

# Voluntary Assisted Dying Ministerial Expert Panel: Information Update March 2019

Dear all,

Last year, after a series of public consultations, a parliamentary Joint Select Committee recommended that a law be passed to enable voluntary assisted dying in Western Australia

A Ministerial Expert Panel (“Panel”) which I chair has been entrusted by the Minister for Health with the task of developing the policy position that will inform this legislation.

Before doing so, the Panel will consult over a two month period from now until 24 May 2019, to seek the views of members of the public and health professionals on this important question – not, it should be understood, about whether there should be such a law, but on what form the law should take, to ensure that it is compassionate, contains strong safeguards against it being misused, and as far as possible reflects the needs and wishes of Western Australians.

A Discussion Paper developed by the Panel to support this consultation can be downloaded from [health.wa.gov.au/voluntaryassisteddying](http://health.wa.gov.au/voluntaryassisteddying). It includes some questions for your consideration and response.

Consultation forums will be held in the Perth metropolitan area, Kalgoorlie, Geraldton, Broome and Bunbury in April and May 2019.

Please go to [health.wa.gov.au/voluntaryassisteddying](http://health.wa.gov.au/voluntaryassisteddying) if you wish to register for these forums.

In addition to the public forums, roundtable meetings will be held with key stakeholders to examine specific topics related to the legislation.

If you would like further information about the public consultations please contact the Panel via the email [VADconsultations@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:VADconsultations@health.wa.gov.au)

The Panel looks forward to receiving your responses to the Discussion Paper questions and, if possible, hearing from you at the public forums.

Yours Sincerely



**Malcolm McCusker AC QC**  
**Chairman**  
**Ministerial Expert Panel on Voluntary Assisted Dying**  
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