



EDUCATION AND HEALTH STANDING COMMITTEE

Tel: (08) 9222 7469
Fax: (08) 9222 7804
Email: laehsc@parliament.wa.gov.au

MEDIA RELEASE

From: Hon T.G. Stephens, MLA,
Chairman

To: ALL MEDIA

Date: 29 July 2008

INQUIRY INTO GENERAL HEALTH SCREENING OF CHILDREN AT PRE-PRIMARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL LEVEL

On 12 March 2008, the Education and Health Standing Committee resolved to report and make recommendations to the Parliament on the issue of the general health screening of children at pre-primary and primary school level in Western Australia.

The Committee's Chairman, Hon Tom Stephens, said that "The importance of this issue can be seen in the more than thirty submissions from government departments, non government organisations and individuals received by the Inquiry. WA has a long history of positive government support for health screening as part of the early education of young West Australians".

Public hearings will be held in Meeting Room 1, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth on Wednesday 30 July with evidence provided by:

9.45am- Dr Phil Ridden, Head St Stephens School

10.45am- Ms Shirley McInnes and Mrs Cathy Hewick, RUCSN

11.30am- Professors Stephen Zubrick and Kate Taylor from the Curtin University Centre for Developmental Health at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research

1.30pm- Dr Ron Chalmers, Director General, and Ms Anne Lawson, Disability Services Commission

2.45pm- Ms Gayle Hillen, Occupational Therapists Aust (WA)

Ms Lynne Middleton, President, and Ms Rosemarie Candler, Private Speech Pathologists Assoc (WA)

The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry are:

1. Appraisal of the adequacy and availability of screening processes for hearing, vision, speech, motorskill difficulties and general health.
2. An assessment of access to appropriate services that address issues identified by an appropriate screening process.

The members of the Committee are the Member for Central Kimberley-Pilbara (Hon Tom Stephens, MLA), Chairman; the Member for Wagin (Mr Terry Waldron, MLA), Deputy Chairman; the Member for Bassendean (Mr Martin Whitely, MLA); the Member for Darling Range (Hon John Day, MLA); and the Member for Peel (Mr Paul Papalia, CSC MLA).

For further information, please contact the Committee Chairman, Hon Tom Stephens MLA on: 9140 1711 or 0419 937 344, or the Committee's Principal Research Officer Dr David Worth on: 9222 7469 (work).

**For further information, please contact
Principal Research Officer Dr David Worth, on 9222 7469**