXTENDED TREATMENT and ON-SITE SCHOOLING. So I am writing to ask you to announce publicly that your government will ensure the provision of exactly such a service.

The details of how such a model will put into practice may require the final months of the life of the Barrett Centre at Wacol to finalise – but the ongoing availability of LONGTERM RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT with a MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM that includes ON-SITE EDUCATION provided by SPECIALISED TEACHERS must be confirmed as soon as possible so as not to cause any more disruption to the lives of people who are already suffering.

SEVERE mental illness goes beyond depression and anxiety. SEVERE mental illness can mean violence, self-harm, extreme isolation, family torment and ultimately suicide. You have the power to lighten the loads that would be, to many of us, already unbearable.

Please announce as soon as you can that adolescents with severe mental illness will have access to INPATIENT EXTENDED TREATMENT ON-SITE SCHOOLING from 2014 onwards.

Thank you.



QLD 4305

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