



The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP

Minister for Health
Minister for Health Infrastructure
Minister for Ambulance Services

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BAC-CO-50602

Robert McDonald,
Clerk of the Legislative Council
Parliament of Victoria
Via email: council@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr McDonald

Thank you for your letter regarding the petition tabled by the Member for Southern Metropolitan Region on 15 October 2024 requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to cancel its plans for hospital amalgamations.

The Health Services Plan, released in August 2024, sets out our vision for a better connected, easier to access health system for all Victorians, that will be achieved through three key pillars of reform:

- Establishing Local Health Service Networks (Networks) – geographic groupings responsible for planning and managing care so that it meets the population health needs of their communities.
- Formalised relationships between each Network and a women's, a children's and a major tertiary hospital, ensuring every Victorian has seamless access to specialist care and expertise when they need it.
- A Victorian Role Delineation Framework, which will support collaboration across the system through setting out the roles and responsibilities of every health service site, aligned to their size and capability.

In responding to the Health Services Plan, the Allan Labor Government did not accept the recommendation for directed consolidations of health services.

I encourage the Member for Southern Metropolitan Region to review the report and to socialise this information with her constituents. A copy of the report can be found at: www.health.vic.gov.au/health-services-plan.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Thomas', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP

18/11/2024

cc: Ingrid Stitt, Minister for Mental Health