



The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP

Minister for Health
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BAC-CO-62530

Mr Robert McDonald
Clerk of the Legislative Council
Parliament of Victoria
Parliament House
Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002
Via email: council@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr McDonald

Thank you for your email regarding Petition No. 643, tabled in the Legislative Council on 3 February 2026 by Mr Trung Luu MP regarding a public hospital in Tarneit.

Melbourne's west is one of Australia's fastest growing and diverse regions in Victoria. Unlike the Liberal Party, the Allan Labor Government has a history of investing in the healthcare that the people of Melbourne's West need.

This includes an expanded emergency department at Werribee Mercy Hospital, which will double the capacity of the existing emergency department and once fully operational, will be able to treat an additionally 25,000 patients each year.

Construction is also underway on the nearby Point Cook Community Hospital, which will deliver more everyday health services closer to home for the people of Tarneit. This facility will help reduce pressure on major hospitals and support more people to manage their health needs within their local community.

In addition, the Government has committed more than \$900 million to deliver the new Melton Hospital in 2029, and construction is underway. The hospital will include a 24-hour emergency department, 274 beds, and a range of acute, maternity, mental health and specialist services. Once complete and fully operational, it will have the capacity to treat 130,000 patients each year, including almost 60,000 emergency department presentations.

The \$1.5 billion new Footscray Hospital is now open, supporting increasing demand across Melbourne's western suburbs. Each year, it will enable an additional 15,000 patients to be treated and support 20,000 more emergency department presentations.

Mental health services in Melbourne's west have also been strengthened through upgrades at Werribee Mercy Hospital, the expansion of the Westside Lodge dual diagnosis unit at Sunshine Hospital, and the delivery of a new 52-bed mental health facility at Sunshine Hospital in 2023.

As part of Emergency Care Reform, the Government is supporting care to be delivered safely in alternative settings where clinically appropriate. All Victorians can self-refer to the Victorian Virtual Emergency Department, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The Government will continue to carefully monitor population growth, service demand and community need across Melbourne's west to inform future health infrastructure planning. Community feedback, including that provided through this petition, is an important contribution to this ongoing work.

Thank you for conveying the views of petitioners. This feedback is important to the Allan Labor Government as it continues to strengthen Victoria's health system and deliver health record investments in health infrastructure, when and where it is needed most.

Yours sincerely



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12 / 04 /2026