



The Hon. Lawrence Springborg MP
Minister for Health

Jo.Toghill@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister,

We refer to the negotiations that have been taking place with respect to employment arrangements for Senior Medical Officers (SMOs) and Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) over recent months.

In particular, we appreciate the constructive approach taken by you and Mr Ian Maynard to the negotiations over the past few days and your efforts to address the issues identified by the SMO and VMO Taskforce.

At the conclusion of Friday's meeting an in-principle agreement was reached between Taskforce representatives and Queensland Health that, subject to the matters set out below, the new SMO and VMO contracts and associated Health Employment Directives (including the Contracts Advisory Committee) would be presented to senior doctors for their consideration.

Presentation of the new SMO and VMO contracts and associated Health Employment Directives to senior doctors is subject to:

1. the final wording of the new SMO and VMO contracts and associated Health Employment Directives that accurately reflects the matters discussed at the negotiations being provided to the Taskforce prior to 5.00 pm on 14 April 2014;
2. written agreement from the Health Minister to implement the new SMO and VMO contracts and associated Health Employment Directives unchanged;
3. approval from Cabinet of the new contractual arrangements; and
4. an extension of the 30 April 2014 deadline to allow:
 - a. SMOs and VMOs to consider the new contracts and associated Health Employment Directives;
 - b. HHS contract teams to distribute them and have individual meetings; and
 - c. for SMOS and VMOs to seek independent advice.

We further understand that the legal team for Queensland Health are working with our own team to finalise the documentation as soon as possible.

On this basis, and provided the conditions set out above are satisfied, we believe that mass



resignations are not required and the contracts may be presented to the senior doctor workforce.

On behalf of the SMO Taskforce,

Dr Suzanne Royle, Dr Rob Elliot, Dr Sandy Donald, Dr Siva Senthuran, Dr Geoff Crawford, Dr Nicole Fairweather, Dr Hau Tan, Dr Rob Thomas, Dr Michelle Davison, Dr Nick Buckmaster, Dr Tony Sara, Dr Mark Ross, Dr Roxanne Wu, Dr Sean McManus, Dr James Finn, Dr Chris Turnbull, Dr Stephen Morrison.

CC: Mr Ian Maynard
Director General
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