



Country Health SA Local Health
Network Inc

Mount Gambier and Districts
Health Service

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Previous Corres	

9th October 2014

Hon Jay Weatherill
Premier of South Australia
GPO Box 2343
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Premier

Your letter dated 8th of July 2014, regarding the proposed reform of SA Government Boards and Committees, is acknowledged.

We also acknowledge your most recent letter of 23rd September and the summary report in relation to the reform process.

The Mount Gambier and Districts Health Advisory Council commends the decision not to abolish the Health Advisory Councils. We do so, on the basis that these volunteer organisations provide a low cost and important interface between health service delivery and our communities. We do however strongly recommend that in any reclassification or change that might be considered for HAC's, the role and functions of HAC's not be diminished or cause them to operate in isolation or remote from CHSALHN. It is imperative that a close working relationship and understanding exists between health service delivery and consumers, through the work of the HAC's.

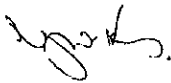
The nature of health and well-being and the delivery of health services, is unique amongst all of the various services provided by governments, in that health care is a primary and personal service that touches individuals, families and communities in a special yet necessary way. It is therefore beneficial for both government and communities, to have an effective and robust mechanism for communication and dialogue between the various parties. We believe that the Health Advisory Council (HAC) network, is made up of committed and representative individuals, who are well placed and experienced in assisting government and Country Health SA Local Health Network to plan for and deliver health services in a valuable partnership arrangement.

In addition, the long history of South Australians making donations and working in a volunteer capacity in our country hospitals, is something that is far too valuable to put at risk by dispensing with the HAC's.

We acknowledge that each of the HAC's work independently and in a range of ways depending on the community involved, however, there is an understanding and scope for HAC's in some areas to work collaboratively. In the South East, the Mount Gambier HAC gains much from joint meetings with the other HAC's in our region and we will continue to do so.

You can be assured that the Mount Gambier and Districts Health Advisory Council places great importance on its roles in supporting health service planning and delivery and acting as a strong advocate for its community.

Yours faithfully,



Grant King
Presiding Member
Mount Gambier and Districts Health Advisory Council Inc

PREM14D05560



Hon Jay Weatherill MP
Premier of South Australia

Mr Grant King
Presiding Member
Mount Gambier and District Health Advisory Council Inc
PO Box 267
MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290

Dear Mr King

Thank you for your letter of 9 October 2014 to the Premier of South Australia, the Hon Jay Weatherill MP, about the Boards and Committees Reform.

Your letter has been sent to the Minister for Health, the Hon Jack Snelling MP, as this matter falls within his portfolio responsibility.

Should you have any queries about your letter, please contact the Minister's office on telephone 8463 6270.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Weatherill".

**Premier's Correspondence Unit
Office of the Premier**

17 October 2014

cc: Office of the Hon Jack Snelling MP, Minister for Health