



# Katy Gallagher MLA

DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

MINISTER FOR WOMEN

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MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Ms Kate Gilbert  
Founder & President  
Type 1 Diabetes Network  
PO Box 1293  
KENSINGTON VIC 3031

Dear Ms Gilbert

Thank you for your letter 12 July 2009 concerning the Statement of Issues affecting Australians with Type 1 Diabetes.

Diabetes Mellitus is one of the world's fastest growing chronic diseases. The ACT Government has recognised the increasing number of people diagnosed with diabetes. To help the ACT combat the rise in the incidence of Diabetes Mellitus, the ACT Government has recently released the Diabetes Services Strategic Plan 2008-2012 (the Plan). The Plan is available via the ACT Health website: [www.health.act.gov.au](http://www.health.act.gov.au).

The Plan reflects an innovative approach to service delivery that includes the creation of an ACT Health Specialist Diabetes Service which is complemented by an ACT Community Diabetes Service. The ACT Community Diabetes Service will be a universally accessible service with a single point of access. It will provide coordinated multidisciplinary care and develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours that enable a person with Diabetes to perform self-care on a day-to-day basis.

The Diabetes Services Transition Team has been established to implement the Plan and is a multidisciplinary team representing all aspects of patient care for people with diabetes. The Transition Team will ensure that the Plan is integrated into the Capital Asset Development Plan (CADP).

The CADP is the ACT Government's *Your Health - Our Priority* which involves a complete rebuild of the ACT public health system. The ACT Government has committed to spend over a billion dollars rebuilding and transforming the ACT's public hospital and health care system to deliver a modern, digitalised health system for the future.

The Transition Team will also ensure that diabetes services in the ACT are aligned with the recently released National Health and Hospital Reform Commission Report as well as the National Primary Health Care Strategy, which has not yet been released.

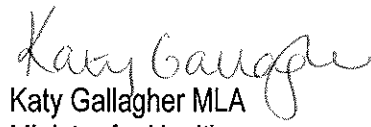
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There is currently a range of public, private and community-based diabetes services in the ACT that deliver a range of services to people with, or at risk of, diabetes. Services are provided in community and tertiary settings by multidisciplinary health services teams. The implementation of the Plan will streamline and enhance services in the ACT for people with diabetes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information on the activities of the ACT Government in supporting people affected by diabetes. I would welcome any feedback from the World Diabetes Congress that specifically relates to the ACT.

Yours sincerely

  
Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Health  
31.7.09