



JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON END OF LIFE CHOICES

MEDIA RELEASE

The inquiry into end of life choices

For almost six months now, a Parliamentary committee has been inquiring into the need for laws in Western Australia to allow citizens to make informed decisions regarding their own end of life choices.

The Committee is very pleased to advise that all submissions made to the inquiry have now been reviewed and, other than those which are confidential, are available to the public on the Committee's website at www.parliament.wa.gov.au/eolcc

The Committee Chair, Ms Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA, stated:

We have more than 650 submissions available on the Committee website. As far as we are aware, this is an unprecedented number of submissions for a Legislative Assembly inquiry and shows the very significant public interest in end of life choices.

We are now continuing with public hearings, examining the practices used by the medical community for patients at the end of their life, and inquiring into the existing laws relating to end of life choices. We will also be exploring whether reform is needed, including hearing from vulnerable groups in our community.

The public hearings will be conducted between Monday, 26 February 2018 and Friday, 2 March 2018 in Perth. The first regional hearings will be held in Albany during the following week.

During the week commencing 26 February 2018, the Committee will be taking evidence from service providers, academics and representatives of vulnerable groups, as follows:

Monday 26/2/18	Tuesday 27/2/18	Wednesday 28/2/18	Thursday 1/3/18	Friday 2/3/18
CarersWA	Director of Public Prosecutions & WA Police	Catholic Healthcare Australia ; St John of God & Catholic Homes WA	State Coroner	Medicine with Morality

Monday 26/2/18	Tuesday 27/2/18	Wednesday 28/2/18	Thursday 1/3/18	Friday 2/3/18
Prof Lindy Willmott, Prof Ben White and Ms Penny Neller	Braemar Presbyterian Care	Australian Medical Association (WA)	Brightwater Care Group	Motor Neuron Disease Association WA
Assoc Prof Meredith Blake & Dr Craig Sinclair	IdentityWA	Chief Psychiatrist	Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, UWA	Doctors for Assisted Dying Choice (GP group)
Australia and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists	Office of the Public Advocate	Avant	Aboriginal Catholic Ministry	Aboriginal Health Council of WA
Doctors for Assisted Dying Choice (Specialist group)	Western Australian Palliative Medicine Specialist Group	Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists	Professor Michael Quinlan	Council of The Aging WA
	People with disabilities & Australian Federation of Disability Organisations	State Administrative Tribunal	Alzheimer's WA	

The hearings will be held at the Legislative Assembly Committee Rooms, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth and will be broadcast on the Committee's website at www.parliament.wa.gov.au/eolcc.

Transcripts of the hearings will be published on the website as soon as they are available. The transcripts from the preliminary December hearings are already posted on the website.

Further information about the hearings in Albany will be available from the Committee website, or by contacting the Legislative Assembly Committee Office on 9222 7494.

The Committee Office may also be contacted for any other enquiries about the inquiry or hearings.

Ms Amber-Jade Sanderson can be contacted for comment on 9275 7000.