1. Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service has a multidisciplinary team including public medical oncologists, haematologists, nurses, allied health staff, pharmacists, and technical staff to support a best practice radiation oncology service, but does not have the necessary specialised workforce to deliver the radiation oncology service itself.
2. Radiation oncology service at Rockhampton would provide care to cancer patients living in the Central Queensland, Western Queensland, southern Mackay and northern Wide Bay regions.
3. An open tender process took place to identify a service partner to deliver radiation oncology under a model that would see the contracted staff embedded as part of the existing multidisciplinary team with clear links to a public tertiary service. The contracted staff would be approximately 27% of the staff of the cancer care team. Contracting radiation oncology staff in Rockhampton will have no impact on the publicly employed radiation oncology staff at other public services in Queensland.
4. Cabinet endorsed Radiation Oncology Services in Rockhampton to be established through a contracted provider to commence in early 2016.
5. Cabinet noted that active planning would occur for public provision of radiation oncology service, to commence during the initial contract period, and that it is intended that, following the expiry of the initial contract period, the service will transition to full public provision.
6. *Attachments*
* Nil.