

15 May 2025

Dr Helen Brown
Deputy Director-General
Queensland Health

By email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Proposed Level 2 maternity services for rural Queensland

Dear Helen

We reference our recent meeting about Queensland Health's plan to reinstate maternity services in Biloela, Cooktown and Chinchilla as Level 2 services. Doctors, including rural generalists, obstetricians, anaesthetists and emergency physicians located in rural Queensland, report escalating concerns and confusion about the proposal.

Doctors feel they had inadequate input to the plan's development and have not seen sufficient formal documentation about its details, especially the model of care and medical involvement. This has been compounded by the government's new 'Supporting healthy pregnancies' website omitting any reference to obstetricians, or even doctors, in the three main settings promoted as options for women having a baby in Queensland.

It would be useful if you could provide any detailed documents and any guidelines or protocols that we can provide to our members explaining the full nature of the Department's proposal. We will obtain feedback and can provide it to Queensland Health. As you know, changes in maternity models of care require multidisciplinary involvement and cannot be implemented successfully without the support of the medical profession.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss further.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Dr Nick Yim
President
AMA Queensland

Dr Brett Dale
Chief Executive Officer
AMA Queensland