



14 December 2018

Mayor supports local doctor's residency bid

Circular Head Mayor Daryl Quilliam has written to politicians from all levels of government in response to community concerns in the situation of Smithton doctor Daryl O'Connor and his migration visa.

Dr O'Connor, who is originally from Fiji, has been working as a doctor in Smithton for nearly five years and recently had a bid for permanent residency rejected.

In response to this situation Mayor Quilliam, on behalf of Council, has written to a list of politicians, including the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs David Coleman, Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Premier of Tasmania Will Hodgman.

The letter asks for residency to be retained for Dr O'Connor to allow for another application to be lodged.

"It is no doubt a stressful situation for Dr O'Connor and his family, especially at this time of year," Mayor Quilliam said.

"The politicians who have replied are indicating they are supportive of the situation.

"The Council and the wider Circular Head Community will be doing everything possible to support them through this."