

To the members of the inquiry Committee,

As a member of the Order of St John and a community member of WA, I am writing to you to express my wish for Ambulance services in Western Australia to remain in the competent hands of organisation that has served our community for over 100 years.

Through its very first inception, St John has and always will continue to exist to to serve humanity.

At the tender age of 16 I completed my first aid course, and from there I went on to help establish several ambulance centres throughout Perth. Throughout my now over 60 years of voluntary service to St John, I have watched the organisation grow in its reach, service and complexity.

The impact the organisation has is immeasurable because it's not just an ambulance service. Through First Aid programs, the Community First Responder Network and of course the thousands of volunteers who run the sub-centres in the most regional communities, our communities are in safe hands in more ways than one.

To imagine how government or any other provider could try and replicate such a service is unimaginable.

What does need to be brought to the Committees attention is that ramping has always existed, but hasn't always had that label. And it is a reflection of a wider problem well beyond the Ambulance service provider.

Thank you.

Officer Commander of the Order of St John.