



# Climate Health WA Inquiry

## Terms of Reference April 2019

### Aim

The Climate Health WA Inquiry was established under part 15 of the *Public Health Act 2016*. The aim of the Inquiry is to review the current planning and response capacity of the health system in relation to the health impacts of climate change, and make recommendations for improvement with respect to climate change mitigation and public health adaptation strategies.

### Specific Terms of Reference:

The Inquiry will:

- establish current knowledge on the implications of climate change for health in Western Australia (WA) and recommend a framework for evaluating future implications;
- identify and recommend a program of work to manage the implications of climate change for health in WA, which will:
  - protect the public from the harmful health impacts of climate change;
  - strengthen the preparedness and resilience of communities and health services against extreme weather events, with a focus on the most vulnerable in the community;
  - reduce the contribution of WA health services to climate change and other detrimental impacts; and
  - enable WA Health services to implement change, including energy efficiency, to a more sustainable model
- evaluate the likely benefits (health and wellbeing, social and economic) arising from climate change mitigation strategies, with a focus on WA health services;
- define the role of the Department of Health in leading public policy on climate change and health; and
- recommend the terms of reference, scope and preferred methods for:
  - undertaking a climate change vulnerability assessment for the health sector; and
  - developing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the health sector.

### Term

A report of this inquiry, detailing the findings, conclusions and recommendations, will be completed by March 2020. This report will be submitted to the Minister for Health for consideration, and for tabling before each House of Parliament.