



JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON END OF LIFE CHOICES

MEDIA RELEASE

The inquiry into end of life choices Invitation to give evidence in Broome

The Parliamentary Committee inquiring into end of life choices will be travelling to Broome and surrounds in early April.

The Committee would like to hear from community members on the need for laws in Western Australia to allow citizens to make informed decisions regarding their own end of life choices. (The full inquiry terms of reference are set out below). The public hearings will be on Wednesday, 4 April 2018.

The Committee is inviting community members to register their interest in giving evidence at a hearing.

Those wishing to appear must register by telephoning the Committee Office on 9222 7494 before 5:00pm Tuesday, 27 March 2018. The Committee Chair, Ms Amber-Jade Sanderson said that the Committee was keen to hear first-hand about end of life choices from people living in the north of the state, after having heard evidence from witnesses in the south west earlier this month.

Please note it may not be possible to hear from everyone expressing an interest in appearing.

Further information about the hearings in Broome will be available from the Committee website at www.parliament.wa.gov.au/eolcc, 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.

The Committee's terms of reference are to:

inquire into and report on the need for laws in Western Australia to allow citizens to make informed decisions regarding their own end-of-life choices and, in particular, the committee should —

- a) assess the practices currently being utilised within the medical community to assist a person to exercise their preferences for the way they want to manage their end of life when experiencing chronic and/or terminal illnesses, including the role of palliative care;
- b) review the current framework of legislation, proposed legislation and other relevant reports and materials in other Australian states and territories and overseas jurisdictions;
- c) consider what type of legislative change may be required, including an examination of any federal laws that may impact such legislation; and
- d) examine the role of advanced health directives, enduring power of attorney and enduring power of guardianship laws and the implications for individuals covered by these instruments in any proposed legislation.