



## ***Wage inequity across sectors is institutionalised***

Aged and Community Services Tasmania says "... the aged care sector is under considerable financial stress and is struggling to meet the real cost of care...the wages of our workforce are capped by Government policy and wage inequity across sectors is institutionalised" in its submission to the House of Representatives Employment and Workplace Relations Committee's inquiry into pay equity and associated issues related to increasing female participation in the workforce.

Committee Chair, Sharryn Jackson MP, said today "A quality and accessible aged care industry is increasingly vital in the context of Australia's ageing population. It is essential that appropriate levels of remuneration are paid to maintain a skilled workforce. This industry has a predominantly female workforce and evidence to the inquiry has consistently drawn the Committee's attention to the undervaluation of women's skills in this type of work."

Aged & Community Services Tasmania will provide evidence via teleconference before the House Employment and Workplace Relations Committee in Committee Room 1R3 Parliament House Canberra on Thursday 25 June from 11.15 am to discuss this and other relevant issues.

Discussions should also cover current structural arrangements in the negotiation of wages that may impact disproportionately on women and the need for further legislative reform to address pay equity in Australia.

The Committee will continue to welcome submissions to the inquiry.

Further details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, background documents, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ewr>, by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4162 or emailing [ewr.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ewr.reps@aph.gov.au). This hearing will be webcast live (audio only) on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Sharryn Jackson, on (02) 6277 4044  
**For background information**, contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4162