

## Delays in Health Services

### **Ms JOHNSTON question to MINISTER for HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH and WELLBEING**

My question is from my constituent, Anna. She writes: I'm currently recuperating from major surgery to remove malignant tumours from my body and have been advised that due to a massive backlog in pathology services offered by the Tasmanian Health Department, I now have to wait at least six weeks for my category-one pathology results to find out if the cancer has reached my lymph nodes. Please imagine a six-week wait that leaves you with no treatment plan, no referral to an oncologist, no anything up to major and life-changing surgery. It's not news that anyone wants, but it would be nice to know if the cancer has spread or there's anything that could be done now to cut it off at the pass. Without adequately resourced pathology, all I can do is wait, wait, wait and wonder how quickly this disease is going to kill me. How many years will I be around to be a mum to my young daughter? What concrete action are you taking to address delays in the provision of time critical category-one health services in Tasmania?