

JO-ANN MILLER MP

SHADOW MINISTER FOR HEALTH, NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINES, AND HOUSING

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

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21 May 2013.

Hon Lawrence Springborg  
Minister for Health  
GPO Box 48  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

**By Facsimile Transmission: (07) 3229 0444**

Dear Mr Springborg,

I write with regard to the tragic circumstances surrounding the treatment of Ms Emma Green at the Rockhampton Hospital recently.

I note with sorrow the pain and heartache Ms Green and her family must be feeling following the stillbirth of her unborn child, and urgently request any and all State Government assistance that can be appropriately provided to her.

Following media reports of her tragic case, a number of inquiries have reportedly begun into the tragedy.

In addition to the inquiries already announced, the Queensland Opposition considers it appropriate that you exercise your power under section 163 of the Health Quality and Complaints Commission Act 2006 (the Act) to direct the Health Quality and Complaints Commission (the Commission) to conduct an inquiry into the matter. It would clearly be in the public interest for such an inquiry to be carried out.

Additionally, to ensure transparency and accountability of the process, we request that you provide a written direction to the commission under section 164 of the Act to provide a written report to the Minister. To ensure the public's confidence in the outcome of the inquiry, we seek your assurance that the written report so furnished to you by the Commission will be tabled in the Queensland Parliament.

On behalf of the Green family, and indeed all potential users of Rockhampton Base Hospital, the Queensland Opposition requests that all inquiries be conducted in an open and transparent manner, free from interference by your office.

We also seek your commitment to ensure complete disclosure of all other inquiry outcomes by undertaking to table any and all other reports presented to you in the Queensland Parliament.

The Queensland Opposition fully supports Queensland's health and hospital staff in the provision of their duties. However, tragic incidents can occasionally occur that may reduce community confidence in our health and hospital facilities.

The only way to restore confidence is to ensure that a thorough investigation into this matter is completed quickly, and the outcomes of the inquiries be tabled in the Parliament.

As this matter is of considerable sensitivity, I trust that you will act decisively to ensure that appropriate levels of transparency and accountability attach to the inquiries undertaken.

Should you wish to discuss any of the matters contained in my correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jo-Ann Miller MP  
**Member for Bundamba**  
**Shadow Minister for Health**