

June 2008

Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

INQUIRY INTO THE PROGRAM OF APPLIANCES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE (PADP)

Ms Robyn Parker MLC, Chair of the Legislative Council's General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2, has announced the commencement of an inquiry into the program of appliances for disabled people (PADP).

Ms Parker said "The inquiry aims to address apparent funding inequities and concerns about departmental buck passing."

Ms Parker continued "There have been numerous reports of people with a disability waiting for months to get appliances that will improve physical and social mobility. The appliances being sought include wheelchair and mobility aids, improved wheelchair seating, computer assisted communication devices, custom made shoes and hoists and slings.

Without these appliances, people living with a disability face a poor quality of life, daily discomfort and pain, social isolation and mobility related health issues."

The terms of reference for the inquiry are:

That General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 inquire into and report on the Program of Appliances for Disabled People (PADP), and in particular:

- 1. Adequacy of funding for present and projected program demand
- 2. Impact of client waiting lists on other health sectors
- 3. Effects of centralising PADP Lodgement Centres and the methods for calculating and implementing financial savings from efficiency recommendations
- 4. Appropriateness and equity of eligibility requirements
- 5. Future departmental responsibility for the PADP
- 6. Any other related matter.

Members of the public and interested organisations are invited to make a submission. The closing date for written submissions is Wednesday 3 September 2008.

Submissions can be submitted via email to gpscno2@parliament.nsw.gov.au, faxed to (02) 9230 3416 or mailed to:

The Director, General Purpose Standing Committee No 2, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Information about making a submission can be obtained from the Committee Secretariat on telephone (02) 9230 3311 or via the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2.

For further comment please contact the Hon Robyn Parker MLC, Committee Chair, on 9230 2433 or 0427 015 049