

Climate Health WA Inquiry

About your submission

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or group?

- No
 Yes

If yes, please identify the organisation: Newborn mothers

Your contact details

The following information will not be published without your permission but enables the Inquiry to contact you about your submission if required.

First name	██████████
Surname	██████████
Address	██
Phone	██████████
Email	██

Publication of submissions

Submissions will be published with the name of the submitter unless otherwise indicated below. Do you consent to be identified in the published submission?

- Yes, I / my organisation agree to be identified
 No, I / my organisation request to remain anonymous

Terms of Reference

You are encouraged to address at least ONE of the Terms of Reference as listed below. Please select which item/s you will address:

1. Establish current knowledge on the implications of climate change for health in Western Australia (WA) and recommend a framework for evaluating future implications.
2. 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.
3. Identify and recommend a program of work to manage the implications of climate change for health in WA, which will strengthen the preparedness and resilience of communities and health services against extreme weather events, with a focus on the most vulnerable in the community.

- 4. Identify and recommend a program of work to manage the implications of climate change for health in WA, which will reduce the contribution of WA health services to climate change and other detrimental impacts.
- 5. Identify and recommend a program of work to manage the implications of climate change for health in WA, which will enable WA Health services to implement change, including energy efficiency, to a more sustainable model.
- 6. Evaluate the likely benefits (health and wellbeing, social and economic) arising from climate change mitigation strategies, with a focus on WA health services.
- 7. Define the role of the Department of Health in leading public policy on climate change and health.
- 8. Recommend the Terms of Reference, scope and preferred methods for undertaking a climate change vulnerability assessment for the health sector.
- 9. Recommend the Terms of Reference, scope and preferred methods for developing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the health sector.

Submissions response field

Please type your response to the item(s) selected above into the field below. Alternatively you may provide your submission as a separate attachment (suggested maximum 5 pages).

I represent a the postpartum doula profession as the biggest postnatal doula training organisation in WA. We support mothers emotionally and practically after they have a baby so we see first hand the health implications of climate on new families.

It is clear that we are in a climate emergency with severe impacts on the health of people and the planet. We are already seeing health impacts include and not limited to heat waves and air pollution affecting new babies and mental health affecting parents as they consider how to prepare their families for impending global disasters. People who already experience disadvantage (including mothers and babies) are most vulnerable to climate change.

The science is clear - WA and the Health Sector must urgently transition to net zero emissions by 2030 to limit global warming. WA Government administered or contracted health services must publicly reject sponsorship or advertising from fossil fuel companies for health programs, facilities, research or staff programs. Fossil fuel companies should pay their taxes (including a carbon tax) and the government can invest that money back into health and other areas.

The WA Health Department and the health sector in general should play a visible public role in drawing the link between the climate crisis and health, and in articulating the need for immediate emissions reduction, including WA needing to be net zero by 2030.

The WA Health Department should play a key role or be a key stakeholder in regulating emissions (currently there is no requirement to consult with or involve the

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Department of Health in new project decisions). Any advice or decision given by the Department of Health should be made publicly visible.

This is a climate emergency and all aspects of government must be viewed through the lens of climate change as the impacts will be devastating and far reaching.

Please complete this sheet and submit with any attachments to: Climate Health WA Inquiry