

The End-of-life and Palliative Care Advisory Committee
Department of Health
Government of Western Australia

By email: palliativecare.cpcn@health.wa.gov.au

Dear Committee

Re: Feedback on the Draft Implementation Plan One 2019-2021: WA End-of-Life and Palliative Care Strategy 2018-2028

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Draft Implementation Plan One 2019-2021* (Implementation Plan One).

ACN distributed Implementation Plan One to our WA members, and those with an interest and expertise in the provision of palliative care. The unanimous response from our membership was in strong support of Implementation Plan One. A proactive and wholistic approach to improving palliative care is a very positive initiative, and ACN commends the WA Government for committing to this strategic direction.

ACN believes strongly in the importance of high-quality palliative care, which has been shown to benefit from nurse-led models of care. ACN is committed to advancing the inclusion and recognition of nurses as foundational leaders in this area. Recently, ACN's End of Life Care Policy Chapter released a White Paper entitled *Achieving Quality Palliative Care For All: The Essential Role of Nurses* (<https://www.acn.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/white-paper-end-of-life-care-achieving-quality-palliative-care-for-all.pdf>). This White Paper presents the evidence that demonstrates the benefits of nurse-led palliative care and calls for the provision of funding for nurse-led care models and staffing, in addition to systemic reforms to reduce barriers to nursing practice. ACN strongly urges the WA Government to consider and integrate the White Paper recommendations into discussion and decision-making process around palliative care.

ACN is the pre-eminent and national leader of the nursing profession. We are committed to our intent of advancing nurse leadership to enhance health care and strongly believe that all nurses, regardless of their job title or level of seniority, are leaders.

Please contact ACN's Policy and Advocacy Manager, Dr Carolyn Stapleton, at carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au if you have any questions or would like further information.

Yours sincerely



Dr. Carolyn Stapleton FACN
Policy and Advocacy Manager
25 July 2019.