

Oaths Act 1867

# Statutory Declaration

I, **Dr Mary Corbett** of c/- Corrs Chambers Westgarth Lawyers, by email to [redacted] in the State of Queensland do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

**1 As to the meeting on 15 July 2013 between Dr Corbett, Ms Dwyer and Mr Springborg, what is Dr Corbett's recollection of what was discussed and/or agreed at that meeting?**

1.1 My recollection of the meeting with the Minister, Mr Springborg on 15 July 2013 is as set out in paragraph 14.13 of my statutory declaration dated 23 October 2015. That is, the Minister was supportive of the closure of BAC with a proposed date of 31 December 2013 and the Minister requested:

- (a) A communications plan and frequently asked questions be confirmed with his communications officer.
- (b) The Queensland Mental Health Commissioner be advised.
- (c) The Leader of the Opposition be advised.
- (d) The Director-General of the Department of Education be briefed prior to the announcement.

1.2 The above aspects of the discussion with the Minister are contemporaneously documented in the Board Meeting Agenda Paper for the meeting of the West Moreton Hospital and Health Board on 26 July 2013, which is annexure MC-1 to my statutory declaration dated 21 December 2015.

1.3 Beyond that, I do not have a specific recollection of matters discussed at the meeting.

**2 At that meeting, was Mr Springborg told (by either Dr Corbett or Ms Dwyer) that it was proposed that the Barrett Adolescent Centre would close in December 2013 in alignment with the opening of a Y-PARC, or words to that effect?**

2.1 I have no recollection of a discussion at the meeting regarding a Y-PARC.

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[redacted] .....  
**DR MARY CORBETT**

[redacted] .....

- 2.2 The Minister was advised that the Board supported the closure of BAC dependent on alternative, appropriate care provisions for the adolescents, ie that the Board supported closure to occur only when the adolescents' treating clinician/s were satisfied that they could be safely discharged or transferred to another appropriate service.
- 2.3 I do not recall that there was any specific discussion of what those alternative services specifically would be.
- 2.4 The Board Meeting Agenda Paper for the meeting of the WMHBB on 26 July 2013 advised the Board that:

*A formal announcement was made by the Department of Health this week for the progression of a Y-PARC service through NGO tender process; to be established by January 2014. Y-PARC will provide one option of alternative care for adolescents in the target group.*

*The Y-PARC model (well developed in Victoria – Youth Prevention and Recovery Care) is a youth focussed short term step up/step down residential rehabilitation program, run by NGO with in reach clinical services. The focus age group for Queensland should align with the current admission criteria to the BAC.*

- 2.5 The timing for the Y-PARC recorded in that Agenda Paper therefore would have aligned to a proposed closure of BAC on 31 December 2013, however I do not recall such alignment, or the Y-PARC as an alternative service option more generally, being a topic of discussion at the meeting with the Minister on 15 July 2013.

**And I make** this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1867*.

Taken and declared before me by )  
 Dr Mary Corbett at Brisbane in the State )  
 of Queensland this 17th day )  
 of MAY 2016 )  
 Before me: )



Signature of authorised witness



Signature of declarant

~~A Justice of the Peace/  
 Commissioner for Declarations~~

**Claire Louise Barratt**  
 Solicitor