



Hon Yvette D'Ath MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
Leader of the House

20 MAY 2021

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition 3519-21, tabled in Parliament on 20 April 2021, in relation to a Toowoomba quarantine facility.

The great majority of COVID-19 cases reported nationally and in Queensland have been acquired overseas. Queensland's hotel quarantine system, including stronger infection control measures recently put in place to better respond to the threat from new COVID-19 strains, has been a key feature of Queensland's success in dealing with risks associated with overseas arrivals and suppressing COVID-19 to date.

As we support Australians and Queenslanders to return home, mandatory quarantine will continue to be a key feature of Queensland's response until there is confidence that the importation of the virus no longer poses a significant threat to our community.

Establishing any regional quarantine facility would be dependent on operational support from the Australian Government.

Conversations around the potential establishment of a quarantine facility at Wellcamp and in-depth consideration of the challenges and opportunities associated with this option are ongoing. No decision has been made at this point in time to operate a regional quarantine facility in Queensland.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Yvette D'Ath'.

YVETTE D'ATH MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
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