

Mr David Graham
Joint Select Committee on Palliative Care in WA
Legislative Council Committee Office of Western Australia
18-32 Parliament Place
West Perth WA 6005



Dear David,

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the Joint Select Committee on Palliative Care in Western Australia.

Please see responses to the “questions on notice” that were identified in the session below. I have also provided a correction regarding the Palliative Care Aboriginal Health Practitioner in the Kimberley’s, and included two areas I would like to ask permission to redact as it could impact on my cultural and professional standing.

Question on Notice 1:

Have you seen any improvements since those recommendations came out—improvements over the last couple of years?

In questioning the Member Services regarding the improvements made as a result from the Joint Select Committee on End of Life choices, it was a general consensus that they could not ensure that improvements in Palliative Care in their areas have resulted from the recommendations in this report.

Question on Notice 2:

In 2019, the government announced funding of \$6.3 million for community-based palliative care services. This included \$2 million for domiciliary home care services throughout the state. To your knowledge, has any of that funding been allocated to ACCHSs?

“AHCWA is the peak body for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services across WA. AHCWA exists to support and act on behalf of its Member ACCHS, actively representing and responding to their individual and collective needs. AHCWA does not have access to the financial information of its Member Services, including information about the acquittal of funding provided by the government for palliative care services and activities delivered through the sector. AHCWA recommends that the Inquiry approach WA Health for this information.”

Question on Notice 3:

The government has also announced funding of \$27.2 million for an additional 61 full-time equivalent staff to be employed across regional WA, including Aboriginal health workers. Are you aware of how many of those additional staff will be Aboriginal health workers and where they will be employed?

“AHCWA is the peak body for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services across WA. AHCWA exists to support and act on behalf of its Member ACCHS, actively representing and responding to their individual and collective needs. AHCWA has not been given information as to how this funding will be spent or how many Aboriginal Health Workers will be employed or where.