

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Standing Committee on Health and Ageing Issued: 8 September 2008

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

Obesity hearings in Dubbo, Sydney and Lake Macquarie

The House of Representatives Health Committee will hold public hearings in Dubbo, Sydney and Lake Macquarie on Wednesday 10, Thursday 11 and Friday 12 September for the federal parliamentary inquiry into obesity in Australia.

In **Dubbo** on Wednesday **10 September**, the Committee chaired by Steve Georganas (Member for Hindmarsh, SA) will hear from the Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service; the National Rural Health Alliance and St Pius X Primary School from **2pm** at the Willoughby Room, Carlton House. The Committee will also visit the Betty Orth Memorial Unit at Dubbo Base Hospital to view the facilities used to treat and manage diabetes in Dubbo and the healthy canteen at the Delroy Campus of Dubbo College to see first hand the healthy projects being undertaken by some Australian schools.

At its hearing in **Sydney** on Thursday **11 September**, the Committee will hear from leading academics, including, Professor Jenny O' Dea; Professor Louise Baur; and Ms Lesley King from **9am** at NSW Parliament House in Committee Room 814-815. The Committee will also take evidence from KCI Medical; Woolworths Limited; Weight Watchers Australia; and McDonald's Restaurants Australia, and Mr Mike Agostini.

In Lake Macquarie on Friday 12 September, the Committee will hear from the Hunter New England Health Service; the Dietitians Association of Australian and the Australian Lifestyle Medicine Association in the Belmont Room, Lake Macquarie Conference and Function Centre from 11:15am. Members will also hear more about the Hunter and Illawarra Kids Challenge using Parent Support (HIKCUPS) program from Professors Philip Morgan and Clare Collins. The Committee will also see the Active After School Communities program in action at Marks Point Public School.

The Committee will be inspecting the:

- Betty Orth Memorial Unit at Dubbo Base Hospital;
- canteen at Delroy Campus, Dubbo College; and
- Active After-School Communities Program at Marks Point Public School in Lake Macquarie.

For further details about the hearings and inquiry please visit the Committee's website. <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa/</u>

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

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