

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS



Patron: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales

Queensland State Committee

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BY: HESC

Sub # 3

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Peter Dowling MP
Chair; Health and Community Services Committee
QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE
Parliament House
Cnr George and Alice Streets Brisbane Qld 4000

Subject: Submission to the Health and Hospitals Network and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012

Dear Sir,

The Queensland Regional Committee of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the Health and Hospitals Network and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 though it is a pity the consultation period was not longer.

Clinical leadership and clinician involvement in the direction and management of hospitals is critical for the best outcomes. Where local management actively involves clinicians, services have continued to remain patient focused and have provided balance within an underfunded and bureaucratically driven structure. The College strongly supports governance and management structures based wherever possible on individual hospital structures. There is a strong sense that a higher level of Community involvement and ownership will occur under this model where facilities and staff no longer belong to central QHealth. Ownership of land, buildings and staff being locally appointed are improvements in the legislation that should assist the involvement of all.

The additional requirements of the Health and Hospital Regulation which stipulates a communication strategy with clinicians is an example of how consultation and ownership at the local level should enhance clinician involvement. Health Care is complex and the addition of options for the Minister to seek and invite expert opinions should also be supported.

Whilst the College is disappointed that a single funding model (Federally funded) was not implemented for the betterment of patient outcomes; it is in favour of the position of Administrator of the National Funding Pool.

Yours sincerely,

Chair Queensland Regional Committee
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

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