

# CONSTITUENT QUESTION

## House of Assembly

ASKED BY: Ella Haddad MP

ANSWERED BY: Hon Bridget Archer MP  
Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing

### QUESTION:

My question is from Stephen Rossiter.

Mr Rossiter has a long-standing grievance with the Tasmanian Health Service. He underwent MRI scans in 2014 and 2016 that showed brain lesions, but these were not identified by specialists at the Royal Hobart Hospital.

In 2022, Monash Medical Centre diagnosed the lesion, confirmed by radiology and the head of neurology at that centre, yet the diagnosis remains unacknowledged by Royal Hobart Hospital specialists.

In January 2023, the then-Health Secretary, Kathrine Morgan-Wicks, committed to an independent interstate investigation into Mr Rossiter's case. Despite repeated follow-ups, this investigation has not been initiated.

Mr Rossiter also fears his experience reflects deeper concerns about diagnostic failures and transparency within the Tasmanian Health Service.

Minister, will the independent investigation promised by the former Secretary be conducted and will you meet with Mr Rossiter to hear his concerns directly?

## ANSWER:

I am advised that Mr Rossiter first raised a complaint in 2018 to the Tasmanian Health Service, which escalated to the Department of Health in late 2022 following allegations that Royal Hobart Hospital staff failed to identify a brain lesion on scans undertaken from 2014 to 2016.

I am advised that, from January 2023 to August 2023, progress on reviewing Mr Rossiter's complaint was slowed by the need to complete multiple requests for Mr Rossiter's medical record to be annotated, and further concerns raised by Mr Rossiter.

Between July 2023 and July 2024, discussions on the Terms of Reference (ToR) extended over several months until the scope was refined to ensure it was clinically appropriate.

Throughout 2024, efforts to engage an external reviewer were challenging due to the complexity of the review scope and the need to identify a suitably qualified specialist.

On 21 March 2025, Dr Phatouros agreed to conduct the clinical review, and Mr Rossiter was advised of this and the amended ToR on 7 April 2025.

On 24 October 2025, Mr Rossiter was notified that the review had commenced, however, there have been several delays in accessing information required by Dr Phatouros and these issues are currently being addressed.

Mr Rossiter will be provided with further updates on the status of the review as they become available.

The Department will also meet with Mr Rossiter regarding the outcome of the review once it is finalised, in line with its complaints management processes.



Hon Bridget Archer MP  
**Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing**

Date: 22 December 2025

