



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SESSIONAL COMMITTEE
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION A

MEDIA ADVISORY

30 January 2026

INQUIRY INTO THE FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

On 17 December 2025, Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration A resolved to commence an inquiry into the financial and operational performance of the Department of Health.

The Auditor-General released a report in December 2025 which highlighted significant fraud and financial mismanagement within the Department of Health. The Auditor-General identified that the Department lacked an adequate fraud control framework and noted two of the alleged frauds identified internally during 2024-25 had not been investigated and addressed in either a timely or adequate manner as at the date of drafting of the report.

In addition, the impact of general budgetary pressure on the delivery of health services and the perpetual overspending of the agreed budget appropriation over recent years demands timely and further scrutiny and oversight.

It is also clear from the 2025/26 Department of Health Annual Report, the Key Performance Indicators and not being met.

The Committee primarily elected to undertake this inquiry considering the above concerns and other matters related to health funding and expenditure.

The Terms of Reference of the Inquiry are:

To inquire into and report upon matters related to the Department of Health, including the Department's:

- 1. financial performance;*
- 2. operational performance;*
- 3. budgetary control measures;*
- 4. fraud control measures;*
- 5. suitability and effectiveness of the Key Performance Information; and*
- 6. any other matter incidental thereto.*

The Committee will be advertising the Inquiry in Tasmania's three main daily newspapers on Saturday, 31 January 2026 calling for submissions to be received by close of business Friday 13 March 2026.

Members of the Committee are:

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair)
Hon Dean Harriss MLC
Hon Sarah Lovell MLC
Hon Cassy O'Connor MLC
Hon Bec Thomas MLC

ends

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Chairperson: Ruth Forrest MLC Mob: 0419 879 524
