



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AGEING, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
Chris Steel MLA (Chair), Elizabeth Kikkert MLA (Deputy Chair), Vicki Dunne MLA,  
Caroline le Couteur MLA, Michael Pettersson MLA

### MEDIA RELEASE

#### EXTENSION FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

## **Inquiry into the future sustainability of health funding in the ACT**

The Standing Committee on Health, Ageing and Community Services announced today that it is extending the period for interested parties to submit written submissions to the Committee regarding the Inquiry into the future sustainability of health funding in the ACT.

The new date for submissions to be received is Friday, 23 February 2018.

The Committee announced in November 2017 that it is undertaking the inquiry noting that the ACT Government expenditure on health is \$1.63 billion in 2017-18, or 31 per cent of the ACT Budget – the largest proportion of expenditure compared to any other output.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Chris Steel MLA said “the Health budget makes up almost one third of total ACT Government expenditure – so it is important to take a close look at the sustainability of health expenditure, to ensure that the system is efficient and also delivering improved health outcomes for Canberrans.”

Mr Steel said the Inquiry will also examine the impact of population growth and demographic transitions in the ACT and the surrounding region.

“The Inquiry will look at the sustainability of the health system in servicing a growing population and a population that is growing older.”

The Committee is particularly interested to receive submissions relating to the efficiency of current health financing; particularly examining the alignment of funding with the purpose of the ACT’s health services, including the provision of quality and accessible health care to patients when they need it and the relationship between hospital financing and primary, secondary and community care.

“The Committee also wants to hear about the nature of health funding and how it improves patient outcomes, including innovative or alternative programs such as hospital in the home and nurse-led walk in centres,” Mr Steel said.

The terms of reference for the inquiry are available on the Committee's website at <http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-committees/standing-committees-current-assembly/standing-committee-on-health,-ageing-and-community-services>.

Submissions should include your full name, postal address and telephone number. Electronic lodgement is preferred.

For further information or to lodge a submission please contact the Committee Secretary, Ms Kate Harkins on (02) 6207 0524 or by email at [LACommitteeHACS@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:LACommitteeHACS@parliament.act.gov.au).

*STATEMENT ENDS—Wednesday 24 January 2018*