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Government of South Australia

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The Hon. J. Snelling M.P.
Minister for Health
Level 9
Citi Centre Building
11 Hindmarsh Square
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

I write to you as the Presiding Member of the Central Adelaide Local Health Network Health Advisory Council in response to the Premier's letter to me of 8 July concerning the government's decision to reform South Australian government boards and committees.

The Premier's letter invited the Council to consider whether its functions require a separate board or whether it could be merged with another board or its functions could be carried out in an alternative way.

I am informed by Lee Wightman that you intend to argue for the retention of all the governing councils and my council supports you in that.

The Council has met to consider the Premier's questions and has asked me to provide you with this response.

These are the ways in which we can add value:

- The Central Adelaide Local Health Network is a complex organisation that functions to some extent separately from the rest of the health system. To the extent that the Network has its own unique issues, the Advisory Council can and does draw on the range of expertise and experience of its members to provide independent advice to the CEO and his team. The CEO is not bound to take the advice but at least he can test his ideas and discuss the issues of the day in a forum whose members are independent of the rest of the system and have only the interests of the Network to consider.
- We provide a means of heightened accountability to the CEO's management team. By requiring them to report to us and to expose their work to examination and evaluation by us, the CEO can use us to help them to articulate and then refine their thinking on important issues.

Duplicate of MH14-3549.

BT

- Every member of our Council supports the Government's vision for a new SA Health and Biomedical Precinct of which the new RAH is an essential part. We are committed to a successful transition of the RAH to the new site. Between us, we have a wide range of contacts in the community and we are all advocates for it. As Council members we can (and do) speak in the community with authority and credibility that we wouldn't otherwise have.
- Some of our members already serve on operational and governance committees within the Network where they bring specific expertise that adds value to the work of the committees. Our plan is to involve more of our members in internal committee work as appropriate.

If you require any further assistance with these matters please contact, Dianne Thomas, Business Manager to CEO Central Adelaide LHN on 8222 0812.

Yours sincerely



Mr Terry Evans

Presiding Member

Central Adelaide Local Health Network Health Advisory Council

13 August 2014

CC: Central Adelaide Local Health Network Health Advisory Council
Lee Wightman, Policy and Legislation