

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Wednesday, 12 September 2018 4:33 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Fwd: Mater maternal death - Holding Statement
Attachments: image001.png; ATT00001.htm; image002.png; ATT00002.htm; image003.png; ATT00003.htm; image004.png; ATT00004.htm; image005.png; ATT00005.htm; image001.png; ATT00006.htm; image002.png; ATT00007.htm; image003.png; ATT00008.htm; image004.png; ATT00009.htm; image005.png; ATT00010.htm; 180828_Hot Issue Brief - Mater Health.doc; ATT00011.htm; Media statement_Maternal death_approved.pdf; ATT00012.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: SDLO <SDLO@health.qld.gov.au>
Date: 31 August 2018 at 4:54:25 pm AEST
To: 'Katharine Wright' <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, ""amy.hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au"" <amy.hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>, Kyle Fogarty <Kyle.Fogarty@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Mater maternal death - Holding Statement

Please see attached holding statement prepared by Mater in relation to the HIB provided on Tuesday.

Thanks

Brodie



Exceptional People. Exceptional Care.

MEDIA STATEMENT

*For immediate release
30 August 2018*

Statement re: Maternal death

Mater Health Chief Executive Officer Sean Hubbard has expressed his deepest sympathy to the family of a patient who passed away some days after giving birth at Mater Mothers Hospital.

"We are very saddened about the loss of this patient and offer our sincere condolences to her family.

"As would be the case with any unexpected clinical outcome, Mater will conduct a thorough and detailed review into the care and treatment provided while she was at Mater.

"The case has also been referred to the coroner."

As the case is currently being reviewed, Mater is unable to comment any further at this time.

ENDS

For media enquiries, please contact Jackie Hayes on 07 3163 2378 or [REDACTED]

RTI RELEASED

Hot Issues Brief – Maternal Death 28/8/2018

Issue (s):

- A patient died at the Mater Hospital Brisbane's Emergency Department on 21/8/18 following an unplanned caesarean section on 16/8/18.
- The news team have received media interest regarding the death.

Background:

- A patient gave birth on 16/8/18 at Mater Mothers Hospital following an unplanned caesarean section – her pregnancy was close to term. She had a number of physiological risk factors that placed her in a high risk category for pregnancy related complications.
- Patient went home on 18/8/18 and experienced a good immediate postpartum recovery, she re-presented to Mater's Emergency Department via QAS on 21/8/18 in a state of extreme shock.
- She had suddenly become extremely unwell at home and on arrival to Mater required immediate advance life support before suffering an unrecoverable cardiac arrest.
- It is likely that she has died from a significant and overwhelming pulmonary embolism.

Actions to date:

- Immediate family care has occurred and continues
- The Queensland State Coroner was notified of the death
- The Queensland State coroner has reviewed the death and has been informed that Mater is undertaking a Root Cause Analysis
- The Queensland State Coroner has authorised a Cause of Death Certificate and recorded the death as reportable with the decision of no further coronial investigation
- Mater Health has met its external reporting obligations to the Private Health Regulation Unit
- A Root Cause Analysis has been commissioned pursuant to the provisions contained in the *Hospitals and Health Boards' Act (2011)*

Prepared by: Daniel Pocock

Position: Director, Clinical Governance

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Date: 28/8/18

Approved by: Sean Hubbard

Position: CEO Mater Health

Telephone: (07) 3163 8436

Date: 28/8/18

DLT Member / HSCE:

Position

Telephone:

Date:

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Wednesday, 12 September 2018 4:34 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Fwd: HIB: Mater maternal death
Attachments: image001.png; ATT00001.htm; image002.png; ATT00002.htm; image003.png; ATT00003.htm; image004.png; ATT00004.htm; image005.png; ATT00005.htm; 180828_Hot Issue Brief - Mater Health.doc; ATT00006.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: SDLO <SDLO@health.qld.gov.au>
Date: 28 August 2018 at 6:03:01 pm AEST
To: 'Katharine Wright' <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, "amy.hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <amy.hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, 'Danielle Cohen' <Danielle.Cohen@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Dawn Schofield <Dawn.Schofield@health.qld.gov.au>, MinDLO <MinDLO@health.qld.gov.au>, Gemma Hodgetts <Gemma.Hodgetts@health.qld.gov.au>, news <news@health.qld.gov.au>, "Kyle Fogarty" <Kyle.Fogarty@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: HIB: Mater maternal death

Please find attached a HIB regarding a Maternal death at the Mater Hospital Brisbane's Emergency Department on 21/8/18.

News requested this HIB, following an enquiry from the media. Holding lines have been requested.

Thanks

Brodie

Hot Issues Brief – Maternal Death 28/8/2018

Issue (s):

- A patient died at the Mater Hospital Brisbane's Emergency Department on 21/8/18 following an unplanned caesarean section on 16/8/18.
- The news team have received media interest regarding the death.

Background:

- A patient gave birth on 16/8/18 at Mater Mothers Hospital following an unplanned caesarean section – her pregnancy was close to term. She had a number of physiological risk factors that placed her in a high risk category for pregnancy related complications.
- Patient went home on 18/8/18 and experienced a good immediate postpartum recovery, she re-presented to Mater's Emergency Department via QAS on 21/8/18 in a state of extreme shock.
- She had suddenly become extremely unwell at home and on arrival to Mater required immediate advance life support before suffering an unrecoverable cardiac arrest.
- It is likely that she has died from a significant and overwhelming pulmonary embolism.

Actions to date:

- Immediate family care has occurred and continues
- The Queensland State Coroner was notified of the death
- The Queensland State coroner has reviewed the death and has been informed that Mater is undertaking a Root Cause Analysis
- The Queensland State Coroner has authorised a Cause of Death Certificate and recorded the death as reportable with the decision of no further coronial investigation
- Mater Health has met its external reporting obligations to the Private Health Regulation Unit
- A Root Cause Analysis has been commissioned pursuant to the provisions contained in the *Hospitals and Health Boards' Act (2011)*

Prepared by: Daniel Pocock

Position: Director, Clinical Governance

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Date: 28/8/18

Approved by: Sean Hubbard

Position: CEO Mater Health

Telephone: (07) 3163 8436

Date: 28/8/18

DLT Member / HSCE:

Position

Telephone:

Date:

Katharine Wright

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Tuesday, 11 September 2018 12:36 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: For Tegan maternity story
Attachments: RE: Ch10 Interview & Response Request; FW: Ch10 Interview & Response Request

Hey, here is the stuff the department have pulled together.

Damon is trying to get someone like John Wakefield to do an interview with Tegan tomorrow.

Is this enough for the min today? Does this cover what Tegan will ask him?

Amy

Amy Hunter
Media Advisor
Office of the Hon. Steven Miles MP
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services



M [REDACTED] P: 07 3035 6114

RTI RELEASE

Katharine Wright

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 September 2018 12:20 PM
To: Amy Hunter
Cc: Katharine Wright
Subject: RE: Ch10 Interview & Response Request
Attachments: 30766 Caesarian births at Brisbane public hospitals.pdf

Hey Amy, Further to the last email, This is the data provided to Tegan a couple of weeks ago.

From: Amy Hunter [mailto: Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 11 September 2018 11:20 AM
To: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Ch10 Interview & Response Request
Importance: High

Hi

Can you re-send me the talking points Laura did for parliament on this?

Also is there anything we can add that answers her questions?

The Min is doing life flight with Tegan at 2:30, so we need this info by 2pm at the latest.

Amy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tegan George <[REDACTED]>
Date: 11 September 2018 at 10:03:11 am AEST
To: "news@health.qld.gov.au" <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: "katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Ch10 Interview & Response Request

Good morning,

I will be running a story later this week about a Brisbane mother who died from a pulmonary embolism three days after being discharged from the Mater public ward. She was discharged within 24 hours of having a C-section. She passed away approximately 3 weeks ago.

My focus on this story is concerns about women being discharged too early. I fully appreciate that often these women ask to be discharged and I also understand that there are risks with keeping women in for too long.

The statistics I recently received from QLD Health show a marked increase in the number of post-surgery patients being discharged within 48 hours.

I would like the opportunity to interview Dr David Elwood and Health Minister Steven Miles on this issue. I believe their input will create a more well-rounded piece that isn't scare mongering – simply giving women all the facts.

I would also ask that Queensland Health please get back to me in regards to these questions:

- Is an internal investigation being carried out into the circumstances surrounding this woman's death?
- Did this woman ask to be discharged or was it a direction from the hospital?
- Has the Minister been informed about this woman's death?

I look forward to working with you on this important story.

Kind Regards,

Tegan George
State Political Reporter

NETWORK TEN | A CBS COMPANY



435 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive Brisbane QLD 4066
t. 07 32141099 f. (07) 3214 1030 m.



Network Ten Pty Ltd ABN 91 052 515 250 Disclaimer This e-mail (including all attachments) is intended solely for the named addressee. If you receive it in error, please let us know by reply e-mail, delete it from your system and destroy the copies. This e-mail is also subject to copyright. No part of it should be reproduced, adapted or transmitted without the written consent of the copyright owner. E-

mails may be interfered with, may contain computer viruses or other defects and may not be successfully replicated on other systems. We give no warranties in relation to these matters. If you have any doubts about the authenticity of an e-mail purportedly sent by us, please contact us immediately.

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named recipient(s) only; and may contain privileged and confidential information. If received in error, you are asked to inform the sender as quickly as possible and delete this email and any copies of this from your computer system network.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and /or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland Government.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

This email, including any attachments sent with it, is confidential and for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). This confidentiality is not waived or lost, if you receive it and you are not the intended recipient(s), or if it is transmitted/received in error.

Any unauthorised use, alteration, disclosure, distribution or review of this email is strictly prohibited. The information contained in this email, including any attachment sent with it, may be subject to a statutory duty of confidentiality if it relates to health service matters.

If you are not the intended recipient(s), or if you have received this email in error, you are asked to immediately notify the sender by telephone collect on Australia +61 1800 198 175 or by return email. You should also delete this email, and any copies, from your computer system network and destroy any hard copies produced.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and/or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Although Queensland Health takes all reasonable steps to ensure this email does not contain malicious software, Queensland Health does not accept responsibility for the consequences if any person's computer inadvertently suffers any disruption to services, loss of information, harm or is infected with a virus, other malicious computer programme or code that may occur as a consequence of receiving this email.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland Government.

Katharine Wright

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 11 September 2018 11:35 AM
To: Amy Hunter; Katharine Wright
Cc: news
Subject: FW: Ch10 Interview & Response Request
Attachments: Media statement_Maternal death_approved.pdf

Importance: High

Hey Amy,

Laura's talking points are below and a Mater holding statement re: the maternal death is attached.

I just spoke with Tegan. I'll give you a call very soon.

Cheers,
 Damon

Maternity talking points

- Women often feel more comfortable in their own environment and particularly women with other children at home want to return to usual routines as soon as it is medically appropriate.
- New mothers find they sleep better in their own home and can have their families visit their new arrivals at any time in their own homes.
- Women are given the option of discharge from hospital to home in consultation with their carers and family.
- An early discharge is most appropriate for women who have support at home or in the community.
- Improved surgical procedures and C-sections conducted under an epidural have also helped to improve women's recovery times and helps them to get back home sooner.
- In addition to this, following an uncomplicated vaginal birth, women also have the option of returning home from 4 to 6 hours following birth.
- Not all women have the same preferences and it is always the woman's choice on the timing of early discharge once she is medically cleared by her doctor.
- In 2014 and 2015 the Maternal Mortality Rate was 7.3 per 100,000 births, which is not significantly different from the national figure (6.8 between 2012-2014).
 - *NOTE: (The maternal mortality ratio in Queensland for 2012 and 2013 was 6.4 per 100,000 births and between 20199-2011 the ratio was 8.1)*
- Perinatal mortality rates have been improving in Queensland. The 2016 perinatal death rate reported for Queensland was 9.1 per 1,000 births (the third lowest nationally), compared to 9.0 deaths per 1,000 births nationally. Queensland's rate decreased (i.e. improved) slightly compared to the previous year (9.4 deaths per 1,000 births in 2015).
- Queensland's reported neonatal death rate in 2016 was 2.7 per 1,000 births, compared to 2.4 deaths per 1,000 births nationally and is a decrease (i.e. improvement) over the 2015 reported rate of 2.8 deaths per 1,000 births. Queensland's 2016 perinatal and neonatal death rate are the lowest rates since the State's perinatal data collection began in 1986.
- In 2016, the fetal death rate in Queensland was 6.4 per 1,000 births, which is below the national average of 6.7 deaths per 1,000 births and the second lowest rate of all jurisdictions. Queensland's rate has decreased slightly compared to the previous year (6.6 deaths per 1,000 births in 2015) and is the lowest rate for the State since 2013
- There was one 'discharge against medical advice' included in the data provided. This occurred in 2016 following a C-section and the mother was subsequently readmitted within 7 days.
- Readmissions occur due to a number of different factors and a variety of diagnoses, some that are not directly related to the recent birth. In 2017 this included pain in throat and chest, headache, migraine and asthma.

- o *NOTE: no readmissions in 2017 were coded with influenza.*

From: Amy Hunter [mailto: Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 11 September 2018 11:20 AM
To: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Ch10 Interview & Response Request
Importance: High

Hi

Can you re-send me the talking points Laura did for parliament on this?

Also is there anything we can add that answers her questions?

The Min is doing life flight with Tegan at 2:30, so we need this info by 2pm at the latest.

Amy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tegan George [redacted]
Date: 11 September 2018 at 10:03:11 am AEST
To: "news@health.qld.gov.au" <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: "katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Ch10 Interview & Response Request

Good morning,

I will be running a story later this week about a Brisbane mother who died from a pulmonary embolism three days after being discharged from the Mater public ward. She was discharged within 24 hours of having a C-section. She passed away approximately 3 weeks ago.

My focus on this story is concerns about women being discharged too early. I fully appreciate that often these women ask to be discharged and I also understand that there are risks with keeping women in for too long.

The statistics I recently received from QLD Health show a marked increase in the number of post-surgery patients being discharged within 48 hours.

I would like the opportunity to interview Dr David Elwood and Health Minister Steven Miles on this issue. I believe their input will create a more well-rounded piece that isn't scare mongering – simply giving women all the facts.

I would also ask that Queensland Health please get back to me in regards to these questions:

- Is an internal investigation being carried out into the circumstances surrounding this woman's death?
- Did this woman ask to be discharged or was it a direction from the hospital?
- Has the Minister been informed about this woman's death?

Kind Regards,

Tegan George
State Political Reporter

NETWORK TEN | A CBS COMPANY



435 Sir Samuel Griffith Drive Brisbane QLD 4066
t. 07 32141099 f. (07) 3214 1030 m. [REDACTED]



Network Ten Pty Ltd ABN 91 052 515 250 Disclaimer This e-mail (including all attachments) is intended solely for the named addressee. If you receive it in error, please let us know by reply e-mail, delete it from your system and destroy the copies. This e-mail is also subject to copyright. No part of it should be reproduced, adapted or transmitted without the written consent of the copyright owner. E-mails may be interfered with, may contain computer viruses or other defects and may not be successfully replicated on other systems. We give no warranties in relation to these matters. If you have any doubts about the authenticity of an e-mail purportedly sent by us, please contact us immediately.

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named recipient(s) only; and may contain privileged and confidential information. If received in error, you are asked to inform the sender as quickly as possible and delete this email and any copies of this from your computer system network.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and /or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Government.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

This email, including any attachments sent with it, is confidential and for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). This confidentiality is not waived or lost, if you receive it and you are not the intended recipient(s), or if it is transmitted/received in error.

Any unauthorised use, alteration, disclosure, distribution or review of this email is strictly prohibited. The information contained in this email, including any attachment sent with it, may be subject to a statutory duty of confidentiality if it relates to health service matters.

If you are not the intended recipient(s), or if you have received this email in error, you are asked to immediately notify the sender by telephone collect on Australia +61 1800 198 175 or by return email. You should also delete this email, and any copies, from your computer system network and destroy any hard copies produced.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and/or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Although Queensland Health takes all reasonable steps to ensure this email does not contain malicious software, Queensland Health does not accept responsibility for the consequences if any person's computer inadvertently suffers any disruption to services, loss of information, harm or is infected with a virus, other malicious computer programme or code that may occur as a consequence of receiving this email.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland Government.

RTI RELEASED

Katharine Wright

From: Stuart Layt [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 13 September 2018 7:17 AM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Re: Mater case

No worries, I've already gone to the Mater, just ticking boxes. Thanks for that.

On Thu, 13 Sep 2018 at 07:15, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:
 Hi Stuart, as discussed it's best to go to the Mater for their statement but here are some lines from the Min.

Please attribute to Health Minister Mr Steven Miles:

Mater case

Any maternal death is a tragedy and I understand the Mater will conduct a full investigation as well as refer the matter to the coroner.

As the case is currently being reviewed, it would be inappropriate to comment further.

Maternity generally

Queensland public maternity services are among the safest in the world.

The Palaszczuk Government has focussed on increasing resources and staff, making sure that Queensland mums and bubs, and their families have the very best pre and post-natal care.

At the election the Palaszczuk Government committed to employ an additional 100 additional midwives across Queensland.

We are well on our way to delivering this commitment by June 2019, which will further strengthen maternity services across the state and further support Queensland families.

All Queensland public health services offer post-natal care check-ups and support.

Background

In the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare publication, Maternal Deaths in Australia, Queensland's maternal mortality ratio of 5.9 per 100,000 women who gave birth is lower than Australia's of 6.8.

Likewise, Queensland's perinatal mortality rate of 9.6 per 1,000 births is lower than Australia's rate of 9.7 per 1,000 as published in AIHW's Perinatal Deaths in Australia.

Sent from my iPhone

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named recipient(s) only; and may contain privileged and confidential information. If received in error, you are asked to inform the sender as quickly as possible and delete this email and any copies of this from your computer system network.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and /or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland

Government.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Stuart Layt | Journalist



Australian Associated Press

Level 2, 200 Mary Street, Brisbane QLD 4000, Australia

PO Box 2613, Brisbane QLD 4001, Australia

| www.aap.com.au

T +61 7 3834 9936 M [REDACTED]

This email may contain information that is confidential. If you receive an email in error please delete it immediately.

RTI RELEASE

Katharine Wright

From: Rebecca Hyam <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, 12 September 2018 7:03 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: RE: Mater case

Hi Kat,

Thanks so much for this – have calls in to the Mater and they say a statement is being prepared right now.

Thanks again.
 Rebecca

From: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 12 September 2018 6:55 PM
To: Rebecca Hyam <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Mater case

Hi Rebecca, as discussed it's best to go to the Mater for their statement but here are some lines from the Min.

Please attribute to Health Minister Mr Steven Miles:

Mater case

Any maternal death is a tragedy and I understand the Mater will conduct a full investigation as well as refer the matter to the coroner.

As the case is currently being reviewed, it would be inappropriate to comment further.

Maternity generally

Queensland public maternity services are among the safest in the world.

The Palaszczuk Government has focussed on increasing resources and staff, making sure that Queensland mums and bubs, and their families have the very best pre and post-natal care.

At the election the Palaszczuk Government committed to employ an additional 100 additional midwives across Queensland.

We are well on our way to delivering this commitment by June 2019, which will further strengthen maternity services across the state and further support Queensland families.

All Queensland public health services offer post-natal care check-ups and support.

Background

In the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare publication, Maternal Deaths in Australia, Queensland's maternal mortality ratio of 5.9 per 100,000 women who gave birth is lower than Australia's of 6.8.

Likewise, Queensland's perinatal mortality rate of 9.6 per 1,000 births is lower than Australia's rate of 9.7 per 1,000 as published in AIHW's Perinatal Deaths in Australia.

Sent from my iPhone

This email, together with any attachments, is intended for the named recipient(s) only; and may contain privileged and confidential information. If received in error, you are asked to inform the sender as quickly as possible and delete this email and any copies of this from your computer system network.

If not an intended recipient of this email, you must not copy, distribute or take any action(s) that relies on it; any form of disclosure, modification, distribution and /or publication of this email is also prohibited.

Unless stated otherwise, this email represents only the views of the sender and not the views of the Queensland Government.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

-

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

The information contained in this email and any attachment is confidential and may contain legally privileged or copyright material. It is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient of this email, you are not permitted to disseminate, distribute or copy this email or any attachments. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete this email from your system. The ABC does not represent or warrant that this transmission is secure or virus free. Before opening any attachment you should check for viruses. The ABC's liability is limited to resupplying any email and attachments.

RTI RELEASED

Katharine Wright

From: Steven Miles
Sent: Wednesday, 12 September 2018 1:26 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Re: Jill Poulsen - Mater

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On 12 Sep 2018, at 1:21 pm, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

So Jill's only q was can I get a comment about Mater death. I don't want to answer any qs that we weren't asked. Based on that, do you think this is ok?

Mater case

Any maternal death is a tragedy and I understand the Mater will conduct a full investigation as well as refer the matter to the coroner.

As the case is currently being reviewed, it would be inappropriate to comment further.

Maternity generally

Queensland public maternity services are among the safest in the world.

The Palaszczuk Government has focussed on increasing resources and staff, making sure that Queensland mums and bubs, and their families have the very best pre and post-natal care.

At the election the Palaszczuk Government committed to employ an additional 100 additional midwives across Queensland.

We are well on our way to delivering this commitment by June 2019, which will further strengthen maternity services across the state and further support Queensland families.

All Queensland public health services offer post-natal care check-ups and support.

Background

In the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare publication, Maternal Deaths in Australia, Queensland's maternal mortality ratio of 5.9 per 100,000 women who gave birth is lower than Australia's of 6.8.

Likewise, Queensland's perinatal mortality rate of 9.6 per 1,000 births is lower than Australia's rate of 9.7 per 1,000 as published in AIHW's Perinatal Deaths in Australia.