

## Michael Cleary - pertinent points for consideration of Barrett Adolescent Centre

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**From:** Sharon Kelly  
**To:** Sdlo; Shelley-Lee Waller  
**Date:** 8/11/2012 3:32 PM  
**Subject:** pertinent points for consideration of Barrett Adolescent Centre  
**CC:** Jagmohan Gilhotra; Leanne Geppert; Lesley Dwyer; MD09-WestMoretonSout...

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Phillip,

as was just mentioned on the telephone conference, below are some pertinent points we would like you to consider in your "emergent" brief to the Minister's office.

Points for consideration to provide short advice to Minister office:-

- There is a clear national and State policy direction to ensure that young people are treated close to their homes in the least restrictive environment with the minimum possible disruption to their families, educational, social and community networks
- The National Mental Health Service Planning Framework currently being developed by the Commonwealth Government, due for completion in July 2013 does not include provision for non-acute adolescent inpatient services as per the current model at Barrett. The Framework does include subacute community based services for adolescents
- Planning is required to align with the National Mental Health Service Planning Framework that recommends subacute community based services for adolescents
- The deinstitutionalisation of services currently provided at The Park Centre for Mental Health is part of the reform agenda under the *Queensland Plan for Mental Health 2007-2017* (QPMH) and will result in only forensic and secure services being provided at the facility by July 2013.
- Concerns have been raised about the co-location of Barrett Adolescent Centre (BAC) with adult forensic and secure services delivered by TPCMH
- The BAC delivers an extended treatment model of care that consists of both extended inpatient and day patient programs including education components.
- Under the QPMH, it was determined that the development of a new model of care for BAC was required
- The Redlands Adolescent Extended Treatment Unit (RAETU), funded under the QPMH, was intended to replace BAC. This project has ceased due to unresolved environmental issues and budget overruns and hence is no longer a sustainable capital works project for Queensland Health
- Recent sector advice proposes a re-scoping of the BAC service model and governance structure to ensure a contemporary evidence based model of care is being provided for adolescents with serious mental illness.
- The average bed occupancy rate for BAC is 43%. This is less than half of the 15 beds currently available in this unit
- The age and condition of the building has been identified by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards as unsafe, necessitating urgent replacement
- Alternative services for this group of consumers will need to be considered immediately and will require a collaborative approach. The options to be considered may include the following:
  - Additional day programs attached to current adolescent acute units; and

- Utilisation of non-government sector services for adolescents; and
- The use of existing, unoccupied adolescent acute beds will also need to be considered where no other alternatives exist. Currently, acute child and adolescent beds are located in mental health services at the Gold Coast, Logan, Mater Child and Youth, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Toowoomba and Townsville (opening 2013) mental health services.

in considering least disruption to the young people and their families the HHS has been considering the planned closure of BAC during the Christmas period as a natural progression to service closure, if alternate models and capacity can be identified within the next 2 months.

for noting, [REDACTED] and alternate accommodation would need to be sourced, initial discussions have commenced with the ED Forensic mental health.

Regards

Sharon

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