



# Inquiry into health funding

Chairman of the House of Representatives Health and Ageing Committee, the Hon Alex Somlyay MP, welcomes the opportunity for the committee to visit Ballarat in Victoria to meet with local representatives of the health industry as part of its inquiry into health funding.

Mr Somlyay said the committee hoped to gain valuable insight into the management of health services in a regional area when it visits Ballarat on 29 June.

“The committee looks forward to fruitful discussions with representatives of Ballarat IVF and Ballarat Health Services,” Mr Somlyay said.

The committee will explore funding issues as well as ways that the federal government can improve the efficient and effective delivery of quality health care for Australians, both at the beginning of life and in their later years.

“The provision of a continuum of care that helps to overcome the difficulties experienced by older Australians in negotiating the complex health system is one of the issues the committee wishes to address and we look forward to examining the model that has been established in Ballarat,” Mr Somlyay said

“It is important that we understand the effect of existing systems and how funding arrangements could be simplified and roles and responsibilities better defined.”

The Ballarat visit will follow the committee’s second public hearing in Melbourne on 28 June when peak representative bodies, a pharmaceutical company and a health promotion foundation, will shed light on how effectively the billions of dollars spent on health funding serve the community.

**For media interview with the Chairman:**

Please contact the Committee Secretary on **02 6277 4579** or **0421 051 837**.

**For further information on the public hearing:**

Please contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4145 or email [haa.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:haa.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the website at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/haa)