



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2016  
**TO:** All Staff  
**FROM:** Dr. John Ballard - Administrator  
**RE:** **All Staff Communication - Bacchus Marsh & Melton Regional Hospital**

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Dear colleagues,

You will have noted further media coverage in today's Herald Sun and other places in relation to Djerriwarrh Health Services.

There is no question about the future of Bacchus Marsh and Melton Regional Hospital located in a rapidly expanding part of Victoria.

In the six months since the health service was placed under administration, we have taken great steps at the Hospital, and I thank you for your commitment and support to change and your ongoing provision of compassionate care. Some of your achievements are noted in the most recent community newsletter distributed around Bacchus Marsh and Melton last week.

This is a credit to you all.

We all recognise there will continue to be a focus on what happened in the past. This is challenging for us all, but we cannot be distracted from the necessary and ongoing efforts to enhance the standards of care, safety and clinical governance at the Hospital.

In relation to the ongoing investigations, our position is clear and consistent. We cannot discuss or name any individuals involved in incidents or inquiries being mounted in relation to maternity services. This is a painful and complex situation and it will continue to be so for some time to come. All parties are being treated with the utmost sensitivity and respect, and we ask for anybody associated to act in the same way.

If any of you have concerns, please discuss them with our Chief Executive Andrew Freeman.

Andrew has led the hospital through extremely difficult times, and I thank him for his continued leadership.

I also especially acknowledge and thank you, our staff, for your continued dedication and commitment to ensuring Djerriwarrh Health Services is providing quality care.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. John Ballard  
**ADMINISTRATOR**