



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

1 William Street Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 48 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3035 6100

C-ECTF-24/9557

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

Email: ClerksOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 4076-24, tabled in Parliament on 11 June 2024 in relation to an additional funding request from Arthritis Queensland.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Arthritis Queensland for the ongoing support they provide to Queenslanders and their families who are living with arthritis. I am grateful for the work of Arthritis Queensland in providing care, support and resources which support arthritis sufferers lead a more manageable life with arthritis.

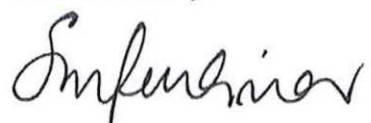
I can advise that Queensland Health and Arthritis Queensland have recently renewed an agreement that will see Arthritis Queensland receive a total of \$281,355 (excluding GST) in funding across five-years from 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2029 to provide surety and stability for Arthritis Queensland. This agreement will ensure that Queensland Health continues to support Arthritis Queensland in their important role of informing consumers about issues that may affect their wellbeing as well as connect them to available support services in the community.

I appreciate the time it has taken for Arthritis Queensland to develop the funding request that considers Queenslanders from all areas of the state, with a focus on online exercise programs, rural health and regional rheumatology nursing. I asked the Department of Health to review this proposal and they have advised that aspects of the proposal overlap with current services provided by Queensland Health. In particular, the services currently provided through a multidisciplinary team and telehealth.

The Department also advised that Hospital and Health Services continue to identify and develop models of care to best meet community need across our dispersed state. Therefore, the Department is unable to recommend that this additional funding be provided. However, the Department has advised that as part of the ongoing relationship with Arthritis Queensland, they will work with the organisation to identify other ways that Queensland Health can support the organisation and better connect them within the system.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Fentiman', written in a cursive style.

Shannon Fentiman MP

Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services

Minister for Women

Member for Waterford