

Select Committee on Youth Suicides in the NT

Terms of Reference

Resolved by the Legislative Assembly 17 & 18 August 2011

1. A Committee to be known as a Select (or Sessional) Committee on Youth Suicides in the NT be appointed comprising, three (3) members nominated by the Chief Minister, two (2) members to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition and one (1) Independent;
2. The Committee to be empowered to inquire into and report on the current and emerging issues of Youth Suicide in the Northern Territory.
3. The Committee to inquire into and report on:
 - (a) Proposals to access Commonwealth funding programs including the National Partnership Agreement on Mental Health targeting suicide prevention, intervention and youth mental health, with a particular emphasis on Youth between 17-25 years of age;
 - (b) programs and services targeted at Youth aged 17-25 years of age with particular emphasis on Suicide Prevention education and awareness in Schools;
 - (c) the role, responsibility, co-operative co-ordination and effectiveness in the response and policies of agencies such as Police, Emergency Departments and general Health Services (Government and non-Government) in assisting/responding to young people at risk of suicide;
 - (d) the roles of targeted programs and services that address particular circumstances of high-risk groups, and identification of the strengths and weaknesses of existing suicide prevention responses;
 - (e) the adequacy and appropriateness of suicide prevention programs aimed at 17-25 year olds; and
 - (f) the accuracy of suicide reporting in the NT, the factors that may impede accurate identification and recording of suicides and attempted suicide rates (and the consequences of any under-reporting on understanding risk factors and provision of services to those at risk).
4. (Deleted)
5. The Committee shall elect a Government member as Chair.

6. The Chair of the Committee may, from time to time, appoint a member of the Committee to be the Deputy Chair of the Committee and the Member so appointed shall act as Chair of the Committee at any time when there is no Chair or when the Chair is not present at a meeting of the Committee.
7. Three Members of the Committee shall form a quorum.
8. The Committee may proceed to the dispatch of business notwithstanding that not all Members have been appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy.
9. The Committee is to report by the first sitting date after February 2012.
10. The Committee may present to the Assembly, from time to time, progress reports of its proceedings with or without the evidence received.
11. The foregoing provisions of this resolution have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.