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Thursday, 14 May 2015

Mr M Pervan
A/Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services,
GPO Box 125
Hobart TAS 7001

Re: Exposure Draft of the White Paper

Dear Michael,

In response to the Exposure Draft of the White Paper, we wish to make the following brief submission. We note this paper is primarily focused on the four major hospitals. We would submit that the area of Primary Health Care and our recommendations in response to the Green paper should be considered in the final White Paper and the foreshadowed new preventative health policy, *A Healthy Tasmania*. We would also welcome the opportunity to assist in the development of this policy.

We have attached the report called Provision of Primary Health Care Service Strategic Study that the RFDS Tasmania Section commissioned which outlines the health inequities in remote and rural Tasmania. We would strongly recommend that indicators such as these are included in any Performance / Accountability framework for the DHHS and THS.

With the decision on the preferred provider of the Primary Care Network, we would also now submit that the State and Commonwealth consider the combining of your purchasing / funding roles in to the one organisation, thus creating one major funding source for primary and preventative care programs. This would be a significant step towards addressing duplications, inefficiency and be a strong driver to provide an integrated health system that is patient-focussed and evidence-based.

This response is approved to be made available to others and on the DHHS web site.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Malcom White".

Malcom White
President
RFDS Tasmania

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Kirwan".

John Kirwan
CEO
RFDS Tasmania