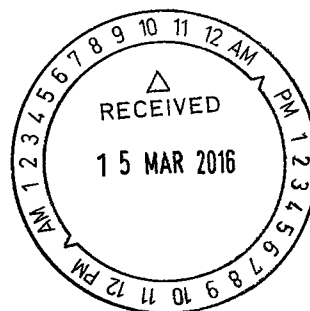





Minister for Health; Tourism

Our Ref: 25-51044

Hon Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
Harvest Terrace
PERTH WA 6000



Dear Mr  O'Brien

I refer to your letter of 18 February 2016 with enclosures including Petition No 102, submission from Mr Ron Carey APM dated 9 December 2015 and submission from Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC dated 22 December 2015.

Thank you for seeking my comments on the terms of the petition and the submissions relating to the decommissioned Swan Districts Hospital site to be considered for refurbishment into a new regional aged care facility.

I acknowledge the importance of providing adequate and high quality residential aged care for all elderly Western Australians.

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) responds to the strategic direction of government on urban, rural and regional land use planning and land development matters throughout Western Australia. The Commission comprises a Chair and 16 members, representing industry, government and the community.

The WAPC is a statutory authority and operates with the support of the Department of Planning, which provides professional and technical expertise, administrative services and corporate resources to assist its decision-making.

The WAPC's responsibilities includes advising Hon John Day MLA, Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts, on strategic land use planning, land development, legislation reform and local planning schemes.

As such, I am not in a position to comment on the appropriate future use of the decommissioned Swan Districts Hospital site.

I trust this information is of assistance and I take this opportunity to thank you for raising this issue with me.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kim Hames MLA
MINISTER FOR HEALTH

10 MAR 2016