



Hon Steven Miles MP
Minister for Health and
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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 regarding petition number 2809-17, tabled in Parliament on 15 February 2018, in relation to a full time doctor for Alpha and Jericho.

The Central West HHS did advertise for a doctor to live in Alpha, however I am advised that no suitably qualified candidate was identified.

I am further advised that from 2 April 2018, there will be a doctor in Alpha four days per week (likely Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday), with a doctor's clinic in Jericho on a Wednesday. Telehealth consultations with a General Practitioner are also available from the Alpha Hospital to the Barcaldine Medical Centre on any weekday that a doctor is not in Alpha, and the on-call doctor at Barcaldine is always able to video conference with staff at Alpha for after-hours emergency presentations. Videoconferencing also supports inpatient admissions to the level suitable for a small facility such as Alpha.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

STEVEN MILES MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services