

MI115025

Mr N Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I acknowledge the petition from residents of Caloundra received by the House on 10 September 2003, concerning access to public radiation therapy services on the Sunshine Coast.

Prior to the commencement of a private radiation therapy service in Nambour in 2001, all Sunshine Coast residents requiring radiation therapy services travelled to Brisbane for their treatment. Since that time the number of people travelling to Brisbane has reduced considerably.

Queensland Health has no immediate plans for establishing radiation therapy services at Nambour Hospital. Long-term plans will consider state-wide population trends in relation to demand for and access to services and the ability to recruit staff to operate any additional services.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

SIGNED

Wendy Edmond MP
**Minister for Health and
Minister Assisting the Premier on Women's Policy**

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Date: 3 October 2003
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