



Hon Paul Lucas MP



**Queensland
Government**

**Deputy Premier
Minister for Health**

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter dated 16 September 2010, regarding Petition No.1522-10. The Petition requests the re-establishment of an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Gladstone Hospital.

I am advised that there has never been an Intensive Care Unit established at Gladstone Hospital. There exists a 4-bed High Dependency Unit that is currently resourced to support the range of medical, surgical, obstetric and paediatric services provided at the Hospital.

As the Member for Gladstone is aware, Queensland Health is currently undertaking a strategic planning process to determine future demand and service provision at Gladstone. This process is designed to prepare Gladstone's health services for expected increase in demand stemming from the development of the Liquefied Natural Gas industry.

The service profile of Gladstone Hospital will be included in this body of work so there will be the opportunity to evaluate demand for intensive care services in Central Queensland and the role that Gladstone Hospital might potentially play in the future.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Health

19th Floor State Health Building
147-163 Charlotte Street Brisbane
GPO Box 48 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3234 1191
Facsimile +61 7 3229 4731
Email deputypremier@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.health.qld.gov.au