



Hon Steven Miles MP
Acting Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

21 JUL 2022

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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 petitions 3742-22 and 3760-22, tabled in Parliament on 21 June 2022 and 22 June 2022 respectively, in relation to the need for a public hospital and health precinct redevelopment at the Baillie Henderson site in Toowoomba. As these petitions are similar in nature, I have taken the liberty of responding to both petitions in this letter. I therefore ask that this response be noted against each petition.

I am pleased to advise that on 21 June 2022, the Palaszczuk Government committed \$1.3 billion for a new Toowoomba Hospital on the Ballie Henderson site with around 118 additional beds. The new hospital will also include additional operating theatres, Emergency Department treatment spaces, outpatient consultation rooms and diagnostic rooms, as well as expanded medical imaging, pharmacy and pathology.

The new Toowoomba Hospital will boost capacity and reduce the need for patients to travel outside the region for more specialist care. As the major hub for a number of rural and regional communities, this investment will have a lasting and wide-spread impact for the Darling Downs region.

The new Toowoomba Hospital will be one of the most important infrastructure projects undertaken in the region. Construction of the new hospital will provide a big boost for the local economy, creating around 3,127 construction jobs.

The new Toowoomba Hospital is part of the Palaszczuk Government's \$9.78 billion hospital building program – the biggest investment in new and expanded hospitals and new beds in Queensland's history. These new hospitals and hospital expansion projects will deliver 2,509 extra beds across the state, in addition to the 869 beds being delivered through our current expansion projects.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

STEVEN MILES MP
Acting Minister for Health
and Ambulance Services