

16 July 2021

Hon Pierre Yang  
Chair  
Public Administration Committee  
Via email: [lcipac@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:lcipac@parliament.wa.gov.au)



Chamber of Commerce  
and Industry WA

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Dear Mr Yang

## **NEW INQUIRY INTO THE DELIVERY OF AMBULANCE SERVICES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA supports the supply of the State's ambulance services remaining in the private sector's hands.

The evidence shows that St John Ambulance excels at putting patients first.

For more than a decade, St John has been the highest performing ambulance service in Australia in terms of response times. It is the only ambulance service in Australia that reports its KPIs and performance in real time online – statistics such as ambulance ramping are kept confidential in every other jurisdiction.

St John's volunteer model ensures responders are geographically located close to where emergency events happen. In a state of 2.5 million square kms, last year their paramedics had to drive more than 500km to rescue someone only nine times. Their Community First Responder program and App – just one of a suite of wraparound measures – means more than 8000 times a year, a volunteer who has done a first aid course is called into action to respond and save someone's life before an ambulance has even hit the road.

St John has been independently evaluated as the lowest cost to taxpayer deliverer of public emergency ambulance service in Australia. Maintaining the current service delivery model therefore ensures the expense to taxpayers is minimised and in turn contributes to the sustainability of the State Government's budget.

If we are to make progress as an economy and as a society, it is important that we move beyond outdated industrial debates about the role of private enterprise. Now is the time for us to work together to build a more prosperous Western Australia.

Kind regards,

Chris Rodwell  
CEO