

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 3606-21, tabled in Parliament on 16 November 2021, in relation to incentives for vaccinations.

Vaccination against COVID-19 is the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends as well as the broader community from being infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes the disease.

The decision on whether to get vaccinated remains an individual one. Queenslanders are strongly encouraged to access information about Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines from the TGA, the Commonwealth Department of Health and Queensland Health websites: www.tga.gov.au/covid-19-vaccines and www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/protect-yourself-others/covid-19-vaccine/about/about-the-covid-19-vaccine. Queenslanders are also encouraged to talk to their healthcare provider if they have any concerns or questions.

In Queensland, individuals are required to complete a COVID-19 Vaccination Consent form in order to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The consent form asks individuals to confirm that they have read and understood current information on the vaccines provided by the Commonwealth Department of Health which includes details regarding all real and potential side effects associated with having the COVID-19 vaccine.

The TGA regulates the marketing and advertising of medical products in Australia. On 23 September 2021, the TGA published the *Therapeutic Goods (Restricted Representations – COVID-19 Vaccines) Permission (No.4) 2021* (the Permission) to clarify that any party can offer valuable consideration to people who are partly or fully vaccinated as part of the Australian COVID-19 Vaccination Program, subject to certain conditions.

Queensland Health will maintain compliance with the Permission while encouraging Queenslanders to get vaccinated as soon as possible, as this is our pathway out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Further information about the conditions in which incentives can be offered for COVID-19 vaccinations is available on the TGA website: https://www.tga.gov.au/communicating-about-covid-19-vaccines.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

YVETTE D'ATH MP

Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

Leader of the House

16/12/2021