

Executive Support Unit
MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE – ACTION SHEET

Recfind Doc Type: MIN

MINPREM

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RCVD IN ESU:

MINAD

28 / 11 / 2012

MINNRR

MINU

Reg No: MI 186452

DUE EXECUTIVE SUPPORT:

19 / 12 / 12

ACTION OFFICER:

MDO9

COPIED TO:

HSCI

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: HSCI - can you provide any input to MDO9 if appropriate

ESU Contact: Dianne Cochran

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Department Ref #: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgement Letter
☒ Acknowledgement Email
☐ Acknowledgement Not Required

Policy Advisor: Mark**RESPONSE:**

- ☒ Minister
☐ Assistant Minister
☐ Chief of Staff
☐ Board Chairs
☐ Refer to Department for
Direct Reply (**Action Direct**)
☐ No Response Required (**Note and
File**)
☐ BRIEFING NOTE REQUIRED
☐ BRIEFING NOTE NOT REQUIRED

Re-Issue: Email: Dr Dan Siskind -
The Royal Australian & New Zealand
College of Psychiatrists- Closure of QLD Mental
Health Facilities

Previous Dept Ref #: _____

COMMENTS / REQUESTS:

Reviewed by _____

Date: 27/6/17

Courteney Hawkins

From: Willis, Vicki [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 26 November 2012 12:30 PM
To: Health
Cc: Stafford
Subject: RANZCP QLD BRANCH
Attachments: Minister Springborg letter 26_11_12.pdf

Dear Secretariat,

Please find attached letter to Hon Minister Springborg from the Chair of RANZCP QLD Branch, Dr Dan Siskind.

Kind regards

Vicki

Vicki Willis
Branch Coordinator, Queensland Branch Office

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists
PO Box 261
RBH Post Office Q 4029

[REDACTED]
vved: <http://www.ranzcp.org>

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The Royal
Australian &
New Zealand
College of
Psychiatrists

Queensland Branch

26th November 2012

Hon Lawrence Springborg MP
Minister for Health
PO Box 48
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister Springborg,

Re: Closure of Queensland Mental Health Facilities

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you on the 11th of September 2012. We hope that this meeting is the first in our on-going partnership.

We have become aware that there are proposals to close or alter the service of the Barrett Adolescent Centre. The Barrett Adolescent Centre provides medium to long-term inpatient care for Queensland adolescents with severe mental health problems. The service is a state-wide resource and is the only service of its kind.

In this time of fiscal constraint, the Qld Branch of the RANZCP wishes to ensure that no net resources are lost if changes are made to services for highly disadvantaged groups such as young people with mental health problems.

The Qld Branch of the RANZCP does not hold a particular view regarding the type of services that should be provided to children and adolescents with mental health problems. Those decisions are best made in consultation with clinicians, experts, carers and consumers to ensure that Queenslanders have access to the current best practice child and youth mental health care.

The Qld Branch of the RANZCP wishes to ensure that recurrent funding for highly specialised mental health services are maintained to ensure that Queenslanders living with mental illness receive quality care.

The issues surrounding the changes to the Barrett Adolescent Centre service highlight the concerns shared by consumers, carers and our Fellows in the wake of state-wide cuts to mental health funding. We have already seen Health and Hospital Services target mental health budgets to achieve their service wide budget reduction targets. As recurrent funding in mental health services is predominantly spent on staff, any reduction in mental health budgets will lead to losses in direct frontline clinical staff. When frontline staff numbers are reduced, the risk of critical incidents involving mental health consumers increases.

The large loss of staff in the Mental Health Branch has the potential to create difficulties in co-ordinating existing inter-district services. Although it is important to tailor mental health services to consumers in Queensland regions, there are economies of scale that can be lost when state-wide coordination of services are withdrawn.



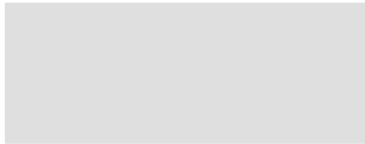
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Australian &
New Zealand
College of
Psychiatrists

The Qld Branch of the RANZCP call on you to ensure that mental health budgets are protected and quarantined, so that Queensland does not slip further behind the rest of Australia.

We look forward to working in partnership with you as Minister for Health to make a difference to the lives of Queenslanders living with mental illness, and their carers and families.

We have put together a schedule for you to visit an acute psychiatric inpatient unit, a Community Care Unit, and a private psychiatric hospital. We look forward to setting a date to host your visit in the next 3 months, and speaking with you further at that time.

Kind regards



Dr Dan Siskind
Chair, RANZCP QLD Branch

C.c. Dr Chris Davis – Assistant Minister of Health

26th November 2012

27 NOV 2012

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