



Office of the
Premier of Queensland
Minister for the Arts

25 October 2017

Dr Stephen Morrison
President
Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation
88 L'Estrange Terrace
Kelvin Grove QLD 4059

Dear Dr Morrison *Stephen*

When my Government was elected in 2015 we had made approximately 550 individual election commitments – including a number of specific commitments directly to your organisation.

On 10 August 2017, I made a statement to the Queensland Parliament where I outlined that 87% of those commitments had been delivered (which equates to 484 election commitments delivered, 50 still ongoing or being implemented and 19 superseded following consultation with stakeholders and the results of independent policy reviews).

I think it timely to write directly to your organisation to outline the status of the individual commitments Labor made to your organisation in 2015.

Commitments were provided that a Labor Government would:

- consult regularly with the surgery profession on the planning of surgical services in Queensland. In particular, we will seek opportunity to expand the supply of surgery services, particularly in regional centres, by facilitating the training of registrars in public hospitals seeking a fellowship with the RACS (Royal Australasian College of Surgeons).
- restore fairness and balance to employment conditions for salaried doctors and consult with senior doctors and surgeons before any further changes are made to Rights to Private Practice arrangements in public hospitals.
- ensure that Queensland Health and Hospital and Health Services act on Recommendation 2 of the Queensland Auditor-General's Report to Parliament No. 1 of 2013-14 *Right of private practice in Queensland public hospitals*, i.e., "establish clear targets for the optimal medical workforce in the context of desired clinical, patient access and financial outcomes".
- retain the Queensland Audit Surgical Mortality program, a component of our patient safety systems, with a funding commitment for three years to 30 June 2019.
- Support the removal of individual contracts for Queensland's senior doctors.
- keep Pathology Queensland as a valuable asset of our publicly-owned Hospital and Health Services.

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- release health statistics around waiting lists and maintain and expand the public release of hospital performance data.
- commence the collaborative process of negotiating for the next Medical Officers Certified Agreement (MOCA4) and a joint working party addressing fatigue issues as part of these negotiations.

I am pleased to advise that each of these commitments has been delivered.

Details on the implementation status of all of the Palaszczuk Government's election commitments are provided in the progress report released in August, which is available online at <https://www.thepremier.qld.gov.au/newsroom/progress-report-june-2017.aspx>

As well as delivering on its election commitments, the Palaszczuk Government also has had a highly productive legislative program. As at 25 October 2017, 136 of the 137 Government Bills debated in the Parliament have been successfully passed.

I trust this information is of assistance. I also wanted to take this opportunity to re-commit to a continued dialogue regarding policy, and I look forward to continuing to work with you and your organisation to build on these commitments into the future.

Yours sincerely



**ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND AND
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS**