

4 November 2024

By email

The Honourable Chris Picton MP
Minister for Health and Wellbeing
Member for Kaurna
Email: ministerforhealth@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister Picton,

RE: Gender affirming healthcare

Thank you for your correspondence dated 16 June 2024 regarding gender affirming healthcare provided by SA Health and the government's opposition to a Parliamentary inquiry on this matter.

We write to bring to your attention two recent developments on this matter.

On 19 July 2024, the Queensland Government announced a funding boost of \$2.6 million to the Queensland Children's Gender Service following an independent review that found the service is safe, evidence-based and consistent with national and international guidelines. This brings the annual budget for the service to \$5.2 million each year. For more information the relevant media release is [available online at this link](#).

We congratulate the Queensland Government for its funding commitment to improve access to gender affirming healthcare and for embedding lived-experience within the evaluation panel.

In September 2024, the Sax Institute published the results of its evidence check, commissioned by the NSW Ministry of Health, on the research evidence published between 2019 and 2023 regarding effective interventions for children and young people with gender dysphoria.

Importantly, the review found puberty blockers are a 'safe, effective and reversible' form of gender affirming care.

For more information the review and a one-page summary are [available online at this link](#).

Locally we are pleased to see SA Health progressing in the implementation of the Statewide Gender Diversity Model of Care and would appreciate an update on this work from you, the Department and the relevant Local Health Networks.



SA Rainbow Advocacy Alliance
64C Woodville Rd
Woodville South SA 5011
www.saraa.org.au

We also write to offer our support and advisory services to SA Health in its work to implement the model of care. As the peak body for LGBTIQ+ South Australians, SA Rainbow Advocacy Alliance are uniquely positioned to provide expert advice based on our lived experience and a mechanism for SA Health to connect with transgender and gender diverse consumers to inform the development of gender affirming care services.

We thank you again for the State Government's commitment to improving access to gender affirming healthcare and offer our support to assist you in improving health outcomes for transgender and gender diverse South Australians.

If you wish to discuss this matter further please contact Leeann Friday, Board Chair via email at info@saraa.org.au.

Kind regards,

Leeann Friday she/her
Board Chair
SA Rainbow Advocacy Alliance (SARAA)
Email: info@saraa.org.au