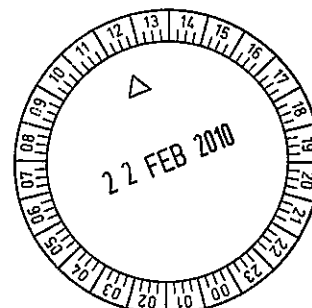


**PUBLIC****Deputy Premier of Western Australia
Minister for Health; Indigenous Affairs**

Our Ref: 25-09494



Hon Brian Ellis MLC
Chairman
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Ellis

Thank you for your letter of 18 November 2009 regarding the redevelopment of Busselton Hospital. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The redevelopment of the Busselton Hospital into a comprehensive health campus is an important project. The State Government is committed to providing the Busselton community with a comprehensive range of health services and has confirmed the \$77.4 million budget for the project.

Following the submission of expressions of interest earlier this year the WA Country Health Service has identified two private health organisations that are interested in working with the Department of Health to develop an innovative and comprehensive plan for Busselton Health Campus.

Involvement of the private sector signals an important step forward for the redevelopment as it raises the potential for a wider range of services, greater efficiencies than could be provided by the State alone and an earlier commencement of construction.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kim Hames MLA
DEPUTY PREMIER
MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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