

Amanda Holt

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Wednesday, 23 April 2025 11:10 AM
To: Keith Tracey-Patte
Cc: Renee Montgomery; Kara Lilly
Subject: re Qld Puberty Health Education Project

Dear Keith,

Thanks for the making the chance for us to catchup yesterday so that I could provide you with an update regarding the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project, in particular that the Project is no longer going ahead.

As discussed, and I will more formally get into writing (probably early next week) we are seeking that the agreed consultative work being led by Health Consumers Queensland related to this project to cease immediately and that you provide us with a final invoice for your work to date.

As requested – sorry to not get to you yesterday, please find some dot points for your use in liaison with consultative kitchen table discussion hosts etc.

- Following an internal review of the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy, there has been a decision recently made to no longer go ahead with the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project.
- As a result, any work planned or underway will no longer continue.
- This means that the upcoming consultative kitchen table discussions led by Health Consumers Queensland involving parents and students will now not be proceeding.
- Queensland Health would like to thank Health Consumers Queensland staff and members for their assistance to date towards this Project.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries etc.

Best regards,
Paul

Paul Vardon
Director

Phone: Irrelevant
Mobile Phone: Irrelevant
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au

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Queensland Public Health and Scientific Services



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DISCLOSURE LOG

Amanda Holt

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Monday, 12 May 2025 11:08 AM
To: SCOTT, Helga **Irrelevant**
Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Yes it is a shame and was quite a shock
Still keen to support you in your work with schools in the cape re videos so please send through the quotes when you have them
Thanks
Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone: **Irrelevant**
Mobile Phone **Irrelevant**
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: **Irrelevant**@health.qld.gov.au

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From: SCOTT, Helga **Irrelevant** @eq.edu.au>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 10:54 AM
To: Paul Vardon **Irrelevant**@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

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Hi Paul,

Very sorry to hear this has happened, such disappointing news. Yourself, Renee and Kara have done such a thorough job with this project, it has been a pleasure to be a part of the advisory network. I do hope some next steps can still happen to utilise the draft materials.

Take care,
Helga.

From: Paul Vardon Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
Sent: Friday, 9 May 2025 4:16 PM
To: info Irrelevant@snaicc.org.au; enquiries Irrelevant@aracy.org.au; Rebecca Kimble Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Jennifer Peacock Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Sonya Preston Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Nina Lansbury Irrelevant@uq.edu.au; SCOTT, Helga Irrelevant@eg.edu.au; Honey Heussler Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Hong Do Irrelevant@eccq.com.au; Mercy Moraa Nyanchoga Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Penny Larcombe Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Sheena Callaghan Irrelevant@true.org.au; rreynolds Irrelevant@qc.org.au; Bianca Blackmore Irrelevant@wheq.org.au; CEO Irrelevant@wheq.org.au; Brianna McCoola Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; SMITH, Merryn Irrelevant@qed.qld.gov.au; Shellee Valentine Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; rainbow.families.qld Irrelevant@outlook.com; qassp Irrelevant@qassp.org.au; kmacirolek Irrelevant@qdn.org.au; Sharon Young Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Catherine Spucches Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; lee.yeomans Irrelevant@gaih.com.au; info Irrelevant@ghrc.qld.gov.au; admin Irrelevant@mibbinbah.org; info Irrelevant@pflagbrisbane.org.au; admin Irrelevant@apna.asn.au; qcidd Irrelevant@uq.edu.au; qppd Irrelevant@qppd.org; research Irrelevant@autismqld.com.au; qai Irrelevant@qai.org.au; Kelly Carleton Irrelevant@wuchopperen.org.au; Tori Cowburn Irrelevant@iuih.org.au; FROELICH, Tara Irrelevant@qed.qld.gov.au; rbyrne Irrelevant@qc.org.au; Shaun Edwards Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Chloe Prudden Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
Cc: Renee Montgomery Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Kara Lilly Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
Subject: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Dear Advisory Network,

We want to share an important update with you regarding the Queensland Puberty Health Education Program trial for students in Years 5 and 6. As you are aware, this trial was a joint initiative of Department of Health and Department of Education under the *Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy 2032*.

There has been an internal review by the Department of Health of the initiatives funded under the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy, which has led to a shift in government priorities and funding with a decision recently made that the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project will no longer proceed. As a result, any work planned or underway will no longer continue and there will be no program pilot or trial. We were about to share the draft materials through consultation with young people and parents – which was the final stage of revisions prior to piloting. Consideration is underway of potential next steps in relation to the draft materials.

I'm sure many of you will be disappointed as the project team is with this news, and its consequences for Queensland adolescents. It is important to note this decision is not a reflection of the quality of work nor progress made to date. The project team would like to sincerely thank each of you, our advisory network members, who offered your valuable insights, ideas, time and support to this project.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au or Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au.

Best regards,
Paul

Paul Vardon
Director

Phone: Irrelevant
Mobile Phone: Irrelevant
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au

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DISCLOSURE LOG

Amanda Holt

From: Sonya Preston
Sent: Tuesday, 6 May 2025 3:35 PM
To: Paul Vardon
Cc: Kara Lilly; Renee Montgomery
Subject: RE: Queensland Puberty Health Education Project – Notification of Project Closure

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Paul, Kara and Renee,

Thankyou Paul for your email, I am so sorry to hear that this important education program is unable to progress. Thankyou for the opportunity to partner with your team on the project, please let us know if we can be of any assistance in the future for any other opportunities.

Warm regards
Sonya



Sonya Preston
Director of Nursing
Child and Youth Community Health Service
Children's Health Queensland

P Irrelevant
Monday & Friday
M Irrelevant
E Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au
W childrens.health.qld.gov.au
Level 9, 199 Grey Street, South Brisbane QLD
4101



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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 11:04 AM
To: Sonya Preston
Cc: Kara Lilly ; Renee Montgomery
Subject: Queensland Puberty Health Education Project – Notification of Project Closure

Dear Sonya,

I hope this email finds you well. Apologies for not following up earlier on the confirmation of funding for the facilitation of the Puberty Health Education Program. It is with a heavy heart that I need to inform you that the project is no longer going to go ahead. This decision to cease the project is a result of a recent internal review of the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy. As a result of the decision, any work planned or underway will no longer continue, including any recruitment or procurement of facilitators for the program.

On behalf of the project team including myself, Renee and Kara, we would really like to thank you for the time and energy that you have provided to the project and please accept our apologies for any inconveniences this may cause your end at CHQ.

If there is anything that you would like to discuss, please feel free to reach out.

Best regards,
Paul

Paul Vardon
Director

Phone: Irrelevant

Mobile Phone Irrelevant

Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006

Email: Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au

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Amanda Holt

From: Rebecca Kimble
Sent: Saturday, 10 May 2025 7:51 AM
To: Paul Vardon
Subject: Re: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thanks Paul,
Let's not waste our efforts. If possible I would like to see if I can continue to work on the draft and potentially pilot it with my patients as part of research, and use the resource in any way possible for young Queensland patients.
Many thanks
Rebecca

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From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 6:16:53 PM
To: info ; enquiries ; Rebecca Kimble ; Jennifer Peacock ; Sonya Preston ; Nina Lansbury ; SCOTT, Helga **Irrelevant** ; Honey Heussler ; Hong Do ; Mercy Moraa Nyanhoga ; Penny Larcombe ; Sheena Callaghan ; rreynolds ; Bianca Blackmore ; CEO ; Brianna McCoola ; SMITH, Merryn ; Shellee Valentine ; rainbow.families.qld ; qassp ; kmaciolek ; Sharon Young ; Catherine Spucches ; lee.yeomans ; info ; admin ; info ; admin ; qcidd ; qppd ; research ; qai ; Kelly Carleton ; Tori Cowburn ; FROELICH, Tara ; rbyrne ; Shaun Edwards ; Chloe Prudden
Cc: Renee Montgomery ; Kara Lilly
Subject: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Dear Advisory Network,

We want to share an important update with you regarding the Queensland Puberty Health Education Program trial for students in Years 5 and 6. As you are aware, this trial was a joint initiative of Department of Health and Department of Education under the *Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy 2032*.

There has been an internal review by the Department of Health of the initiatives funded under the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy, which has led to a shift in government priorities and funding with a decision recently made that the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project will no longer proceed. As a result, any work planned or underway will no longer continue and there will be no program pilot or trial. We were about to share the draft materials through consultation with young people and parents – which was the final stage of revisions prior to piloting. Consideration is underway of potential next steps in relation to the draft materials.

I'm sure many of you will be disappointed as the project team is with this news, and its consequences for Queensland adolescents. It is important to note this decision is not a reflection of the quality of work nor progress made to date. The project team would like to sincerely thank each of you, our advisory network members, who offered your valuable insights, ideas, time and support to this project.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on **Irrelevant** or

Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au.

Best regards,

Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone: **Irrelevant**

Mobile Phone: **Irrelevant**

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DISCLOSURE

Amanda Holt

From: Sheena Callaghan [Irrelevant](#) @true.org.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 6 May 2025 12:50 PM
To: Paul Vardon
Cc: Renee Montgomery; Kara Lilly
Subject: RE: Queensland Puberty Health Education Project – Notification of Project Closure

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi Paul,

I'm so sorry to hear that the program won't be going ahead. It would have been wonderful for our young people to be able to access this program. Sometimes these decisions are out with our control. I'm sure you must all be disappointed after all the work that you have put in on the project. If we can be of any assistance in the future, please don't hesitate to reach out. We all have the same goal at the end of the day.

Warm regards

Sheena Callaghan | Pronouns: she/ her
Manager Education



230 Lutwyche Road, Windsor Q 4030
PO Box 215, Fortitude Valley Q 4006

P [Irrelevant](#)

Please note: my work days are Monday-Thursday.



Artwork by Nathan Mundraby

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 11:13 AM
To: Sheena Callaghan
Cc: Renee Montgomery ; Kara Lilly
Subject: Queensland Puberty Health Education Project – Notification of Project Closure

Dear Sheena,

Thank you for your recent proposal for the training and facilitation of the QLD Puberty Health Education Program. It is with a heavy heart that I need to inform you that the project is no longer going to go ahead. This decision to cease the project is a result of a recent internal review of the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy. As a result of the decision, any work planned or underway will no longer continue, including any recruitment or procurement of facilitators for the program.

On behalf of the project team including myself, Renee and Kara, we would really like to thank you for the time and energy that you have provided to the project. Your generosity in sharing your expertise and support for a new primary school program has been met with much gratitude our end. We know that you have put aside considerable time to be involved in the project and its preparation for delivery. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this decision causes your end at True.

If there is anything that you would like to discuss, please feel free to reach out.

Best regards,
Paul

Paul Vardon
Director

Phone: Irrelevant
Mobile Phone: Irrelevant
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au

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DISCLOSURE LOG

Amanda Holt

From: CEO [Irrelevant@wheq.org.au](#)>
Sent: Saturday, 10 May 2025 7:08 AM
To: Paul Vardon
Subject: Re: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Hi Paul,

Do you have time for a cuppa in the next few weeks? I wonder if there is a role that Women's Health and Equality can play to ensure that girls have the opportunity to get the health literacy they need?

Emma Iwinska

Chief Executive Officer

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 4:16:53 PM
To: info ; enquiries ; Rebecca Kimble ; Jennifer Peacock ; Sonya Preston ; Nina Lansbury ; SCOTT, Helga [Irrelevant](#) ; Honey Heussler ; Hong Do ; Mercy Moraa Nyanchoga ; Penny Larcombe ; Sheena Callaghan ; rreynolds ; Bianca Blackmore ; CEO ; Brianna McCoola ; SMITH, Merryn ; Shellee Valentine ; rainbow.families.qld ; qassp ; kmaciolek ; Sharon Young ; Catherine Spucches ; lee.yeomans ; info ; admin ; info ; admin ; qcidd ; qppd ; research ; qai ; Kelly Carleton ; Tori Cowburn ; FROELICH, Tara ; rbyrne ; Shaun Edwards ; Chloe Prudden
Cc: Renee Montgomery ; Kara Lilly
Subject: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

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I'm sure many of you will be disappointed as the project team is with this news, and its consequences for Queensland adolescents. It is important to note this decision is not a reflection of the quality of work nor progress made to date. The project team would like to sincerely thank each of you, our advisory network members, who offered your valuable insights, ideas, time and support to this project.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on [Irrelevant](#) or [Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au](#).

Best regards,

Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone: Irrelevant
Mobile Phone: Irrelevant
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au

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Amanda Holt

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Monday, 12 May 2025 12:17 PM
To: CEO
Cc: Emma Iwinska
Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Yes that would be great
Best regards
Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone: Irrelevant
Mobile Phone: Irrelevant
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au

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From: CEO Irrelevant@wheq.org.au>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 11:27 AM
To: Paul Vardon Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Emma Iwinska Irrelevant@wheq.org.au>
Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

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Hi Paul,

Thanks for your prompt reply. That sounds lovely we would be more than happy to host you over at the WHEQ Office. Does 1pm suit you for? I'll send through a calendar invitation with details on how you can find us.

With thanks,

Cara Pearson (*She/Her*)
Executive Assistant to the CEO

Women's Health and Equality Queensland

PO Box 5530, Kurilpa (West End) QLD 4101

P: Irrelevant W: wheq.org.au



Women's Health and Equality Queensland acknowledges and pays respects to Queensland's past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual, and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. WHEQ also acknowledges the important role that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women continue to play in maintaining their community's health and wellbeing.



From: Paul Vardon Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 12 May 2025 11:25 AM

To: CEO Irrelevant @wheq.org.au>

Cc: Emma Iwinska Irrelevant@wheq.org.au>

Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Thanks for getting back to me – how about the afternoon of 4 June? would you like to send through an appointment.

I am happy to come over and meet face to face with Emma and check out the new digs

Cheers

Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone Irrelevant

Mobile Phone: Irrelevant

Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au

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From: CEO Irrelevant@wheq.org.au>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 11:12 AM
To: Paul Vardon Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Emma Iwinska Irrelevant@wheq.org.au>
Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

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Dear Paul,

Unfortunately, Emma will be offsite at a conference the week commencing 26 May.

Emma could meet as follows:

Irrelevant

Please let me know if any of the above times work with your schedule. If not please let me know when may work for you and we will do our best to accommodate a time.

Thank you for your flexibility and understanding.

With thanks and best wishes,

Cara Pearson (*She/Her*)
Executive Assistant to the CEO

Women's Health and Equality Queensland

PO Box 5530, Kurilpa (West End) QLD 4101

P: Irrelevant W: wheq.org.au



Women's Health and Equality Queensland acknowledges and pays respects to Queensland's past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual, and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. WHEQ also acknowledges the important role that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women continue to play in maintaining their community's health and wellbeing.



From: Paul Vardon Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 12 May 2025 11:06 AM

To: CEC Irrelevant @wheq.org.au>

Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Thanks Emma

Would be good to catchup – can you please identify your availabilities in the week commencing 26 May

Best regards

Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone: Irrelevant

Mobile Phone Irrelevant

Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006

Email: Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au

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From: CEO irrelevant@whcq.org.au
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2025 7:08 AM
To: Paul Vardon irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
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Hi Paul,

Do you have time for a cuppa in the next few weeks? I wonder if there is a role that Women's Health and Equality can play to ensure that girls have the opportunity to get the health literacy they need?

Emma Iwinska

Chief Executive Officer

From: Paul Vardon irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 4:16:53 PM
To: info irrelevant@snaicc.org.au; enquiries irrelevant@aracy.org.au; Rebecca Kimble irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Jennifer Peacock irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Sonya Preston irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Nina Lansbury irrelevant@uq.edu.au; SCOTT, Helga irrelevant@eq.edu.au; Honey Heussler irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Hong Do irrelevant@eccq.com.au; Mercy Mora Nyanhoga irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Penny Larcombe irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Sheena Callaghan irrelevant@true.org.au; rreynolds irrelevant@qc.org.au; Bianca Blackmore irrelevant@whcq.org.au; CEO irrelevant@whcq.org.au; Brianna McCoola irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; SMITH, Merryr irrelevant@qed.qld.gov.au; Shellee Valentine irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; rainbow.families.qld irrelevant@outlook.com; qassp irrelevant@qassp.org.au; kmaciolek irrelevant@qdn.org.au; Sharon Young irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Catherine Spucches irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; lee.yeomans irrelevant@gaih.com.au; info irrelevant@qhrc.qld.gov.au; admin irrelevant@mibbinbah.org; info irrelevant@pflagbrisbane.org.au; admin irrelevant@apna.asn.au; qcidd irrelevant@uq.edu.au; qppd irrelevant@qppd.org; research irrelevant@autismqld.com.au; qai irrelevant@qai.org.au; Kelly Carleton irrelevant@wuchopperen.org.au; Tori Cowburn irrelevant@iuih.org.au; FROELICH, Tara irrelevant@qed.qld.gov.au; rbyrne irrelevant@qc.org.au; Shaun Edward irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Chloe Prudden irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
Cc: Renee Montgomery irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au; Kara Lilly irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
Subject: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Dear Advisory Network,

We want to share an important update with you regarding the Queensland Puberty Health Education Program trial for students in Years 5 and 6. As you are aware, this trial was a joint initiative of Department of Health and Department of Education under the *Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy 2032*.

There has been an internal review by the Department of Health of the initiatives funded under the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy, which has led to a shift in government priorities and funding with a decision recently made that the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project will no longer proceed. As a result, any work planned or underway will no longer continue and there will be no program pilot or trial. We were about to share the draft materials through consultation with young people and parents – which was the final stage of revisions prior to piloting. Consideration is underway of potential next steps in relation to the draft materials.

I'm sure many of you will be disappointed as the project team is with this news, and its consequences for Queensland adolescents. It is important to note this decision is not a reflection of the quality of work nor progress made to date. The project team would like to sincerely thank each of you, our advisory network members, who offered your valuable insights, ideas, time and support to this project.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on **Irrelevant** or **Irrelevant**@health.qld.gov.au.

Best regards,
Paul

Paul Vardon
Director

Phone: **Irrelevant**
Mobile Phone: **Irrelevant**
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: **Irrelevant**@health.qld.gov.au

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Amanda Holt

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Monday, 12 May 2025 11:25 AM
To: CEO
Cc: Emma Iwinska
Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Thanks for getting back to me – how about the afternoon of 4 June? would you like to send through an appointment.

I am happy to come over and meet face to face with Emma and check out the new digs

Cheers

Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone: Irrelevant

Mobile Phone Irrelevant

Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006

Email: Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au

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From: CEO Irrelevant@wheq.org.au>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 11:12 AM
To: Paul Vardon <Paul.Vardon@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Emma Iwinska Irrelevant@wheq.org.au>
Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

This email originated from outside Queensland Health. DO NOT click on any links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Paul,

Unfortunately, Emma will be offsite at a conference the week commencing 26 May.

Emma could meet as follows:

Irrelevant

Please let me know if any of the above times work with your schedule. If not please let me know when may work for you and we will do our best to accommodate a time.

Thank you for your flexibility and understanding.

With thanks and best wishes,

Cara Pearson (*She/Her*)

Executive Assistant to the CEO

Women's Health and Equality Queensland

PO Box 5530, Kurilpa (West End) QLD 4101

P: **Irrelevant** W: wheq.org.au



Women's Health and Equality Queensland acknowledges and pays respects to Queensland's past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual, and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. WHEQ also acknowledges the important role that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women continue to play in maintaining their community's health and wellbeing.



From: Paul Vardon **Irrelevant** p.vardon@health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 12 May 2025 11:06 AM

To: CEO **Irrelevant** p.vardon@wheq.org.au>

Subject: RE: Notification of Closure of the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Thanks Emma

Would be good to catchup – can you please identify your availabilities in the week commencing 26 May

Best regards

Paul

Amanda Holt

From: Kate Smith
Sent: Tuesday, 18 March 2025 5:07 PM
To: Paul Vardon
Subject: RE: confidential Questions for the Minister

Thanks Paul
Kate



Kate Smith

DipScNurs, BNurs, GradDipHlthProm,
GradCertDVResponses
**Manager, QLD Women and Girl's
Health Improvement Team**
Healthcare Improvement Branch, Clinical
Excellence Queensland | Queensland Health

P Irrelevant
E Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
W www.health.qld.gov.au
A Level 2, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston



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From: Paul Vardon Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 4:50 PM
To: Kate Smith Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Emma White Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>; WomenandGirlsImprove Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>; Mark West Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: confidential Questions for the Minister

Hi Kate,
Please find attached as requested background information that has been cleared by my ED Mark cc'ed into this.
Please don't hesitate to reach out if you require anything further or need clarification etc.
Best regards,
Paul

Paul Vardon
Director

Phone: Irrelevant

Mobile Phone: Irrelevant
Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006
Email: Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au

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From: Kate Smith Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2025 5:58 PM
To: Paul Vardon Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Emma White <Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au>; WomenandGirlsImprove Irrelevant @health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: confidential Questions for the Minister
Importance: High

Hi Paul

As discussed, these are the questions that Cristina and Helen were asked in the meeting they had with the Minister this afternoon.

We need a response by 9am Wednesday morning (19.03.25). The format will be a SDLO advice.

1. Irrelevant
2. Additional info on Project ID 12: Trial a health education program in upper primary schools about puberty and menstruation . Include details on the steps to develop the content and sign the contract. Provide detail on the expenditure of \$700K, how many schools proposed to receive the education.

Sorry to ask these and for the short time frame.

Kate



Kate Smith

DipScNurs, BNurs, GradDipHlthProm,
GradCertDVResponses

**Manager, QLD Women and Girl's
Health Improvement Team**

Healthcare Improvement Branch, Clinical
Excellence Queensland | Queensland Health

- P Irrelevant
- E Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
- W www.health.qld.gov.au
- A [Level 2, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston](#)



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DISCLOSURE LOG

Amanda Holt

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Tuesday, 22 April 2025 5:49 PM
To: Mark West
Subject: Re: dot points requested by CEO of health consumers qld for today

Thanks

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From: Mark West Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 5:15:36 PM
To: Paul Vardon Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: dot points requested by CEO of health consumers qld for today

Looks good.
M



Mark West

Executive Director
Prevention Strategy Branch
Queensland Public Health and Scientific Services
Queensland Health

Adjunct Associate Professor, The University of
Queensland

P Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
E Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
W health.qld.gov.au
A [Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston, 4006](#)

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A row of four social media icons: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram, each in a dark circular background.

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From: Paul Vardon Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 1:45 PM
To: Mark West Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: dot points requested by CEO of health consumers qld for today
Importance: High

Hi

I have spoken with the CEO of health consumers qld about the cessation of the Qld puberty health education project and he understands – the post out to the hosts was occurring today and may already be in the post. He has requested from us today some dot points for use with his liaison with kitchen table discussion hosts, his staff etc.

I am proposing the following below if you could please review thanks – I wondered if we should mention that it was an unexpected decision and wondered if we should identify that the project is no longer a Government priority and that puberty health education is a parental responsibility but felt that it was politically astute and not helpful to be quite so explicit but noted we had mentioned these last 2 points in our option 3 description but feel that it is implied below which is probably best.

Look forward to hearing your thoughts and as you know I am never precious about the words.

Dear Keith,

Thanks for the making the chance for us to catchup today so that I could provide you with an update regarding the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project, in particular that the Project is no longer going ahead.

As discussed, and I will more formally get into writing (probably early next week) we are seeking that the agreed consultative work being led by Health Consumers Queensland related to this project to cease immediately and that you provide us with a final invoice for your work to date.

As requested, please find some dot points for your use in liaison with consultative kitchen table discussion hosts etc.

- Following an internal review of the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy, there has been a decision recently made to no longer go ahead with the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project.
- As a result, any work planned or underway will no longer continue.
- This means that the upcoming consultative kitchen table discussions led by Health Consumers Queensland involving parents and students will now not be proceeding.
- Queensland Health would like to thank Health Consumers Queensland staff and members for their assistance to date towards this Project.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries etc.

Best regards,

Paul

Paul Vardon

Director

Phone: Irrelevant

Mobile Phone: Irrelevant

Address: Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston QLD 4006

Email: Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au

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Irrelevant

DISCLOSURE LOG

Irrelevant

From: Mark West Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:59:28 am
To: HRAS-HROps-Team Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Paul Vardon Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Discontinuation of Project 12 – Puberty Health Program Implementation

Hi Dani. Written confirmation as requested.
Regards
Mark

Mark West
Executive Director
Prevention Strategy Branch
Queensland Public Health and Scientific Services
Queensland Health
Adjunct Associate Professor, The University of Queensland

P Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
E Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
W health.qld.gov.au
A Level 1, 15 Butterfield Street, Herston, 4006

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From: DDGCEQ Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:30 AM

To: Mark West Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Marguerite Taylor Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Discontinuation of Project 12 – Puberty Health Program Implementation

Dear Mark

I refer to recent discussions about the implementation of the Women and Girls' Health Strategy. As executive sponsor of the Strategy, I confirm that a recent decision was made to discontinue the funding and delivery of *Project 12 Development of a Puberty Health Program for Year 5 and 6 students* in Queensland State schools, effective 16 May 2025. Human rights were considered as part of the decision-making process.

I wish to sincerely thank your Branch for overseeing the project's implementation to date.

Regards,
Helen



Dr Helen Brown
MB BCh BAO, FRACP, MPhil.
Deputy Director-General
Clinical Excellence
Queensland | Queensland Health

P Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
E Irrelevant@health.qld.gov.au
W health.qld.gov.au
A [33 Charlotte Street, Brisbane](#)
[15 Butterfield Street Herston](#)

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Amanda Holt

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Wednesday, 7 May 2025 11:51 AM
To: Mark West; Renee Montgomery
Subject: Re: Letters for your review re: closure of the puberty health project

Thanks

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From: Mark West **Irrelevant** @health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 11:44:47 AM
To: Renee Montgomery **Irrelevant** @health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Paul Vardon **Irrelevant** @health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Letters for your review re: closure of the puberty health project

Cleared



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Mark West

Executive Director

Prevention Strategy Branch
Queensland Public Health and Scientific Services
Queensland Health

Adjunct Associate Professor, The University of
Queensland

P **Irrelevant**
E **Irrelevant**@health.qld.gov.au
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From: Renee Montgomery **Irrelevant** @health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, May 2, 2025 4:40 PM
To: Mark West **Irrelevant** @health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Paul Vardon **Irrelevant** @health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Letters for your review re: closure of the puberty health project

Hi Mark,

Hope you've had a good week.

Please find attached 3 letters regarding the closure of the puberty project, letters to:

- Talk Now (Program Developer);
- Health Consumers Queensland (engaged to conduct end user consultation – they prepared for this but the project closure was announced just before they commenced the actual consultation); and;
- our Advisory Network.

Could you kindly review and approve before we send these out?

Thanks,
Renee



Renee Montgomery

BArts/BSocSci, MPH
**Advanced Health Promotion Officer –
Queensland Women and Girls’ Health
Promotion Project Coordinator**
Prevention Strategy Branch,
QPHaSS | Queensland Health

P **Irrelevant**
E **Irrelevant** @health.qld.gov.au
W www.health.qld.gov.au
C/- Tropical Public Health
Services _____William McCormack
A Building _____Level 7, 5b Sheridan
Street, Cairns

Please note I work a 4 day week: M,T,Th,F

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achieve their full health potential**

Q Women and Girls Health Strategy

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DISCLOSURE LOG

Amanda Holt

From: Paul Vardon
Sent: Tuesday, 22 April 2025 3:03 PM
To: DL-PSB-ALL
Subject: update on the Queensland Puberty Health Education Project

Hi everyone,

Hope everyone enjoyed the easter break – wasn't the weather fantastic!

We are afraid that here is no easy way to share this sad news with you.

As you may be aware, there has been an internal review of the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy.

Despite our strong internal advocacy efforts, an unexpected decision regarding the Qld Puberty Health Education Project (funded under the Queensland Women and Girls' Health Strategy) has been made at the highest levels resulting in the cessation of this 4-year temporary project early – with the end date being now in a just a few weeks.

We are both shocked by this outcome and its personal implications on Renee and Kara.

We feel strongly that this is not to be taken whatsoever as a reflection on the quality of the work undertaken to date or the progress that has been made.

Irrelevant

Thanks for your support to Renee and Kara at this time.

Best regards
Paul and Mark



Kara

Thu, 17 Apr at 3:36 pm

Hi I let Maria from education know and she is shocked - after Easter break Maria will let Janice and Gary know and she understands about the cancellation of next weeks steering committee meeting but is keen for the one on the 8th May to go ahead and is also happy for the presentation next week with Bri to go ahead - I will see if Melissa can attend with you

OK thanks Paul for following that up

Wed, 30 Apr at 1:17 pm

Hi no need to call me back was just checking in to say hi- sorry yet to send emails to Sheena and Sonja but will do tomorrow if not later today



Text Message • SMS



DISCLOSURE LOG

SURE LOG



Renee

Tue, 22 Apr at 9:53 am

Hi hope your Easter was the best that it could be under the circumstances **Irrelevant**
Irrelevant
Irrelevant Mark and I have drafted an email as requested to the branch which I have sent to both your work and personal email for your review please and in particular what contact details you would like provided for you. Look forward to hearing from you



Irrelevant

Tue, 22 Apr at 12:07 pm

+ Text Message • SMS



Mark West

Tue, 18 Mar at 2:08 pm

Hi if you can please look at my draft response for sdlo which is due 9am tomorrow- I sent updated full response just after lunch

Yep



Thanks so much

Appreciate you clearing so quickly - can we discuss it before sending it after the upcoming budget meeting

Yep.

Mon, 24 Mar at 9:05 am

Happening now - started at 8:15



iMessage





Mark West

Mark

Irrelevant



Also I meant to mention I drafted an email to the branch from us if you would like to review about Renee and Kara

Irrelevant

Tue, 13 May at 9:29 am

Hi Mark, I'll be there in person in about three minutes

Tue, 13 May at 3:29 pm



iMessage





Mark West >

Ru happy with the draft email from you and me re Renee and Kara for the branch that I sent to you yesterday

Tue, 13 May at 7:39 pm

Irrelevant



iMessage





Mark West

Wed, 21 May at 5:27 pm

Hi. Courier Mail is reporting that the puberty education project is being reinstated.
Marg just rang. We are waiting for official word in writing!
Dept is being blamed.

Interesting please let me know when it's official and we will need to work through next steps - what a roller coaster

There's a lesson about DG wanting cuts versus what the Minister wants...

Irrelevant

Yes there's definitely a lesson



iMessage

