

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive set to leave to take up position in Townsville**

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS) Chief Executive Dr Peter Bristow is leaving to take up the Chief Executive position with the Townsville Hospital and Health Service.

Board Chair Mr Mike Horan AM said Dr Bristow was departing with the gratitude of the Board for outstanding leadership of the DDHHS for the past three-and-a-half years.

“DDHHS has led the way in achieving clinical targets, increasing services to patients, cutting waiting lists and providing sound financial management,” Mr Horan said.

“Importantly, under Dr Bristow’s leadership, a culture of respect, openness and learning has been fostered among our almost 5000 staff.

“Dr Bristow has given 15 years of dedicated service since he commenced at Toowoomba Hospital as Director of Intensive Care in 2000, progressing to Executive Director of Medical Services, and then acting Chief Executive and Chief Executive of the hospital and health service.

“I strongly believe his high intellect and compassion, as well as his background as an intensive care specialist, have been driving factors in the health service’s success.”

Mr Horan said some of the achievements included accreditation under both the ACHS and ISO of the National Standards to demonstrate the quality of service, the continual accreditation of the residential aged care facilities, achievement of national elective surgery and emergency department waiting time targets, the first HHS to achieve close to zero long waits for outpatient appointments, returning budget surpluses to improved infrastructure and more services to benefit patients, and meeting breast screening and dental care targets.

“While he will be missed, on behalf of the Board and all our staff, I wish Dr Bristow every success in his ongoing medical administration career,” Mr Horan said.

“In his new position he will be managing a major regional hospital and health service with a larger budget and strong tertiary services and university links.”

The Board is undertaking a comprehensive recruitment process both internally and externally to search for a new Chief Executive. Dr Bristow will take up his new role in mid January.

**Ends**

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