



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

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C-ECTF-24/9558

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 4071-2024, tabled in Parliament on 11 June 2024, in relation to an Independent inquiry into Queensland Gender Services.

The Miles Government proudly supports LGBTQIA+ Queenslanders, and is committed to ensuring that they are able to access the services they need.

We know that for many trans and gender diverse young people, accessing gender affirming treatment can be life-changing and life-saving. The treatment and care that the Queensland Children's Gender Service (QCGS) provides is evidence-based and undergoes regular and rigorous clinical review.

In 2023, Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service commissioned a service evaluation of the QCGS, to ensure trans and gender diverse children and young people continue to receive the safest, evidence-informed, patient and family centred care.

I am advised the external service evaluation has been led by Associate Professor John Allan, Executive Director, Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch, Clinical Excellence Queensland. I understand the evaluation examined the QCGS's current model of service delivery against the *Australian Standards of Care and Treatment Guidelines for trans and gender diverse children and adolescents (Version 1.3)* and also considered international practice relevant to Queensland services.

In this regard, I understand the evaluation panel are aware of the recent decision by the National Health Service England in relation to the use of puberty blockers in children and the release of the Cass Review and have considered this information as part of the broader service evaluation.

In addition, I can advise that no public hospital in Queensland undertakes gender affirming surgery for people under 18.

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