


NAMDS National Association  
for Medical Deputising  
Services (Australia)

18<sup>th</sup> September 2013

The Hon. Peter Dutton MP  
Minister for Health and Sport  
PO Box 2012  
Strathpine QLD 4500

Dear Mr Dutton,

  
My sincere congratulations on your government's recent election victory, your increased majority in the seat of Dickson and your appointment as incoming Commonwealth Minister for Health and Ageing.

On behalf of the National Association of Medical Deputising Australia (NAMDS), I look forward to assisting you and your government strengthen 24/7 primary health care services in Australia.

Also, many thanks for speaking with me at the 2013 Liberal Party Election National Policy launch where you confirmed your government's intention to return after hours PIP funding direct to practices and away from its recent re-allocation by the Rudd/Gillard/Rudd government to Medicare Locals.

We commend you for this decision.

NAMDS has a number of practical proposals about how reinstated after hours PIP funding can be implemented, strengthened and made vastly more cost effective. Indeed, we are confident that savings in the order of \$105 million can be made to Australian after hours services without impacting patient accessibility.

Once your office is fully established, I would like an opportunity of meeting with your senior policy advisor tasked with implementing the re-established after hours PIP to make some practical suggestions for improvements.

In the meanwhile, the Department of Health and Ageing (DOHA), needs to be advised of your government's decision to re-institute the after-hours PIP.

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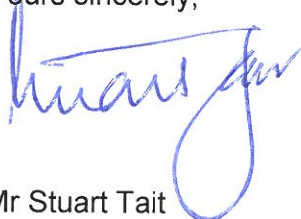
Additionally, I would like to suggest that your office advise DOHA as soon as possible to instruct Medicare Locals not to enter into after-hours contracts or to commit any after-hours funding to projects past 01/07/2014.

Such contracts, if allowed to be entered into, could significantly thwart your government's policy intentions.

Once again congratulations on your appointment.

I can be contacted at any time on 0414 225 253.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Stuart Tait  
President of NAMDS