

# Health and Ambulance Services Committee

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: 11.2

11 May 2015

Honourable Cameron Dick MP  
Minister for Health and  
Minister for Ambulance Services  
GPO Box 48  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

## **Health and Ambulance Services Committee consideration of Mental Health Bills**

Thank you for your letter received 6 May 2015.

As you have outlined in your letter, on 5 May 2015, the Legislative Assembly referred the Private Member's Bill – Mental Health (Recovery Model) Bill 2015 to the committee for detailed examination. In absence of a reporting date set by either the Committee of the Legislative Assembly or the House, the committee is due to report on the Private Member's Bill by 5 November 2015.

You have advised the committee of the Government's intentions for consultation on, and introduction of, the Government's proposed Mental Health Bill 2015 – which you have stated will cover the same broad policy areas as the Private Member's Bill, but has significant differences. You have outlined timeframes in your letter that set public consultation on the Government Bill until 26 June 2015 and introduction in the sitting week 15- 17 September 2015.

Taking the above into consideration, you have asked the Committee, in conducting its examination of the Private Member's Bill, to consider deferring taking submissions and conducting hearings on the Bill until after the September Parliamentary sittings, when the results of the Government's consultation is clear.

The Committee considered your request at its meeting on 6 May 2015 and resolved to defer taking submissions and conducting hearings on the Private Member's Bill until the Government Bill is introduced in September. The Committee shares your view that considering both Bills together will achieve a greater efficiency in the use of parliamentary resources and will also aid stakeholders in their consideration of options for mental health reform.

The Committee looks forward to the Government Bill being introduced into the House and will follow the consultation process as it progresses over the coming months.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat.

Yours sincerely



Leanne Linard MP  
Chair