



# Health and Ageing Committee to examine WA specific health issues

## *Commonwealth Offices, Perth — 24 August 2006*

The Western Australian Department of Treasury and Finance has estimated that, based on recent trends, health expenditure could rise from around 25 per cent of State Government recurrent expenditures to over 36 per cent by 2012-13.

Officials from the Western Australian Department of Health will represent the WA Government at the House of Representatives Health and Ageing Committee's hearing on Thursday 24 August. The Committee Chairman, Alex Somlyay said "The Committee welcomes the WA Government's contribution to the inquiry and looks forward to examining models for Commonwealth/State funding for health and the most important elements that need to be addressed in the next Australian Health Care Agreements".

The Committee's terms of reference require that it "inquire into and report on how the Commonwealth government can take a leading role in improving the efficient and effective delivery of highest-quality health care to all Australians".

The Committee will also hear from the Shire of Laverton. Mr Somlyay said "Many local governments make an unrecognised and important contribution to funding local health services. The public hearing provides an opportunity for the Committee to examine the sustainability of current health arrangements for a local community".

Also appearing today is the Doctors' Reform Society of Western Australia, a group of doctors and medical students supporting justice, equity and quality care in the provision of health services.

The hearing is open to all members of the public.

**Venue: Commonwealth Offices, L39, Stock Exchange Plaza, The Esplanade, Perth**

The program for **Thursday 24 August 2006** is as follows:

- 8.45am **Shire of Laverton (by teleconference)**
- 9.30am **Doctors' Reform Society of Western Australia**
- 10.30am **Western Australian Department of Health**

**For media interview with the Chairman:**

Please contact Mr Somlyay's office on (07) 5471 6611.

**For a copy of the terms of reference and further information on making a submission:**

Contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4145, 0421 051 837 (mobile), or email

[haa.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:haa.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the website at

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa/healthfunding/index.htm>