



Minister for Health and
Minister for Ambulance Services
Member for Woodridge

16 MAR 2016

Mr Neil Laurie
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Queensland Parliamentary Service
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Dear Mr ~~Laurie~~ Neil,

I write in response to your letters regarding petition numbers 2485-15 and 2547-16, tabled in Parliament on 16 February 2016, in relation to the 'New Public Hospital for Kingaroy'. As these petitions are similar in nature, I have taken the liberty of responding to both petitions in this letter. I therefore ask that this response be noted against each petition.

In December 2015, the Department of Health finalised an intensive and collaborative process with all 16 Hospital and Health Services (HHSs), identifying priority capital projects across the State. This involved the forward planning considerations for health asset maintenance and refurbishment requirements in the Darling Downs region.

I can confirm that the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service has identified the replacement of the Kingaroy Hospital as a priority. The Department of Health is now considering all HHS identified priority capital projects across the State.

The priority capital requirements will inform Queensland Health's 5 Year Capital Plan which is currently under development. The 5 Year Capital Plan will be used to inform the broader Queensland Government's forward planning and investment agenda across all State infrastructure investment. It is important to appreciate that inclusion of a project in the 5 Year Capital Plan is not a guarantee that funding will be made available for any such listed project.

Further to the above, I understand that preliminary planning works for Kingaroy Hospital commenced in July 2015 and a Business Case for Kingaroy Hospital is currently being developed. Business cases are developed to ensure initiatives requiring capital funding are identified, assessed, prioritised and managed to optimise performance and return on investment. Any decision in relation to capital funding allocation will be considered in the context of state-wide priorities and the availability of funding.

Please be assured that the planning and business case development processes for the Kingaroy Hospital are progressing as a priority of the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

CAMERON DICK MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services