



Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance
Services
Minister for Women

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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 number 3966-23, tabled in Parliament on 11 October 2023, in relation to a CT scanner at Ayr Hospital.

I understand that each rural community and its population needs are unique. Each requires a bespoke model in order to provide appropriate health care services to reduce the need for residents to travel for health care.

I am advised that whilst there is no publicly owned CT scanner in the Ayr community area, the community does maintain access to a local imaging service, including the provision of CT imagery, through the local private provider, Ayr Diagnostic Imaging (ADI).

Our Government is absolutely committed to ensuring that Queenslanders can access the health services they need, when they need them, within their communities. We understand that health emergencies often happen outside of business hours, which is why it is so important that a CT scanner is available to Ayr locals through Queensland Health, 24 hours per day.

To that end, I am pleased to inform that the Townsville Hospital and Health Service is working with the Department of Health as part of a statewide rural CT scanning plan to improve access to CT scanners across Queensland. This process will include an evaluation of the need and costs of establishing a public CT scanner in Ayr, which would supplement the existing private service.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

Shannon Fentiman MP

Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services
Minister for Women
Member for Waterford