



Hon Brain Ellis MLC

Chair

Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs

Parliament House

PERTH WA 6000

8 November 2012

Dear Chair

**Petition No 175 – Redevelopment of Laverton Hospital**

Following on from tabling this petition in the Legislative Council on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, I now provide for you my submission with regards to the above.

The Laverton Hospital services the community of Laverton and outlying communities and mining interests; estimated to be over 4000 people.

On a visit to the hospital in 2010 I found it to be a very old building with insufficient facilities and amenities for patients and staff. Issues brought to my attention on that visit were the problems that leaks cause to the hospital when it rains, the substandard sewerage system, the lack of toilet facilities and lack of facilities for staff to have a break.

I was also informed the people attending HACC services conducted from the hospital need to share bathroom and activity room facilities with patients and aged care residents. The hospital also lacks a practical conference type room where teleconferencing and tele-health services can operate from and which are a very crucial service for our regional hospitals.

The lack of a designated guest/patient waiting area also makes it difficult for staff to effectively service the needs of their clients.

The last major works to be carried out at the hospital date back to 1973. Since that time, it has significantly deteriorated. With mining interests increasing their workforce around the Laverton demographic area, and a steady population of Laverton residents seen over the years, it is necessary that this community have access to modern health facilities that are afforded to other regional centres. The lack of attention that this hospital has seen over a number of decades can no longer be ignored.

I am extremely supportive of the principal petitioner in having this matter brought to the attention of the Parliament of Western Australia

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in seeking a redevelopment of the Laverton Hospital site. I would suggest that works carried out at the site allow for the hospital to provide a multi-purpose health service that is better able to deliver primary health care to Laverton residents, residents of surrounding communities and mining operations, making this a regional hospital that is effectively able to service the needs of its current client base whilst having the capacity for this base to be increased with activity in the region.

Laverton has waited long enough for this essential health service to be upgraded.

I thank you for taking time to read through my submission in support of Laverton residents and its wider communities on this issue.

Please note that this issue has not been taken to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wendy Duncan', written over a horizontal line.

Hon Wendy Duncan MLC

Member for Mining and Pastoral Region

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Regional Development; Lands

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