



## Health and Community Services Committee

### Terms of Reference

## Inquiry into Telehealth Services in Queensland

In accordance with section 94 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, the committee has resolved to undertake an inquiry into telehealth services managed by the Department of Health and delivered by the Department and Hospital and Health Services.

For the purposes of this inquiry the committee has adopted the definition of *telehealth* used by the Department of Health in its *2012-13 Annual Report*; the definition is reproduced below.

In conducting its inquiry the committee will:

- examine the implementation of the telehealth service by the Department of Health and Hospital and Health Services in trials, pilot and other sites, including:
  - expenditure and budget
  - governance arrangements
  - models of service delivery
  - technology and communication systems capacity and capability
  - patients, clinicians and health staff perceptions and experiences of telehealth
  - the outcomes of trials and pilot projects
  - quality of patient care
  - access to health services, particularly in rural and remote locations.
- consider the value for money of the delivery of telehealth services
- examine the factors that support successful implementation of telehealth services and identify any barriers to successful implementation
- consider strategies to address any barriers to successful implementation of telehealth services in Queensland.

### Telehealth

“Delivery of health-related services and information via telecommunication technologies, including:

- live, audio and/or video interactive links for clinical consultations and educational purposes
- store-and-forward telehealth, including digital images, video, audio and clinical (stored) on a client computer, then transmitted securely (forwarded) to a clinic at another location where they are studied by relevant specialists
- teleradiology for remote reporting and clinical advice for diagnostic images
- telehealth services and equipment to monitor people in their home.”

Source: Department of Health, *2012-13 Annual Report*, State of Queensland 2013, available at: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/tableOffice/TabledPapers/2013/5413T3564.pdf>