



Local Primary Health Care Protocol

Between

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service
Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN

**Darling
Downs**
Health

phn
DARLING DOWNS
AND WEST MORETON
An Australian Government Initiative

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Local Primary Health Care Protocol

Version Control

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1. PARTIES

The parties to this Local Primary Health Care are:

- Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service;
- Darling Downs and West Moreton Primary Health Network (PHN)

2. PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of this protocol is to promote cooperation between the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service and the Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN in the planning and delivery of health services.
- 2.2 The protocol is established in line with the requirements of the *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011* and *Hospital and Health Board Regulation 2012*.
- 2.3 The parties also agree to work in the spirit of goodwill and mutual respect in adhering to the terms set out in the protocol.

3. TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT

- 3.1 All Parties agree that, with the exception of **Clause 7**, which is legally binding on the parties, this Protocol does not create any legal relations between them. However, the matters set out in this protocol are agreed to in principle, between the Parties.
- 3.2 The Protocol between the Parties will commence on the date of execution and shall continue for a period of three years, unless earlier modified in accordance with this agreement.
- 3.3 The Protocol will be reviewed within three years. The review will be conducted by the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service and the Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN.
- 3.4 The Protocol will be published in such a way that it is accessible to members of the public.

4. OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 The Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service and the Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN recognise that improved service delivery and health outcomes will be achieved by strengthening relationships and integration of health services across government providers, non-government providers, private providers, and the community.

Key issues for collaboration for the development of optimal patient care outcomes include:

- Putting the Health Consumer at the centre of planning
- Joint understanding of the pivotal role of general practice in health service delivery
- Joint health service planning and design
- Joint consumer feedback/engagement
- Joint support strategies – workforce, recruitment, and retention
- Joint data and clinical statistics sharing
- The protection and promotion of public health

- Joint Board engagement
- Local and joint clinical engagement arrangements
- Joint advocacy
- Co-commissioning of services

5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

- 5.1 All Parties recognise that communication is an integral component in ensuring the success of the Protocol. The Parties will meet on a quarterly basis at Chief Executive (or delegate) level to discuss issues, strategies, and progress on initiatives.
- 5.2 Parties will be jointly responsible for identifying and monitoring key indicators for the Protocol and developing policies, procedures, and strategies.
- 5.3 All programs implemented under this Protocol are to be aligned with the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Strategic and Operational Plans, Clinician Engagement Strategy and Consumer Engagement Strategy.
- 5.4 All programs implemented under this protocol are to be aligned with Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN strategic and annual plans.
- 5.5 A summary of the key issues discussed and decisions made in each party's Board meeting relevant to the Protocol, will be made available to the other party, subject to the relevant party's obligations of confidentiality and privacy.

6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 6.1 A conflict of interest involves a conflict between official duties and private interests, which could improperly influence the performance of official duties and responsibilities. *(A reasonable perception of a conflict of interest is where a fair-minded person, properly informed as to the nature of the interests held by the decision maker, might reasonably perceive that the decision maker might be influenced in the performance of his or her official duties and responsibilities).*
- 6.2 A conflict of interest may be actual, perceived or potential. It can be pecuniary (involving financial gain or loss), or non-pecuniary (based on enmity or amity) and can arise from avoiding personal losses as well as gaining personal advantage, financial or otherwise.
- 6.3 Conflict of interest includes conflict of commitment (where an individual has multiple and incompatible public duties).
- 6.4 Both organisations – the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service and the Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN – are responsible for:
- 6.4.1 Assessing their own private and personal interests and whether they conflict or have the potential to conflict.
 - 6.4.2 Disclosing and managing any actual, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest, including reviewing disclosed conflicts on at least an annual basis to ensure that the information remains correct and that the management responses continue to be appropriate and effective; and
 - 6.4.3 Not making decisions or seeking to influence the decision of others in matters relating to an individual's private interest.

7. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Parties agree to resolve any dispute on this Protocol in the spirit of good will and compromise. In the event that a resolution or agreement cannot be reached, a mediator can be used for the purpose of reaching an agreed outcome or position between the Parties.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY

8.1 Members shall respect confidentiality of the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service and the Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN business. This clause is legally binding on the Parties.

9. SIGNATORIES TO THE PROTOCOL

Signed by Mr Mike Horan

Signature

Mr Mike Horan

Board Chair

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service

3/04/2023

Signed by Dr Tony Bayliss

Signature

Dr Tony Bayliss

Board Chair

Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN

27/04/2023