

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Standing Committee on Health and Ageing MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 19 June 2008

Chair: Steve Georganas MP Dep Chair: Hon Kevin Andrews MP

Obesity hearing in Victoria Committee to also inspect Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Project at Westgarth Primary School

The House of Representatives Health Committee will hear from some of Victoria's leading experts on obesity when it holds a public hearing in Melbourne on Friday, 20 June for the federal parliamentary inquiry into obesity in Australia.

The lead author of a recently released report – "Australia's Future Fat Bomb", Professor Simon Stewart of the Baker Heart Research Institute, and renowned authorities on the obesity epidemic faced by Australia such as Professor Boyd Swinburn, Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention at Deakin University, will be among those appearing before the committee chaired by Steve Georganas (Member for Hindmarsh, SA).

The committee will also inspect the impact of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Project on the health and wellbeing of students at Westgarth Primary School.

PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM Friday 20 June 2008 – 10:00 am to 3:30 pm Legislative Council Committee Room, Parliament House, Melbourne, VIC

- **10:05 am Baker Heart Research Institute** Head, Preventative Cardiology Unit, Professor Simon Stewart.
- **10:45 am Australian Unity** Wellness Program Manager, Ms Cate Grindlay.
- **11:30 pm WHO Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention, Deakin University** Director, Professor Boyd Swinburn.
- 2:10 pm Centre for Obesity Research and Education (CORE), Monash University Head, Clinical Research, Monash University Department of Surgery, The Alfred Hospital, Dr Wendy Brown; and Head, Public Health Unit, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Alfred Hospital, Dr Anna Peeters.
- 2: 50 pm Obesity Policy Coalition Senior Policy Advisor, Ms Jane Martin.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Steve Georganas, MP on (08) 8376 9000 (Electorate office).

For all other inquiries, please contact the Inquiry Secretary by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: <u>www.aph.gov.au/haa</u>.