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September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## **Media Release – Last calls for Moranbah hotline**

Queensland Health Minister, Yvette D’Ath, must implement a complaints hotline for the Moranbah Hospital according to Member for Burdekin, Dale Last MP.

Mr Last said that, following allegations about the Caboolture Hospital, the hotline was established to deal with complaints from patients and their families and that the people of Moranbah deserved the same opportunity.

“Since the initial allegations were made, there have been even more reports of healthcare not being up to the appropriate standard,” Mr Last said. “There needs to be a formal way for people to report these incidents so that they can be investigated properly and action taken to avoid them reoccurring.”

“The Labor government are constantly talking about keeping us safe but, from what has been alleged, we have a hospital run by the Queensland government that isn’t safe.”

Mr Last said that the complaints line must be operated in the same manner as the service that has been established for the Caboolture Hospital in the state’s South-East.

“Last week in parliament, the Health Minister said that if there were issues at a hospital, she wants to know about them,” he said. “Minister D’Ath also made a commitment that complaints would be handled directly by Queensland Health, rather than the individual Health & Hospital Service, and we deserve exactly the same.”

“Regardless of whether it is a former patient, a patient’s family, staff or other health professionals, we need to ensure that all allegations are assessed and investigated without fear or favour.”

“The government is currently undertaking planning to expand the hospital and, after the termite damage we recently saw, there is no question that an upgrade is needed. But we also need to ensure that the standard of healthcare is up to scratch for the benefit of the community and the staff who work in the hospital.”

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