



29 NOV 2018

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**The Hon Roger Cook MLA  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Health; Mental Health**

Our Ref: 60-12079

Dawn Wright  
Manager Listings  
Office of the State Coroner  
Level 10, Central Law Courts  
501 Hay Street  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Wright

Thank you for your correspondence dated 26 September 2018 regarding Inquest into the Death of Baby A.

I have referred your correspondence on to WA Country Health Service (WACHS) for advice.

In regards to the Coroner Linton recommendation that WACHS give active consideration to implementing a culturally appropriate safe sleeping space tool, such as the Pepi-Pod, in regional Western Australian hospitals following the lead set by New Zealand and the Queensland Government, I am advised that WACHS has committed to undertake a review of safe sleeping space options, including the Pepi-pod product to determine their appropriateness for use with high risk women in a hospital setting.

I am also advised that WACHS has implemented the following:

- All maternity sites have been re-issued with the WACHS Safe Infant Sleeping (SIS) display poster and cot cords appropriate to Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal mothers;
- All maternity sites have been re-issued with an individual risk assessment matrix to assist conversations with women about their specific risks;
- All women are provided with education and written information antenatally at around 34 – 36 weeks using the National Women Held Pregnancy Record leaflets;
- All women are provided with SIS education and written information postnatally within 24 hours of birth;
- The soon to be re-published Western Australian Health Mandatory Policy for Safe Infant Sleeping will include instruction that midwives should wake mothers found to be co-sleeping with their baby in a hospital bed to replace the baby back into its own cot.

If you require further information in relation to this matter, I encourage you to contact Ms Marie Baxter, Executive Director Nursing & Midwifery Services, WA Country Health Services on 9223 8544.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and I trust this information will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**HON ROGER COOK MLA**  
DEPUTY PREMIER  
MINISTER FOR HEALTH; MENTAL HEALTH

26 NOV 2018