

**Subject:** Proposed Interim Public Health and COVID Response Division Business Case for Change  
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## Special Broadcast

**Dr Jeannette Young PSM**

Chief Health Officer  
Deputy Director-General  
Prevention Division



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29 July 2021

### Dear colleagues

Since commencing in early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic response has become a significant part of Queensland Health's business and will continue to be so for some time. It is therefore timely that we consider how to sustain this aspect of the business and continue to support staff working on the COVID-19 pandemic response.

With this in mind, the business case being released for consultation today proposes that most aspects of the dedicated COVID-19 response be consolidated into a new interim division. The interim Public Health and COVID Response Division is anticipated to be in place for at least 12-18 months and will incorporate the major functions established as part of the Department's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The alignment and consolidation of these functions will support Queensland Health to continue to effectively manage the COVID-19 pandemic and deliver the best possible health outcomes for Queenslanders.

The proposed changes predominantly involves reporting line changes and the impact is mostly on senior positions. For the rest of the team, you will continue to deliver the exceptional work that has kept Queenslanders safe throughout the pandemic.

I encourage you to read the attached documents to understand the proposed changes and invite you to share your feedback by Friday 13 August 2021. Your feedback can be submitted to [CHO-COVID@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:CHO-COVID@health.qld.gov.au) and will be very important to ensure that the final business case represents the best possible way forward.

Please be aware that this proposal does not reverse or modify changes that have been identified through the Department's Business Case for Significant Change. There will be further meetings with our union partners over the coming weeks to continue our commitment to open and transparent consultation.

As we work through this change process, I will be in regular contact regarding our progress and next steps. Next week I will arrange an all-staff forum to further discuss this business case in more detail, and provide an opportunity for questions to be asked.

Thank you.

**Kind regards**

**Dr Jeannette Young PSM**

Queensland Chief Health Officer and  
Deputy Director-General

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