



**Minister for Environment; Disability Services; Electoral Affairs
Deputy Leader of the Legislative Council**

Our ref: 62-15168

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Standing Committee of Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Matthew

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Thank you for your letter of 27 June 2019 regarding a petition opposing the closure of the Quadriplegic Centre (the Centre) which was tabled in the Legislative Council on 5 June 2019. My apologies for the delay in my response

The North Metropolitan Health Service (NMHS) is the lead agency for the redevelopment of the Quadriplegic Centre site at Shenton Park, with support from the Department of Communities (Communities), the Department of Treasury and Landcorp on this project. The redevelopment is part of the McGowan Labor Government's commitment to contemporary approaches to supporting people with disability which includes providing opportunities for community based accommodation options for residents of the Quadriplegic Centre.

Currently, 21 individuals with spinal cord injury remain living at the Centre, with 12 people having successfully moved out of the Centre into community based options of their choosing. Three newly-injured people have been able to choose contemporary accommodation options as a result of engagement with Communities' Local Coordination and the Spinal Outreach Service and remain living in their community.

Communities is liaising closely with stakeholders to plan with and support eligible residents to transition to alternative accommodation options, as appropriate. The NMHS has engaged a service provider, Western Australia's Individualised Services (WAIS) to provide support for the Centre's residents to ensure they have clear information regarding their options beyond the Centre, including future respite options.

In addition to accommodation support for long term residents, the Centre provides 24/7 centre-based respite care for people with spinal cord injury. This respite service will continue through a range of service providers across Western Australia who offer planned or emergency services including breaks away from home.

The list of service providers that could meet the needs of a person with spinal cord injury and provide short term centre-based accommodation include Rocky Bay,

Brightwater Care Group Limited, Ability Centre, Multiple Sclerosis Western Australia (MSWA), Elba, Rise, Akira and Alpha Carers. The majority of these organisations have their own websites with contact details and would be able to provide Mr Neville and/or the petitioners with information regarding availability.

Thank you for writing to me in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely



Hon Stephen Dawson MLC
MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES

Cc: Hon Roger Cook MLA, Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Mental Health

06 AUG 2019