



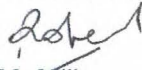
**The Hon. Brad Hazzard MP**  
Minister for Health

**The Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC**  
Minister for Women  
Minister for Regional Health  
Minister for Mental Health

Mr Robert Mills  
CEO Tresillian  
Locked Bag 1003  
CAMPSIE NSW 2194

OFFICIAL

Our ref M22/1470

  
Dear Mr Mills

Thank you for writing requesting an amendment to the *Health Services Act 1997* to extend the definition of *affiliated health organisations* to cover all Tresillian Family Care Services to enable Tresillian to access unified iCare coverage.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work Tresillian does in supporting families and babies. The NSW Government's allocation of \$12.2 million over two years to fund Tresillian's additional Regional Family Care Centres, 'Tresillian 2U' vans, and staffing for a residential unit demonstrates our commitment to supporting highly valued health services.

I understand you have had discussions with my Chief of Staff about the requested amendment to the *Health Services Act 1997*, and she has advised you of advice from Health legal of the funding impediments attached to such a proposal.

It is noted that iCare covers existing Tresillian services indicated in column 2 Schedule 3 of the Act. The Ministry of Health has liaised with iCare on this issue. iCare has confirmed that unified coverage of Tresillian's services would only be possible if all Tresillian services are referred to in Column 2 of Schedule 3 of the Act.

Affiliated health organisations are entitled to an ongoing annual subsidy from the NSW Health Budget. Once an entity is included as an affiliated health organisation in the Act, it cannot be removed without the consent of the organisation. Access to TMF/iCare indemnity follows an entity's inclusion as an affiliated health organisation.

My office has raised with NSW Health legal as to whether iCare insurance cover could be provided temporarily during the life of the two year funding agreement for the additional regional centres. However iCare has advised there a legislative limit to what the TMF scheme can cover.

At this stage, it is not proposed to amend the Act to extend the definition of *affiliated health organisations* to cover all Tresillian Family Care Services.

I am sorry this is not the outcome that you requested. For more information, please contact Ms Anna Read, Senior Legal Officer, [anna.read@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:anna.read@health.nsw.gov.au) or on 9424 5863.

Yours sincerely

  
**Brad Hazzard MP**  
Minister for Health



28 FEB 2022

CC: The Hon. Bronnie Taylor MLC, Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health and Minister for Mental Health

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