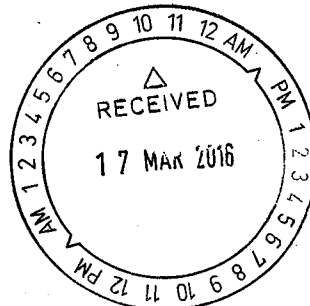




**The Hon Terry Redman MLA
Minister for Regional Development; Lands;
Minister Assisting the Minister for State Development**

Our ref: 39-33729
Your ref: PETITION 105



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

Simon

Dear ~~Mr~~ O'Brien

PETITION NO. 105 - ESPERANCE HOSPITAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Thank you for your letter dated 18 February 2016 regarding Petition No. 105 - Esperance Hospital Support Services .

I advise that neither the Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) nor the Department of Regional Development have received a business case proposal requesting funds for a Drug and Alcohol Detox Facility at Esperance Hospital.

Royalties for Regions is providing \$18.8 million in funding toward a \$31.3 million upgrade to the Esperance hospital, which is due for completion at the end of 2016. The project includes a redesign and expansion of the Emergency Department, additional e-health services, a Day Surgery Unit, upgrade of theatres and modernised birthing suites. The scope of the capital works was determined by the WA Country Health Service (WACHS), in consultation with Building Management and Works (BMW), and as a result of an assessment of the existing condition of site services and health facilities in Esperance and its capacity to achieve health service reform. On the basis of this service planning, WACHS submitted a business case seeking Royalties for Regions funds to enable the completion of the recommended works. It is unknown whether a Drug and Alcohol Detox Facility was considered by WACHS at that time or whether the Mental Health Commission was involved in the service planning.

Please note that Royalties for Regions is currently funding a number of Drug and Alcohol Support Programs in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions as well as Carnarvon. This funding is for both infrastructure and services and is being provided to the Mental Health Commission to implement the programs.

I can advise that there is currently a business case under consideration for a project entitled *Growing the Capacity of Drug and Alcohol Detoxification and Rehabilitation Programs in the Goldfields-Esperance*. This project aims to meet the current and growing needs of the Goldfields Rehabilitation Services Inc. through the construction of a new facility and the refurbishment of an existing facility in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

In addition, the GEDC will be calling for expressions of interest for the next round of Goldfields-Esperance Revitalisation Plan projects in March 2016. This may provide an opportunity for a Drug and Alcohol Detox Facility in Esperance. As with all projects, any proposal would need to demonstrate alignment with the Goldfields-Esperance Regional Investment Blueprint and compete against other proposals seeking funding through the process.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Redman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

HON TERRY REDMAN MLA
MINISTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

14 MAR 2016