

s.73 Irrelevant information

From: SABBriefs <SABbriefs@premiers.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 10 June 2022 10:47 AM
To: Angela Holden; Madeleine Cooper
Cc: Troy Mitchell; Katrina Edmans; Linda Keeshan
Subject: Regional Visit Pack - Stanthorpe - June 2022
Attachments: s.73 Irrelevant information; 01. Prem Folder
Index.docx; 1. Darling Downs profile - June 2022.DOCX; s.73 Irrelevant information
s.73 Irrelevant information
s.73 Irrelevant information
11. COVID-19 –
Economic Support and Recovery.docx; 12. COVID-19 - Tourism Support and
Recovery.docx; s.73 Irrelevant information
s.73 Irrelevant information

Importance: High

Good morning Angela,

Please find attached visit briefs prepared for the Premier's visit to Stanthorpe next week.

Please note that briefs 6 (QCWA Buildings) and 8 (Regional Art Gallery) will be provided on Monday, 13 June 2022.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,



**Queensland
Government**

Lauren Webber

Policy Officer

Cabinet and Parliamentary Services

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

P 07 3003 9243 M s.73 Irrelevant E SABbriefs@premiers.qld.gov.au

Work Hours: Wednesday - Friday

Level 40, 1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

PO Box 15185, City East, QLD 4002

This email is intended only for the addressee. Its use is limited to that intended by the author at the time and it is not to be distributed without the author's consent. Unless otherwise stated, the State of Queensland accepts no liability for the contents of this email except where subsequently confirmed in writing. The opinions expressed in this email are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the State of Queensland. This email is confidential and may be subject to a claim of legal privilege. If you have received this email in error, please notify the author and delete this message immediately

**Stanthorpe
Travelling Issues Briefs Index
14 June 2022**

1. Darling Downs Region Profile

s.73 Irrelevant information

LOCAL BRIEFS

s.73 Irrelevant information

REGIONAL BRIEFS

11. COVID-19 – Economic Support and Recovery

- \$6M to 45 concessional loans, supporting 466 local jobs
- \$1.3M in grants to small businesses
- \$8.90M in Works for Qld funding for the Southern Downs Regional Council supporting more than 270 local jobs since 2019

12. COVID-19 – Tourism Support and Recovery

- \$1.28M from the job support loan scheme to 10 businesses to support 78 local jobs

s.73 Irrelevant information

**Stanthorpe
Travelling Issues Briefs Index
14 June 2022**

s.73 Irrelevant information

Released under RTI - DPC

REGION PROFILE	DARLING DOWNS
ELECTORATE	SITTING MEMBER
Callide	Mr Colin Boyce (LNP)
Condamine	Mr Pat Weir (LNP)
Lockyer	Mr Jim McDonald (LNP)
Nanango	Mrs Deb Frecklington (LNP)
Southern Downs	Mr James Lister (LNP)
Toowoomba North	Mr Trevor Watts (LNP)
Toowoomba South	Mr David Janetzki (LNP)
Warrego	Ms Ann Leahy (LNP)

Queensland Government FTEs		2021	2015
Doctors	Darling Downs HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	481.89	320.56
Nurses		2274.20	1,739.09
Other health professionals		623.89	428.87
Doctors	South West HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	29.10	22.83
Nurses		368.77	309.21
Other health professionals		79.68	56.30
Doctors	West Moreton HHS <i>source: QH supplied MOHRI data</i>	453.42	292.29
Nurses		1950.56	1,253.10
Other health professionals		547.68	337.26
Ambulance officers	Darling Downs – Maranoa & Toowoomba SA4s <i>source: PSC supplied MOHRI data</i>	330.39	411.47
Police officers		583.38	838.82
Fire officers		159.35	206.20
Teachers		2,982.53	3,584.36
Teacher aides		850.73	877.51

Employment – annual rate change	2022 (Apr)	2015 (Feb)
Queensland employment	3.6%	1.6%
Darling Downs - Maranoa employment (SA4)	-1.2%	-1.3%
Toowoomba employment (SA4)	-5.5%	-10.9%
Unemployment Rate		
Queensland unemployment	4.5%	6.5%
Darling Downs - Maranoa unemployment (SA4)	6.8%	3.5%
Toowoomba unemployment (SA4)	5.1%	4.3%
Queensland youth unemployment	10.2%	14.1%
Darling Downs - Maranoa youth unemployment (SA4)	11.9%	8.3%
Toowoomba youth unemployment (SA4)	10.4%	11.4%

Employment by industry (2016 census)	Number	Percent
Health care and social assistance	15,276	12.6%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	14,057	11.6%
Education and training	12,057	9.9%
Retail trade	11,559	9.5%
Construction	9,955	8.2%

	Queensland	DD Region
Median age (estimated as at 30 June 2020)	37.8 years	39 years
Population (estimated as at 30 June 2021)	5,221,233	289,654
Crime rate (per 100,000 persons) 2020-21	9,154	10,142

Tourism (Dec 2021)	Tourism Region	Visitors	Expenditure
Domestic tourism	Southern Qld	2.1 million	\$785.4M
International tourism	Country	not published	not published

ECONOMIC PROFILE

Budget 2021-22	Darling Downs
Infrastructure	\$763.0M

Community wellbeing

- Wilsonton Neighbourhood Centre

Utilities

- Coolmunda Dam improvement project (planning works)
- Karara Wind Farm
- Kogan Creek Power Station enhancements, overhauls and refurbishment
- Kogan North Gas Fields development
- Yarranlea substation upgrade – to improve network performance

Transport and roads

- Cunningham Highway (Ipswich – Warwick), Eight Mile intersection upgrade
- Toowoomba Wellcamp Trade Distribution Centre airfreight access for agricultural producers

Justice and safety

- Dalby police facility upgrade
- Warwick police facility upgrade

Government services

- Recycled Water for Warwick Industry
- Toowoomba Escarpment Parks Upgrades

Budget 2021-22	Darling Downs
<u>Recreation and culture</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bigger Big Rig and Tree Walk • Girraween National Park camping area redevelopment • Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program • Queensland Museum public programs – temporary exhibitions at regional campuses • Wellcamp Entertainment Precinct • West Wanderers Football Club 	
Health	\$1.1B
s.73 Irrelevant information	
Education	\$67.7M
s.73 Irrelevant information	

Released under RTI - DPC

	Jobs	Funding	
Building our Regions (Rounds 1-5) (3 May 2022)			
Darling Downs region	399.10	\$55.407M	
Works for Queensland (Summary) – Darling Downs region (30 Apr 2022)			
2019-21 Rnd	932.0	\$9.41M	
2020-21 COVID-19 Unite & Recover CSP¹ SEQ Rnd	83.0	\$4.40M	
2020-21 COVID Rnd	384.0	\$14.21M	
2021-24 Rnd	139.0	\$9.80M	
2021-24 CSP¹ SEQ Rnd	43.11	\$13.546M	
Back to Work (Total across all programs)	Employers	Jobs	Funding
<u>Initial</u> Back to work (closed 30 Jun 2021)	619	1,122	\$12.888M
<u>Revitalised</u> Back to Work (30 Apr 2022)	21	20	\$129,500
Skilling Queenslanders for Work (31 May 2022)	Jobs	Funding	
Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative	2,948	\$34.32M	

Notes:

¹ Community Stimulus Package

Local Government	Mayor
Balonne Shire Council	Cr Samantha O'Toole
Goondiwindi Regional Council	Cr Lawrence Springborg
Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Cr Tanya Milligan
Maranoa Regional Council	Cr Tyson Golder
Southern Downs Regional Council	Cr Victor Pennisi
Toowoomba Regional Council	Cr Paul Antonio
Western Downs Regional Council	Cr Paul McVeigh

PREVIOUS VISITS

Since 2015, the Government held:

- 1 Governing from the Regions (GFR) in Toowoomba (7 GFR have been held across the State); and
- 1 offsite Cabinet meeting with a reception in Toowoomba (25 off-site Cabinet meetings have been held across the State, of which 7 included community receptions).

DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE
------	----------	---------

s.73 Irrelevant information

16 February 2022	Toowoomba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – official opening of Wellcamp Quarantine facility
------------------	-----------	--

DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE
22 September 2021	Toowoomba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – announcement Boeing Australia will establish uncrewed-aircraft production facility at Toowoomba's Wellcamp Aerospace and Defence Precinct

s.73 Irrelevant information

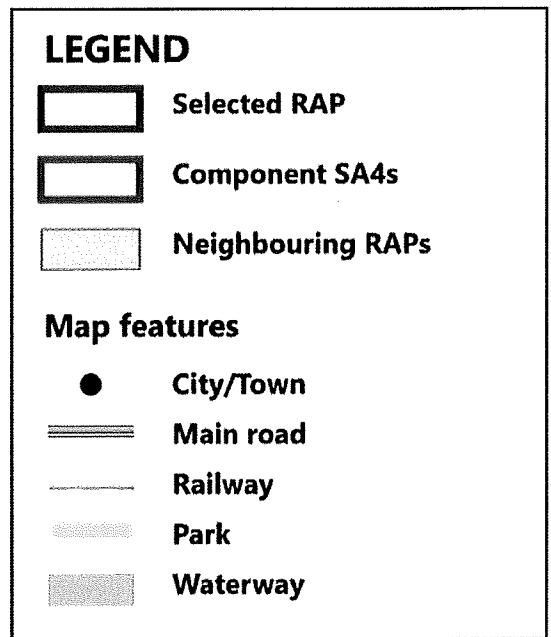
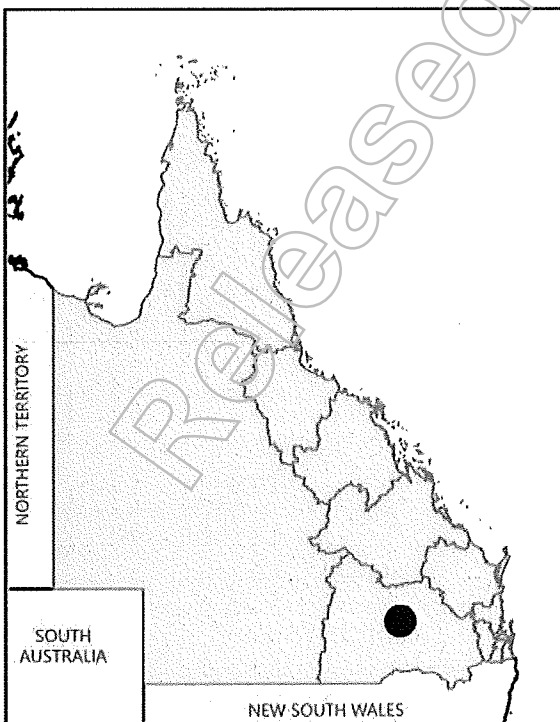
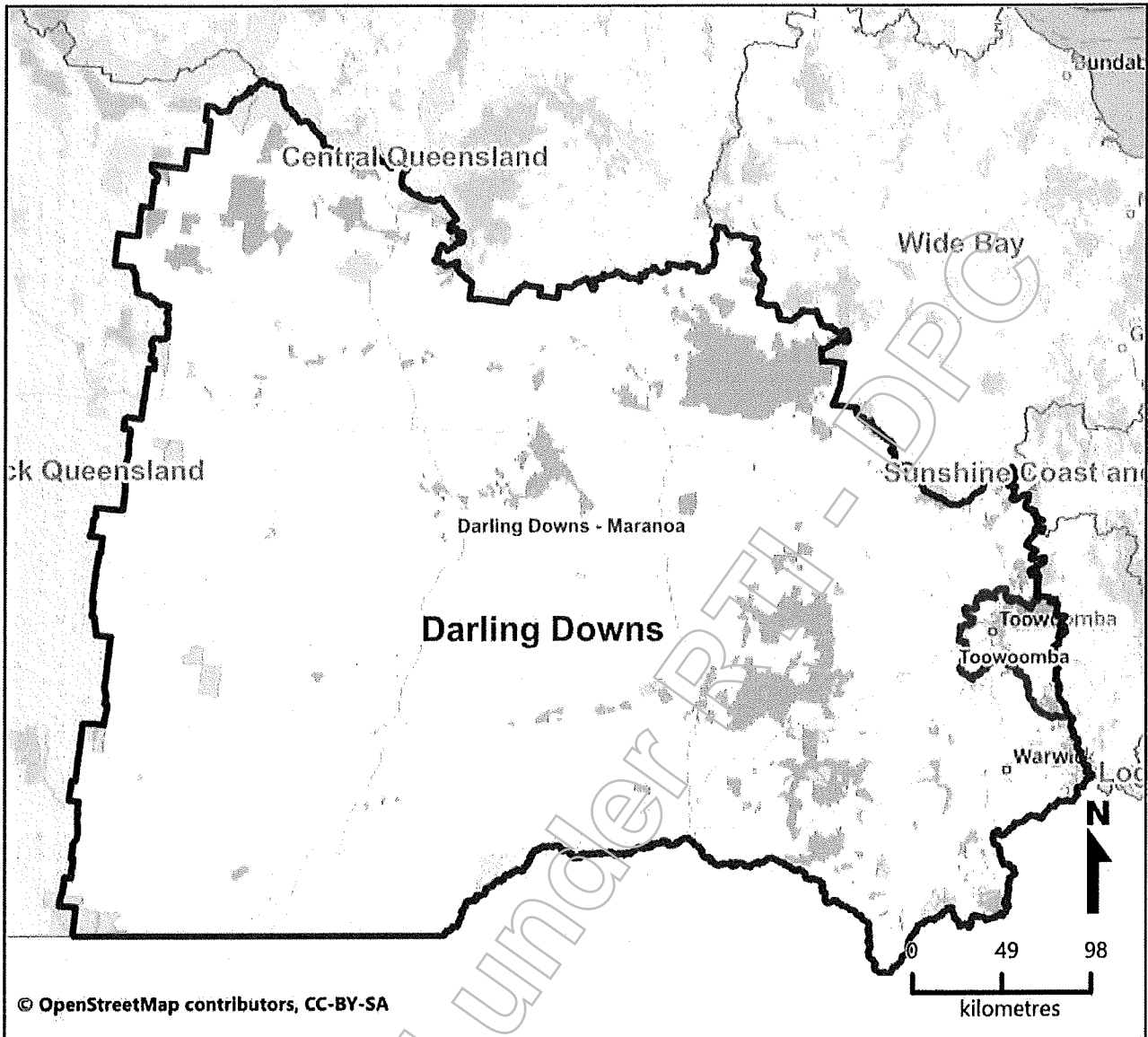
Released under RTI - DPC

DATE	LOCATION	PURPOSE
------	----------	---------

s.73 Irrelevant information		
-----------------------------	--	--

Released under RTI - DPC

MAP – Darling Downs region



COVID-19 – Economic Support and Recovery

Recommended response

- The Government has been quick to respond to COVID-19 pandemic.
- To support business and families, the Government has invested **\$8 billion in a range of assistance initiatives and job creating projects.**
- In the region, we have assisted businesses through more than:
 - **\$4.54M in payroll tax relief**
 - **\$6.0M to 45 small and medium sized businesses** through concessional loans, supporting 466 local jobs
 - **\$1.36M in grants to small businesses;** and
 - **\$8.9M with projects under our Works for Qld program** supporting more than 270 local jobs since 2019.

Key facts

Government commitment	Progress <i>Southern Downs Regional Council (SDRC) and Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 area (DD-M SA4)</i>
------------------------------	--

s.73 Irrelevant information

Released under RTIP

Government commitment	Progress <i>Southern Downs Regional Council (SDRC) and Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 area (DD-M SA4)</i>
----------------------------------	--

s.73 Irrelevant information

Released under RTI - DPC

Rele

Government commitment	Progress Southern Downs Regional Council (SDRC) and Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 area (DD-M SA4)									
\$15M Queensland Domestic Aviation Route Restart Program (estimated to support approximately 3,000 jobs per year over three years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being delivered in two phases <table border="1" data-bbox="502 427 1430 701"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="502 427 659 589">Phase</th> <th data-bbox="659 427 869 589">Statewide</th> <th data-bbox="869 427 1430 483"> Commercial in confidence <small>Exempt Sch.3(8)(1) Breach of confidence</small> </th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 589 659 645">1</td> <td data-bbox="659 589 869 645">\$5M</td> <td data-bbox="869 483 1430 701" rowspan="2"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 645 659 701">2</td> <td data-bbox="659 645 869 701">\$10M</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 – \$5M to support Brisbane and 15 regional airports negotiate with airlines to establish new or reopen <u>intrastate</u> routes; and Phase 2 – \$10M for key airports to negotiate with carriers to secure <u>interstate</u> aviation routes 		Phase	Statewide	Commercial in confidence <small>Exempt Sch.3(8)(1) Breach of confidence</small>	1	\$5M		2	\$10M
Phase	Statewide	Commercial in confidence <small>Exempt Sch.3(8)(1) Breach of confidence</small>								
1	\$5M									
2	\$10M									
s.73 Irrelevant information <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; opacity: 0.3; transform: rotate(-45deg);">Released under RTIP</div>										

COVID-19 – Tourism Support and Recovery

Recommended response

- The tourism industry was one of the first industries to be impacted by COVID-19.
- This is an industry that supported **one in 10 Queensland jobs** before the Coronavirus pandemic.
- Through our \$1 billion concessional Jobs Support Loan scheme, tourism businesses in Southern Downs Regional Council area **have received \$1.28M supporting 78 local jobs.**

Key facts

Government commitment	Progress
	<i>Southern Downs Regional Council (SDRC) and Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 area (DD-M SA4)</i>

s.73 Irrelevant information

\$15M Queensland Domestic Aviation Route Restart Program (estimated to support approximately 3,000 jobs per year over three years)

- Being delivered in two phases

Phase	Statewide	Commercial in confidence
1	\$5M	Exempt Sch.3(8)(1) Breach of confidence
2	\$10M	

- Phase 1 – \$5M to support Brisbane and 15 regional airports negotiate with airlines to establish new or reopen intrastate routes; and
- Phase 2 – \$10M for key airports to negotiate with ~~carriers to secure~~ interstate aviation routes.

Government commitment	Progress <i>Southern Downs Regional Council (SDRC) and Darling Downs - Maranoa SA4 area (DD-M SA4)</i>
s.73 Irrelevant information	

Tourism industry sentiment

s.73 Irrelevant information

- The region is also buoyed by the return of Qantas flights from Sydney to Wellcamp Airport.

Occupancy rates and visitation statistics	Apr-2021 level	Rate Sep-2021	Rate Mar-2022
Occupancy	70.2%	68.3%	53.2%
Average Daily Rates	\$136.62	\$130.48	\$138.80
Revenue per available room	\$95.91	\$89.10	\$73.85
Demand	53,400	54,150	56,110

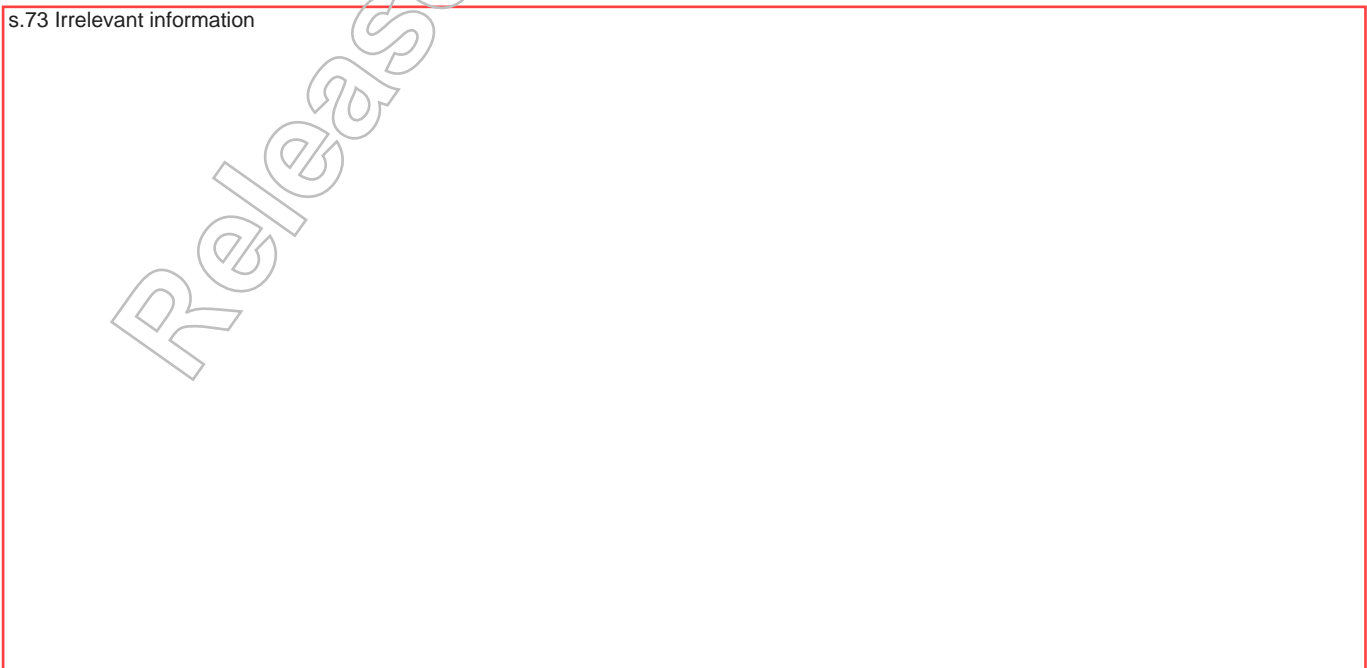
2019 Southern Queensland Bushfires - Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

s.73 Irrelevant information



LNP

s.73 Irrelevant information



POLICING

Approved Permanent Positions

s.73 Irrelevant information

Police Resources

The Darling Downs District is providing officers with the necessary equipment to effectively and efficiently perform their roles, with:

- 126 vehicles available;
- 450 QLITE devices for frontline officers;
- 349 body worn cameras for frontline officers;
- 205 X26P model Tasers to Darling Downs District police;
- 72 body 3 cameras at Wellcamp facility
- 10 X26P model Tasers at Wellcamp facility.

CRIME STATS

s.73 Irrelevant information

s.73 Irrelevant information

Released under RTI - DPC

s.73 Irrelevant information

Released under RTI - DPC

s.73 Irrelevant information

Released under RTI - DPC

Rele

LNP Record

s.73 Irrelevant information

Released under RTI - DPC

s.73 Irrelevant information

From: The Premier <The.Premier@premiers.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 31 January 2022 9:45 AM
To: DCLO Admin; Jim Murphy; Elly Begley; Tam van Alphen; Greg Fowler
Cc: Wendy Bourne; Glenys Jenkin; Sarah Lakes; Nadia Cecil; Premcorro; Stacey Kiem; Ben Gordon; Jon Persley; Kay Swanston; David Watson; Fiona Toogood; Linda Keeshan; David Lee; Joey Kaiser; External - Mark Cridland; Rebecca McGarrity; Rachel Welch; Admin Social (DPC)
Subject: PRIORITY MAIL - TF/22/2990: URGENT LETTER - Steven Miles MP - providing update on work underway to improve availability of rapid antigen tests and seeking approval for a charter flight from Hangzhou, China with tests onboard
Attachments: Deputy Premier letter to the Premier regarding rapid antigen tests.pdf; s.73 Irrelevant

Good morning

Please find attached correspondence from Deputy Premier Steven Miles MP providing an update on work underway to improve the availability of rapid antigen tests and seeking approval for a charter flight from Hangzhou, China with tests onboard.

Due to the urgency, I have allocated the attached direct to Social Policy to draft an urgent response, due to PO 3 February 2022.

This has been added to the ECU watch list.

Please note this timeframe is subject to change.

Kind regards



Queensland
Government

Dom O'Regan
A/ Senior Correspondence Officer
Executive Correspondence Unit
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

P 07 3003 9259 M s.73 Irrelevant
Level 29, 1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185, City East, Qld 4002

From: Correspondence from DSDILGP <correspondence@dasilgp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 29 January 2022 2:04 PM
To: The Premier <The.Premier@premiers.qld.gov.au>
Cc: 'Treasurer@ministerial.qld.gov.au' <Treasurer@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; education@ministerial.qld.gov.au; health@ministerial.qld.gov.au; Rachel Hunter <rachel.hunter@premiers.qld.gov.au>; Mark Cridland <mark.cridland@premiers.qld.gov.au>
Subject: PRIORITY - Correspondence to the Premier from the Hon Steven Miles MP, Deputy Premier, Our ref: OUT22/205

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from the Honourable Steven Miles MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure.

Please do not respond to this email. If you wish to reply please send your email to deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Kind regards



**Queensland
Government**

Executive Services Unit

Department of State Development,
Infrastructure, Local Government and
Planning

1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named recipient(s) only; and may contain privileged and confidential information. If received in error, you are asked to inform the sender as quickly as possible and delete this email and any copies of this from your computer system network.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and /or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland Government. Please consider the environment before printing this email.

This email and any attachments may contain confidential or privileged information and may be protected by copyright. You must not use or disclose them other than for the purposes for which they were supplied. The confidentiality and privilege attached to this message and attachment is not waived by reason of mistaken delivery to you. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not use, disclose, retain, forward or reproduce this message or any attachments. If you receive this message in error please notify the sender by return email or telephone, and destroy and delete all copies. The Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage that may result from reliance on, or use of, any information contained in this email and/or attachments.

This email is intended only for the addressee. Its use is limited to that intended by the author at the time and it is not to be distributed without the author's consent. Unless otherwise stated, the State of Queensland accepts no liability for the contents of this email except where subsequently confirmed in writing. The opinions expressed in this email are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the State of Queensland. This email is confidential and may be subject to a claim of legal privilege. If you have received this email in error, please notify the author and delete this message immediately



Hon Steven Miles MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure

Our ref: OUT22/205

29 January 2022

The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier and Minister for the Olympics
thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au

Dear Premier

As you are aware, Queensland Health has 30.7 million rapid antigen tests (RATs) currently on order which are scheduled to be delivered progressively over the coming months. This includes 8.1 million point-of-care tests and 22.6 million self-administered tests.

It is proving challenging to obtain certainty of supply timelines and volumes, which is consistent with the experience of other jurisdictions and market sectors.

The very rapid increase in global demand, following the emergence of the COVID-19 Omicron variant, and the already volatile state of global logistics networks has meant that the supply chain for RATs is under significant pressure.

With the Omicron surge continuing and the return to school year on 7 February 2022, the forecast demand for RATs across Queensland is expected to significantly exceed the current supply in the short-term. Queensland Health has advised that the current public health demand for RATs is about one million tests per week. In addition, the Department of Education has determined that 140,000 RATs per week will be required to enable to safe return to school.

Therefore, I am writing to provide an update on the work currently underway to improve RAT availability by bringing forward orders to meet the expected demand over the next five weeks. I also seek your support to engage in additional measures to secure delivery of RATs into Queensland, such as private air freight charter.

Context

The majority of Queensland's outstanding orders are with suppliers with manufacturing bases in China. The continued uncertainty of the delivery of these orders is associated with the high demand and fixed supply of international air freight capacity, export customs clearance timelines, disruptions associated with Chinese New Year and the availability of domestic logistics support.

To facilitate discussions with manufacturers in China, I and Mr Damien Walker, Director-General, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, met with Dr Xu Jie, Consul-General of the People's Republic of China in Brisbane on 25 January 2022 to discuss the current issues raised by the Queensland Government's suppliers of RAT with manufactures based in China. Dr Xu provided assurance that there were no known delays with export customs clearance timelines and offered to assist by liaising with the local manufacturers. I have written to Dr Xu to thank him for his time and provide an update on Queensland's current supply challenges. A copy is enclosed for your information.

1 William Street
Brisbane Queensland 4000
PO Box 15009
City East Queensland 4002
Telephone + 61 3719 7100
Email deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au

ABN 65 959 415 158

Queensland Government agencies have also been working closely with officers from Trade and Investment Queensland (TIQ) who continue to provide valuable information on the ground relating to Chinese based manufacturers, confirming manufacturing capacity, operations over the Chinese New Year period, challenges with air freight availability and supply sharing across customers. This information has been used to inform targeted negotiations with existing suppliers to bring forward existing orders for delivery within the next one to three weeks.

Queensland is also working to establish a sustainable, long-term supply of RAT kits to regularise procurement. An Expression of Interest (EOI)/Request for Quote (RFQ) process is being undertaken by Queensland Health with the support of Department of Energy and Public Works on behalf of Queensland Government. The EOI stage closed on 21 January 2022 and 88 responses were received and evaluated. The successful applicants will be invited to proceed to the RFQ stage which includes a clinical review by Pathology Queensland.

Like many other purchasers in Australia, it is recognised that the Queensland Government is likely paying an inflated price for RATs due to the global increase in demand and the constrained supply. It is anticipated this will be corrected for future orders through the EOI process.

Queensland Health is utilising funds provided as part of the State's COVID-19 response, including the additional \$200 million announced just prior to Christmas 2021. Under the COVID-19 National Partnership agreement, the Commonwealth has agreed to 50/50 cost sharing arrangements for the use of RATs as a public health measure and Queensland Health is working within those parameters to purchase RATs. The expenditure to date related to the current orders is \$224.7 million (excluding GST), with the average cost per test being \$6.74 (range \$5.50 to \$11.25).

Strategies

Queensland is currently pursuing strategies to increase the supply of RATs, in addition to working with suppliers that already have outstanding orders to be fulfilled.

In the short term, this involves working with suppliers that have confirmed Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approved stock available, and fast-tracking existing orders or placing additional orders, and considering the use of dedicated air freight to reduce transport delay risks.

In the long-term, the market engagement process already underway will seek to provide sustainable supply with improve commercial outcomes.

s.73 Irrelevant information

s.73 Irrelevant information

additional tests have been ordered; however, the challenge is securing air freight to Queensland.

It is proposed that the Queensland Government facilitate the delivery of tests into Queensland by chartering air freight from China to Queensland using the Brisbane or Wellcamp airports. To mitigate risks, TIQ staff would work with relevant local government networks and the Chinese Consulate in Brisbane to support customs clearance processes in China and act as independent observers for the Queensland Government

s.73 Irrelevant information

Air freight charter

Discussions with all contracted suppliers indicate that securing air freight and domestic logistics are major barriers to meeting their supply commitments. To secure delivery directly into Queensland, air freight charter is being investigated as a possible solution. It is understood that other jurisdictions, including Victoria and South Australia, have both chartered cargo planes to collect RATs directly from manufacturers.

s.73 Irrelevant information

s.73 Irrelevant information

If you or your officers require any additional assistance, I have asked Mr Damien Walker, Director-General, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning to be available to assist. Mr Walker can be contacted on s.73 Irrelevant inform or Damien.Walker@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

s.73 Irrelevant inform

STEVEN MILES MP
DEPUTY PREMIER
Minister for State Development,
Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure

Enc

cc The Honourable Cameron Dick MP
Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment
treasurer@ministerial.qld.gov.au

The Honourable Grace Grace MP
Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing
education@ministerial.qld.gov.au

The Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
health@ministerial.qld.gov.au

From: DCLO Admin <dcloadmin@premiers.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 4 March 2022 5:33 PM
To: Premcorro
Cc: DCLO Admin
Subject: **PREMIER LETTER FOR APPROVAL** TF/22/5080 - URGENT ETTER - Scott McDougall - Commissioner - Queensland Human Rights Commission - COVID-19 legislation not fit for purpose GREG FOWLER
Attachments: ELECTRONIC LETTERHEAD Letter - Premier to the Qld Human Rights Commissioner re extending COVID-19 legislation.DOCX; URGENT DPC DRAFT LETTER: BLUE SHEET - HEALTH - TF/22/5080 - LETTER - Scott McDougall --- Queensland Human Rights Commission - COVID-19 legislation not fit for purpose.EML; URGENT HEALTH LETTER - Scott McDougall -- Queensland Human Rights Commission - COVID-19 legislation not fit for purpose.EML

Good afternoon

Please find attached draft response, coversheet and incoming for your review and approval to apply the PREMIER'S electronic signature.

This has been approved by DG Rachel Hunter today, 4 March 2022.

Kind regards



Queensland
Government

Leonie McGorry

Customer Liaison Officer
Departmental and Customer Liaison Office
Office of the Director-General
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

P 07 3003 9446 M s.73 Irrelevant E leonie.mcgorry@premiers.qld.gov.au
Level 40, 1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000 PO Box 15185, City East, QLD 4002

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

This email is intended only for the addressee. Its use is limited to that intended by the author at the time and it is not to be distributed without the author's consent. Unless otherwise stated, the State of Queensland accepts no liability for the contents of this email except where subsequently confirmed in writing. The opinions expressed in this email are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the State of Queensland. This email is confidential and may be subject to a claim of legal privilege. If you have received this email in error, please notify the author and delete this message immediately



Premier of Queensland
Minister for the Olympics



Brisbane 2032
Olympic and Paralympic
Games Host
Queensland



For reply please quote: *SocPol/BM – TF/22/5080 – DOC/22/36929*
Your reference: *BNE3417056*

1 William Street Brisbane
PO Box 15185 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7000
Email: ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au
Website www.thepremier.qld.gov.au

Mr Scott McDougall
Commissioner
Queensland Human Rights Commission
coral.logan@qhrc.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr McDougall

Thank you for your letter of 28 February 2022, which you have copied to the Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, the Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and Dr John Gerrard the Chief Health Officer, regarding the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022, introduced to Parliament on 22 February 2022.

I thank you for your general support of the Queensland Government's COVID-19 public health responses and particularly the Queensland Government's obligation to protect the right to life. I appreciate your support for the commissioning of the Wellcamp facility and increased use of home quarantine, which provide access to fresh air during quarantine.

I note your suggestion that provisions of the *Public Health Act 2005* about public health emergencies be replaced with pandemic-specific powers. This would be similar to the approach taken in Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory, which have recently passed legislation specific to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022 has been referred to the Community Support and Services Parliamentary Committee (the Committee) for detailed consideration, the most appropriate way for these issues to be considered is for them to be raised with the Committee. I note you intend to make a submission to the Committee.

The Committee's email address for written submissions is cssc@parliament.qld.gov.au and the closing date for receiving submissions is 12pm Friday 4 March 2022. The Committee will consider all submissions on the Bill and table its report by 25 March 2022, about whether the Bill should be passed. One of the responsibilities of the Committee is to examine whether a Bill is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019*. The Queensland Government will consider any recommendations the Committee makes and table a Queensland Government response to the Committee report, if required.

As the issues you have raised will be of interest to the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services; the Attorney-General and the Chief Health Officer, I have forwarded your letter and a copy of this response to their offices for their information.

Again, thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

**ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR THE OLYMPICS**

Released under RTI - DPC

s.73 Irrelevant information

From: Premier <premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 28 February 2022 3:30 PM
To: The Premier
Subject: URGENT HEALTH FW: COVID-19 legislation not fit for purpose
Attachments: 2022.02.28 Letter to Premier.pdf

From: s.73 Irrelevant information <[redacted]@qhrc.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 28 February 2022 3:11 PM
To: Premier <premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Health <health@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Attorney <attorney@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Dr John Gerrard <CHO-COVID@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: COVID-19 legislation not fit for purpose

Good afternoon,

Please see attached correspondence from Queensland Human Rights Commissioner Scott McDougall, for the attention of The Hon Anastacia Pałaszczuk MP.

Kind regards

s.73 Irrelevant informat

Executive Coordinator
Assistant to the Commissioner
Queensland Human Rights Commission

p 07 s.73 Irrelevant inf
Level 20, 53 Albert Street Brisbane Q 4000
qhrc.qld.gov.au



Queensland
**Human Rights
Commission**

This e-mail (including any attachments) is intended for the named addressee only and is confidential. In addition, it may contain copyright material of the Queensland Human Rights Commission, or third parties. As such, the information in it and its attachments may not be used or disclosed except for the purpose for which it has been sent. If you have received this message in error, please contact the Queensland Human Rights Commission immediately by return email or by telephone on 1300 130 670, and delete it from your system. You should not read, copy, print, re-transmit, disclose, modify, store, or act in reliance on this email or any attachments. Any confidentiality is not waived or lost because this email has been sent to you by mistake. Unless otherwise stated, this email represents the views of the sender only and not the views or the policy of the Queensland Human Rights Commission. There is no warranty that this email is error or virus free.

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named recipient(s) only; and may contain privileged and confidential information. If received in error, you are asked to inform the sender as quickly as possible and delete this email and any copies of this from your computer system network.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and /or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland Government.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Released under RTI - DPC



Queensland
**Human Rights
Commission**

Our reference: BNE3417056

28 February 2022

The Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier and Minister for the Arts
PO Box 15185
City East Qld 4002

By email: Premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Premier

COVID-19 legislation not fit for purpose

I write regarding the Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2022, introduced to parliament by the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services on 22 February 2022. I am concerned that the government is again extending the current COVID-19 legislative framework without significant change. I suggest that instead of this extension, the current provisions of the *Public Health Act 2005* which relate to public health emergencies must be replaced with more transparent, accountable and human rights compatible legislation.

Throughout the pandemic, the Queensland Human Rights Commission has generally supported the Government's approach, noting in particular the obligation imposed on it to protect the right to life. Without direct access to the relevant evidence and expertise it is not within the capacity or functions of the Commission to provide public commentary about whether restrictions imposed at any given time were proportionate and justified. The Commission has therefore been very careful throughout the pandemic not to undermine public health outcomes.

Nonetheless, the Commission has questioned if aspects of the current legislative framework meet all requirements to be compatible with human rights. In correspondence to government and submissions to parliamentary inquiries throughout 2020 and 2021, the Commission has called for greater transparency and oversight of significant restrictions imposed in response to COVID-19.

In summary, the Commission has advocated the following must be incorporated into any response to this and future pandemics:

STATEWIDE

tollfree
1300 130 670
info@qhrc.qld.gov.au
qhrc.qld.gov.au
fax 07 3193 9979

Brisbane

Level 20
53 Albert Street
Brisbane Q 4000
PO Box 15565
City East Q 4002

Cairns

Ground Floor
10 Grove Street
PO Box 4699
Cairns Q 4870

Townsville

Ground Floor
187-209 Stanley Street
PO Box 1566
Townsville Q 4810

Rockhampton

Level 1
209 Bolsover Street
PO Box 1390
Rockhampton Q 4700

- Any limitations on rights should be necessary and proportionate, and the justification for those limitations should be backed by evidence.
- Human rights legislation should continue to apply throughout the exercise of pandemic-specific powers. We have welcomed that amendments have generally preserved the application of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, although there is uncertainty about how the Human Rights Act applies to the actions and decisions of the Chief Health Officer in making public health directions.
- There should be independent oversight and review, in particular review of requirements to be detained in quarantine. This has generally not been provided for in Queensland.
- People should be quarantined in humane conditions, including with daily access to fresh air. The Commission therefore welcomes the commissioning of the Wellcamp facility and the increased use of home quarantine.
- There must be sufficient transparency in decision-making, including the publication of accessible, timely, clear and comprehensive information about limitations on human rights in a manner the public can understand. This has also been lacking in the current Queensland framework.
- While daily press conferences have been beneficial, scrutiny ought to come from a range of sources, including parliament and the courts.
- Pandemic specific laws that allow rights to be restricted should be time-bound.
- There should be additional safeguards and supports built in to minimise limitations on human rights, prevent potential misuse of power and mitigate the risk of entrenching inequality.

In response to similar concerns, Victoria and the ACT,¹ which are also human rights jurisdictions, have taken steps to address these issues. Both previously had legislative models similar to that used in Queensland. In December 2021, new legislation commenced in Victoria that comprehensively changed its approach to restrictions imposed in response to pandemics.²

As the Victorian Government acknowledges, the new Victorian legislation is now 'fit-for-purpose'. It meets many of the key human rights principles of such legislation:

- The Premier is responsible for making pandemic declarations. The Premier can only do this if satisfied on reasonable grounds that there is a serious risk to public health resulting from a disease that is or could be a pandemic disease. When making a pandemic declaration, the Premier will need to Report to Parliament about why the declaration has been made and include the advice given by the Chief Health Officer and Minister for Health that informed that decision.
- The Minister for Health can make 'pandemic orders' to protect public health if a pandemic declaration has been made by the Premier. These orders can be made to put in place similar health measures that have been introduced by the

¹ See Public Health Amendment Bill 2021 (No 2) presently before the ACT Legislative Assembly.

² Inclusion of new Part 8A of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 (Vic)*.

public health directions made by the Chief Health Officer previously. Before the Minister for Health can make any orders, the Minister for Health must consider the advice of the Chief Health Officer but can also consider additional advice. This means that the Minister can listen to others and look at the matters like social and economic factors, before making a pandemic order. A pandemic order can include restrictions that are necessary to protect the community during a pandemic such as restricting movement or requiring people to wear a face mask.

- As required by the legislation, the Minister for Health has already made pandemic orders accompanied by:
 - A statement of reasons explaining why the pandemic order was reasonably necessary to protect public health.
 - The Chief Health Officer's advice.
 - An assessment of any human rights that are limited by the pandemic orders.
- It safeguards private information obtained through contact tracing (including QR code data), making it an offence to use or disclose the information other than in very limited circumstances. Generally police will not have access to this data.
- Government decision-making is open to increased parliamentary scrutiny through the joint parliamentary Pandemic Declaration Accountability and Oversight Committee, the Chair of which is independent of government. To further strengthen accountability and Parliamentary oversight, this Committee can recommend that a pandemic order be disallowed under certain circumstances. The committee may report to Parliament and recommend disallowance if the Committee is of the view that the pandemic orders are incompatible with human rights or if they appear to have improper legal authority. This Committee can also recommend changes be made to the orders.
- The Minister will also have the benefit of advice from the Independent Pandemic Management Advisory Committee, which will comprise members with a broad range of expertise, including public health, human rights, and the interests and needs of Aboriginal Victorians and communities who experience disadvantage.
- Pandemic detention quarantine is reviewed by an authorised officer at least once every 24 hours, unless that is not reasonably practical. A person subject to quarantine may ask for their detention to be reviewed by a Detention Appeals Officer, which may lead to confirmation of detention, changes to the conditions of detention, or release. The person may also complain to the Victorian Ombudsman, and may also make a complaint to the Secretary of the Department of Health or seek review in a court.

In debating this legislation, the Victorian Minister for Health stated:

As the pandemic persisted through 2021, Members of Parliament and many others from various sections of the community have rightly questioned the

appropriateness of continuing to rely on the State of Emergency framework. The suitability of some aspects of the current regulatory scheme for managing the kinds of risk posed by pandemics, which may persist for longer than other kinds of emergency, has also been questioned.

...However, **rather than simply replacing the State of Emergency powers that expire on 15 December 2021, this Bill implements the lessons Victoria has learned to significantly improve the regulatory framework** available to keep Victorians safe in the event of future pandemics.

Decisions about how to respond to public health risks from pandemic diseases can, as we have seen over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, have far-reaching consequences. Inevitably, COVID-19 will not be the last pandemic faced by Victoria. The experience of responding to COVID-19, together with insights shared by the Victorian community and its leaders, have clearly demonstrated the need for pandemic management decisions to be transparent and accountable, proactive, protective of human rights, and guided above all else by the imperative of minimising risks to public health and the right to life. The Bill supports and promotes these key principles for effective Government action in a pandemic.³

I suggest the same could be said of the COVID-19 response in Queensland.

I will be making a submission to the Community Support and Services Committee about my concerns that the extension of the Chief Health Officer's powers in their current form may not be compatible with human rights. I suggest that rather than simply continuing to extend the current legislative scheme, which is not fit for purpose, almost two years into the pandemic, it is time to take stock of the lessons learnt. As a community, we have learnt about the impacts of quarantining conditions on people's mental health, the human rights limitations arising from public health directions that confine people to their homes and the mandating of vaccines. Powers imposing such significant human rights limitations cannot continue without proper oversight, transparency and external review. Otherwise, their compatibility with human rights is at question.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and relevant ministers to discuss this issue further.

Yours sincerely

s.73 Irrelevant information

Scott McDougall
Commissioner

³ Victoria, *Parliamentary Debates*, Legislative Assembly, 27 October 2021, 4240 (The Hon Martin Foley MP).

cc:

The Hon Yvette D'Ath MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
Email: health@ministerial.qld.gov.au

The Hon Shannon Fentiman
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the
Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
Email: attorney@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dr John Gerrard
Chief Health Officer
Email: CHO-COVID@health.qld.gov.au

Released under RTI - DPC

s.73 Irrelevant information

From: Kerryn Manifold <Kerryn.Manifold@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 30 July 2022 11:19 AM
To: Phil Willmington
Attachments: 220728 HIB - WELLCAMP.docx

Sent from my iPhone

Released under RTI - DPC

WELLCAMP

Excuse me for doing everything possible to keep Queensland safe.

Quarantine is constitutionally a federal government responsibility. They squibbed it.

They left it to us and we stepped up.

And then they did everything possible to undermine and destroy it.

Our first option was near Gladstone. It was ruled out because it was too far from an international airport.

Wellcamp came with its own airport. But the federal government wouldn't let planes land there. Once again, doing everything possible to white ant and destroy for no other reason than petty politics.

When we decided to proceed with Wellcamp we were staring down the barrel of a Delta outbreak.

Our hotels were full. We had to stop put a stop to ALL arrivals into Queensland because we had simply run out of safe places for people to go.

There were 5,114 people across 22 quarantine hotels at the highest point.

At that time, a single case in the community could lead to the shut down of the entire city.

Wellcamp was the answer to that.

The LNP's only contribution for the entire pandemic was to white ant and undermine .. and they're still doing it.

Their only answer was to open the borders. Ignore the health advice. How catastrophic that would have been.

The federal government's answer was to build Pinkenbah. It's still not built.

I see no outrage over the cost of that. Or the centres being built in Melbourne and Western Australia.

Vaccines were the game changer and thank God they came.

Would you be happier if borders were still closed and Wellcamp was full?

We have cyclone shelters ready if they're needed.

We have flood levees ready if they're needed.

And now we have a quarantine centre that's ready if it's needed.

The only thing we wasted was time.

WHY NOT OTHER USES?

It's a facility that's designed to keep people apart – people who are homeless, people needed rehabilitation services, people fleeing domestic violence need a community with services.

If there is an organisation that wants to use it for any of those purposes, we're happy to work with them.

Background

Costs:

The projected capital and leasing cost will total \$198.5 million.

As at 30 June, the amount paid to Compass Group is approximately \$9 million and is publicly reported online.

To date, Health have paid \$7.67 million for that contract. The \$16 million figure is the figure they originally believed would be the cost for the entire FY (even this is likely to be substantially revised downwards closer to the \$7.67m on payment of the final invoice with the facility closing).

The Taskforce, which works across all quarantine and isolation including Pinkenba and Wellcamp, cost to 30 June was \$14.3 million.

Between 31 March and 30 June 2022, \$13.549 million was spent on hotel isolation and quarantine. From 5 February to 31 March, \$26.9 million was spent.

Commercial in confidence:

We were able to disclose the overall cost after making the decision to close the facility and advising the Wagners. Estimates was the appropriate place to detail the figures. The detailed breakdown of costs remains commercial-in-confidence.

Other uses:

The design of the facility and its location makes it less suitable to help solve the housing crisis as the other supports required such as access to work, schools and other social supports are not close by.

Wellcamp is a world class quarantine facility, built to keep the COVID-19 virus contained. This means that other uses of the facility are not straightforward.

That said, we are open to any approaches or proposals.

Released under RTIP

From: Chris O'Brien
Sent: Friday, 29 July 2022 4:51 PM
To: @Premiers Media
Subject: CM Wellcamp poll

Has the Wellcamp white elephant made you less likely to vote I

Yes, it was the last straw

No, I already wasn't voting for them

No, I'll be voting for them regardless

Cast your vote

Annastacia Palaszczuk says voters will determine if Wellcamp quarantine hub a mistake

The Wellcamp quarantine hub was a waste of over \$200 million, but the Premier won't say if she regrets it. VOTE IN OUR POLL

Asked whether the decision to build the taxpayer-funded facility was the worst decision she had made as premier, Ms Palaszczuk said it would be up to voters to decide

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/qld-politics/covid-qld-annastacia-palaszczuk-says-voters-will-determine-if-wellcamp-quarantine-hub-a-mistake/news-story/688a3a85ca7429bf8e81b3ff50b27b0f>



Queensland
Government

Chris O'Brien
Principal Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for Trade

P 07 3719 7027 M s.73 Irrelevant info
1 William Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15185 City East QLD 4002

From: Jon Persley
Sent: Friday, 29 July 2022 9:23 AM
To: Shane Doherty; Kerryn Manifold
Subject: RE: 220728 HIB - WELLCAMP.docx
Attachments: 220728 HIB - WELLCAMP v2.docx

I just updated a little bit.

Shortened a little bit and I thought some points were better to bring up the top.

Also added 1WS contrast.

Note pinkenba building complete but not fitted out.

From: Shane Doherty <Shane.Doherty@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 29 July 2022 8:27 AM
To: Jon Persley <Jon.Persley@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Kerryn Manifold <Kerryn.Manifold@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: 220728 HIB - WELLCAMP.docx

Released under RTI - DPC

WELLCAMP

I think people know my absolute focus throughout the COVID-19 pandemic was to **keep Queenslanders safe.**

Quarantine is constitutionally a federal government responsibility. They squibbed it.

In the absence of national leadership by the Morrison Government, Queensland stepped up.

The LNP did everything possible to undermine and destroy it.

When we decided to proceed with Wellcamp we were staring down the barrel of a Delta outbreak.

Our hotels were full. We had to stop put a stop to ALL arrivals into Queensland because we had simply run out of safe places for people to go.

There were 5,114 people across 22 quarantine hotels at the highest point.

At that time, a single case in the community could lead to the shut down of the entire city.

Wellcamp was the answer to that.

The federal government's answer was to build Pinkenbah – it's still not completed.

I see no outrage over the cost of that. Or the centres being built in Melbourne and Western Australia.

Vaccines were the game changer and thank God they came.

Would you be happier if borders were still closed and Wellcamp was full?

We have cyclone shelters ready if they're needed.

We have flood levees ready if they're needed.

And now we have a quarantine centre that's ready if it's needed.

The only thing we wasted was time.

WHY NOT OTHER USES?

It's a facility that's designed to keep people apart – people who are homeless, people needed rehabilitation services, people fleeing domestic violence need a community with services.

If there is an organisation that wants to use it for any of those purposes, we're happy to work with them.

1 WILLIAM STREET

The Auditor-General found that the LNP had **sunk \$2.6 billion of taxpayers' money on 1 William St and the management of government office buildings.**

I am advised that from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 the annual rent was **\$62.6 million.**

Background

Costs:

The projected capital and leasing cost will total \$198.5 million.

As at 30 June, the amount paid to Compass Group is approximately \$9 million and is publicly reported online.

To date, Health have paid \$7.67 million for that contract. The \$16 million figure is the figure they originally believed would be the cost for the entire FY (even this is likely to be substantially revised downwards closer to the \$7.67m on payment of the final invoice with the facility closing.

The Taskforce, which works across all quarantine and isolation including Pinkenba and Wellcamp, cost to 30 June was \$14.3 million.

Between 31 March and 30 June 2022, \$13.549 million was spent on hotel isolation and quarantine. From 5 February to 31 March, \$26.9 million was spent.

Commercial in confidence:

We were able to disclose the overall cost after making the decision to close the facility and advising the Wagners. Estimates was the appropriate place to detail the figures. The detailed breakdown of costs remains commercial-in-confidence.

Other uses:

The design of the facility and its location makes it less suitable to help solve the housing crisis as the other supports required such as access to work, schools and other social supports are not close by.

Wellcamp is a world class quarantine facility, built to keep the COVID-19 virus contained. This means that other uses of the facility are not straightforward.

That said, we are open to any approaches or proposals.

Released under RTI/DPG

WELLCAMP

Quarantine is a federal responsibility.

We built Wellcamp after the Morrison Government refused to meet that responsibility.

The day before Wellcamp was announced in August 2021, we had to pause interstate hotspot arrivals because all our quarantine hotels were full.

There were 5,114 people across 22 quarantine hotels at the highest point.

When the Morrison Government finally said they'd build a facility at Pinkenba, it was going to take too long to deliver – it's still not ready.

We have cyclone shelters ready if they're needed.

We have flood levees ready if they're needed.

And now we have a quarantine centre that's ready if it's needed.

The only thing we wasted was time.

WHY NOT OTHER USES?

It's a facility that's designed to keep people apart – people who are homeless, people needed rehabilitation services, people fleeing domestic violence need a community with services.

If there is an organisation that wants to use it for any of those purposes, we're happy to work with them.

Background

Costs:

The projected capital and leasing cost will total \$198.5 million.

As at 30 June, the amount paid to Compass Group is approximately \$9 million and is publicly reported online.

To date, Health have paid \$7.67 million for that contract. The \$16 million figure is the figure they originally believed would be the cost for the entire FY (even this is likely to be substantially revised downwards closer to the \$7.67m on payment of the final invoice with the facility closing).

The Taskforce, which works across all quarantine and isolation including Pinkenba and Wellcamp, cost to 30 June was \$14.3 million.

Between 31 March and 30 June 2022, \$13.549 million was spent on hotel isolation and quarantine. From 5 February to 31 March, \$26.9 million was spent.

Commercial in confidence:

We were able to disclose the overall cost after making the decision to close the facility and advising the Wagners. Estimates was the appropriate place to detail the figures. The detailed breakdown of costs remains commercial-in-confidence.

Other uses:

The design of the facility and its location makes it less suitable to help solve the housing crisis as the other supports required such as access to work, schools and other social supports are not close by.

Wellcamp is a world class quarantine facility, built to keep the COVID-19 virus contained. This means that other uses of the facility are not straightforward.

That said, we are open to any approaches or proposals.

s.73 Irrelevant information

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Thursday, 28 July 2022 5:08 PM
To: @Premiers Media
Subject: Fwd: Courier Mail - former QAS Commissioner + QRAC/Wellcamp

Hi, see below the response going to s.73 Ir from department

Amy

Amy Hunter
Senior Advisor
Office of the Deputy Premier
Steven Miles
s.73 Irrelevant infor

Please attribute the below to a Queensland Government spokesperson:

As has previously been reported, the Department of State Development engaged experts to provide advice as part of an interagency group on quarantine and isolation management across Government, including the commissioning of QRAC and planning for the Commonwealth's Pinkenba facility.

Given his extensive experience in the Queensland Ambulance Service, Mr Bowles joined the quarantine management taskforce as a public servant to provide expert advice on the operation of quarantine and isolation.

Background – not for attribution:

Mr Bowles was not a consultant. On his way to retirement, Mr Bowles supported the taskforce on a part time basis until May 2022 and was an invaluable contributor in establishing QRAC's operations. His engagement with the taskforce was on a secondment basis.

Amy Hunter

Senior Advisor

Office of the Deputy Premier

Steven Miles

s.73 Irrelevant information

From: s.73 Irrelevant information

Sent: Thursday, 28 July 2022 11:52 AM

To: Media <Media@dsd.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Courier Mail - Commissioner inquiry

Hi guys,

I have some questions below regarding former QAS Commissioner Russell Bowles.

1. I understand Mr Bowles was engaged as a consultant on the Wellcamp quarantine project. Was he paid for this? If so, how much? And what exactly did he do?
2. During this time, was Mr Bowles also still being paid his leave allowances given he had retired?
3. How long was Mr Bowles engaged for?

My deadline is 4pm today.

Thanks,

s.73 Irrelevant information

s.73 Irrelevant information

State Political Reporter


Courier Mail Sunday Mail

Released

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

T s.73 Irrelevant information

E s.73 Irrelevant information W www.couriermail.com.au

Follow us online   

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land in all states and territories on which we work and report. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging, and honour their history, cultures, and traditions of storytelling.

Proudly supporting 1 degree, A News Corp Australia initiative.

News Corp Australia

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee, you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments which does not relate to the official business of the sending company must be taken not to have been sent or endorsed by that company or any of its related entities. No warranty is made that the e-mail or attachments are free from computer virus or other defect.

This email and any attachments may contain confidential or privileged information and may be protected by copyright. You must not use or disclose them other than for the purposes for which they were supplied. The confidentiality and privilege attached to this message and attachment is not waived by reason of mistaken delivery to you. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not use, disclose, retain, forward or reproduce this message or any attachments. If you receive this message in error please notify the sender by return email or telephone, and destroy and delete all copies. The Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage that may result from reliance on, or use of, any information contained in this email and/or attachments.

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named recipient(s) only; and may contain privileged and confidential information. If received in error, you are asked to inform the sender as quickly as possible and delete this email and any copies of this from your computer system network.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and /or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland Government.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

s.73 Irrelevant information

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Thursday, 28 July 2022 2:30 PM
To: Kerry Manifold
Cc: Katharine Wright
Subject: HIB
Attachments: 220728 HIB - WELLCAMP.docx



Queensland
Government

Amy Hunter (she/her)
Senior Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Steven Miles MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development,
Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure

M s.73 Irrelevant in

Released under RTI - DPC

WELLCAMP

We built Wellcamp after the Morrison Government refused to build a dedicated quarantine facility, even though it was their responsibility.

The day before Wellcamp was announced in August 2021, we had to pause interstate hotspot arrivals because all our quarantine hotels were full. There were 5,114 people across 22 quarantine hotels at the highest point.

We couldn't have made any other choice.

Because of our health response Queensland has outperformed the rest of the country on employment, domestic economic growth, workforce participation, retail growth and interstate migration during the pandemic.

The only thing we wasted was time – if we had our time again we would have built it earlier.

Background

Costs:

The projected capital and leasing cost will total \$198.5 million.

As at 30 June, the amount paid to Compass Group is approximately \$9 million, publicly reported online. The cost for Aspen medical is a question for Queensland Health.

The Taskforce, which works across all quarantine and isolation including Pinkenba and Wellcamp, cost to 30 June was \$14.3 million.

Between 31 March and 30 June 2022, \$13.549 million was spent on hotel isolation and quarantine. From 5 February to 31 March, \$26.9 million was spent.

Commercial in confidence:

We were able to disclose the overall cost after making the decision to close the facility and advising the Wagners. Estimates was the appropriate place to detail the figures. The detailed breakdown of costs remains commercial-in-confidence.

Other uses:

The design of the facility and its location makes it less suitable to help solve the housing crisis as the other supports required such as access to work, schools and other social supports are not close by.

Wellcamp is a world class quarantine facility, built to keep the COVID-19 virus contained. This means that other uses of the facility are not straightforward.

That said, we are open to any approaches or proposals.

Released under RTI/DPG