



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**

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