



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

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

9 JUN 2022

Dear Mr Laurie <sup>Neil</sup>

I write in response to petition number 3717-22, tabled in Parliament on 10 May 2022, in relation to Termination of Pregnancy services in regional Queensland (specifically Rockhampton).

I have been advised by the Department of Health that the petitioners' request to reopen the recently closed Marie Stopes Women's Health Clinic in Rockhampton, has been fully investigated and unfortunately is not feasible. I understand that prior to the closure of the clinic, the Department of Health worked closely with Marie Stopes Australia to identify options to keep the service open. However, Marie Stopes Australia advised that the clinic was no longer financially viable.

Since the closure of the clinic, Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service has been working to develop and implement a local sustainable termination of pregnancy service for both surgical and medical terminations of pregnancy.

A new model of care to deliver Surgical Termination of Pregnancy and Medical Termination of pregnancy in Central Qld is expected to be offered at Gladstone Hospital soon with an interim service at Gladstone Hospital currently managing referrals.

The current model of care for Termination of Pregnancy occurs in the Early Pregnancy Assessment Service clinic, which is a medical practitioner led clinic, operating Monday to Friday.

In the interim, this new service will also accept referrals from Rockhampton whilst the HHS continues to work towards re-establishing services in Rockhampton.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

  
YVETTE D'ATH MP  
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services  
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