

*Proposed response for [REDACTED] email to the Premier*

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 30 October 2013 about the future of the Barrett Adolescent Centre (BAC), located at The Park – Centre for Mental Health.

I appreciate you sharing your very personal story and experiences at BAC.

The Expert Clinical Reference Group of the Barrett Adolescent Strategy has determined that young people require specialised and appropriate care options, where they can be as close as possible to their community, families and support systems. This, along with ongoing redevelopment at The Park – Centre for Mental Health, which will become a secure adult forensic mental health facility in 2014, means BAC is no longer a suitable facility to deliver these very important services for young people needing extended treatment and rehabilitation.

Extensive progress is being made through the Statewide Adolescent Extended Treatment and Rehabilitation Strategy Steering Committee and a range of working groups. The intent is to ensure that adolescents requiring mental health extended treatment and rehabilitation will receive the most appropriate and contemporary care for their individual needs. The clinical treatment for adolescents currently in the BAC such as yourself will be carefully managed to ensure that there are no gaps to ongoing care requirements.

The Children's Health Queensland HHS, in partnership with other key stakeholders, will continue to progress this statewide initiative to provide more contemporary treatment options that build on rehabilitation and health outcomes, enabling young people to thrive in their local communities.

I have been advised by the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service (HHS) that the Clinical Team at BAC are working with you to develop a transition plan that best meets your individual support needs, and ensures that you receive the services you need.

Please be assured that I am committed to ensuring Queensland's adolescents have access to the mental health treatment and care they need.

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

Kind regards

**Campbell Newman**  
**Premier**