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Good Afternoon John

Following consideration by the Office of the Minister and the Premier's Office, the Minister has decided not to include Attachment 2 dealing with possible future strategies to address category 3 patients. Accordingly, the draft submission has been amended to remove references to this attachment.

However, the Minister still requires that work continue on finalising Attachment 2 in case a further decision is made to include the Attachment at a later date (possibly as early as next week).

Consideration is also to be given to the development of a Policy Submission to specifically address the issues considered in Attachment 2 for Cabinet's consideration in the near future.

A copy of the Cabinet Submission as the Minister intends it to be first lodged is attached.

Regards

Brad Smith
Manager
Parliamentary and Ministerial Services
Ph. 323 41147

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21/7/05

The Hon Peter Beattie MP
Premier and Minister for Trade
P O Box 185
BRISBANE ALBERT STREET 4002

Dear Premier

On 1 August 2005, the elective surgery waiting list data is due to be posted on the Queensland Health website. As you are aware, this data always generates significant media and community interest.

Prior to the material being placed on the website, I intend that the Cabinet submission on the "*Progress Report on the Waiting List Reduction Strategy*" is considered by Cabinet. Given that the Government will receive criticism if the waiting list data is not published on time, it is imperative that the submission be considered by Cabinet on 1 August 2005.

For the matter to be considered on 1 August 2005, the Cabinet Handbook requires that first lodgement of the submission should have occurred on Monday, 18 July 2005. Unfortunately, due to complexities associated with data collection and subsequent analysis this deadline was not able to be met. However, a draft of the submission was provided by my Department to the Policy Division of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet on 19 July 2005.

In line with the requirements of the Cabinet Handbook and your letter of 19 February 2004, I seek your approval for the late first lodgement of this submission after the prescribed deadline of 18 July 2005.

Thank you for your assistance in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

GORDON NUTTALL MP
Minister for Health
Member for Sandgate

MINISTERIAL



Queensland Government

Premier of Queensland and Minister for Trade

ME 130489.

29/7/05

Please quote: MN82895/GN01/SocPol

22 JUL 2005

The Honourable Gordon Nuttall MP
Minister for Health
GPO Box 48
BRISBANE QLD 4001

DATE RECEIVED

OPTION

ACTION OFFICER

REPLY FOR MINISTERS SIGNATURE

DUE BY

BRIEF ALSO RECD

REFERS TO

NR - FOR INFORMATION ONLY

SCANNED

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SEDHS

Dear Gordon

Thank you for your letter received on 21 July 2005 seeking approval for the late first lodgement of a Cabinet submission in relation to a "Progress Report on the Waiting List Reduction Strategy" for consideration by Cabinet on 1 August 2005.

I agree that any delay to the publication of this data is not acceptable. While acknowledging the difficulties in data collection and subsequent analysis, it is disappointing that, in light of previous advice provided by my Department and the regular timing of waiting list data submissions, my Department was not engaged earlier in the process.

Nevertheless, I authorise the late first lodgement of this submission so that it can be considered by Cabinet on 1 August 2005.

I note that the draft of the submission provided on 19 July 2005 to my Department and seen by my Office contained a paper that outlined possible options to address Category 3 waiting times. I would appreciate a policy submission in relation to that separate matter being provided to Cabinet at the appropriate time.

Thank you for your continuing efforts in relation to these matters.

Yours sincerely

PETER BEATTIE MP
PREMIER AND MINISTER FOR TRADE

FAXED

1pm 22/7/05

file
29/7/05

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**Queensland
Government**
Queensland Health

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Copies sent out
to DDG's
+ Linda Dawson

10/8
05900-

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To: Gerry FitzGerald, Deputy Director-General
Gloria Wallace, Deputy Director-General

Copies to: Linda Dawson, Executive Director, Statewide Health and Community Services

From: Uschi Schreiber, Director-General **Contact No:** (07) 323 41170

Subject: **Analysis of Waiting Lists**

File Ref:

1. On 1 August 2005, Cabinet considered a submission in relation to the *Progress Report on the Waiting List Reduction Strategy* (Decision Number 5900). Part of that Decision requires Queensland Health to undertake further analysis of:
 - specialist outpatients' clinics activity, including the estimated 60,000 patients not booked for a specialist outpatient appointment;
 - strategies to address waiting list problems and options to maintain access to services in the face of rising medical costs and increasing demand; and
 - expenditure to date and implementation of the components of the 2004 Election Commitments.
2. Cabinet requires that this analysis be undertaken by mid-September 2005, so it can be fed into the process of preparing the Government response to the Morris Inquiry and Forster Review final reports.
3. I would appreciate it if you would undertake the analysis directed by Cabinet and provide me with your advice by 16 September 2005.

Uschi Schreiber

Uschi Schreiber
Director-General



**Queensland
Government**
Queensland Health

MEMORANDUM

To: Director-General

Copies to: Deputy Directors-General
Executive Director, Statewide Health and Community Services

From: Cabinet Legislation and Liaison Officer
Parliamentary and Ministerial Services Unit


Contact No: (07) 323 41147

Subject: **Cabinet Decision Summary: Progress Report on the Waiting List Reduction Strategy**

File Ref:

On 1 August 2005 CABINET decided:

1. That following consideration, the contents of the submission be noted.
2. That the Premier and Treasurer and the Minister for Health be delegated responsibility for determining the timing of release of the latest quarterly waiting list data.
3. That release of the data on the web should be accompanied by information on the number of surgical procedures undertaken by each Queensland public hospital in the last 12 months.
4. That the Department of Health should undertake further analysis of:
 - specialist outpatients' clinics activity, including the estimated 60,000 patients not booked for a specialist outpatient appointment;
 - strategies to address waiting list problems and options to maintain access to services in the face of rising medical costs and increasing demand; and
 - expenditure to date and implementation of the components of the 2004 Election Commitments.
5. That the analysis should be undertaken by mid-September 2005, so it can be fed into the process of preparing the Government response to the Morris Inquiry and Forster Review final reports.


Brad Smith
Manager
Parliamentary and Ministerial Services Unit
and Cabinet Legislation and Liaison Officer
03/08/2005

Brad how
will this be
addressed?