

27 February 2026

## Submission: Exposure draft of The Health Revolution – 20-Year Preventative Health Strategy

### About the College

The Australasian College of Paramedicine (the College) is the peak professional body representing and supporting paramedics across Australasia. We champion the role of paramedics in emergency, urgent and primary care, driving a connected, multidisciplinary approach to high-quality healthcare in all communities.

The College is future-focused and committed to enhancing person-centred care through sustainable, evidence-based approaches and holistic workforce initiatives that see paramedics valued and utilised across the healthcare system for their unique capabilities.

With our reach across Australasian jurisdictions, practice contexts and employment relationships, the College is uniquely positioned to lead and advocate for the role of paramedics across the broader healthcare system to ensure they work to their full scope of practice.

### Introduction

The College welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Exposure draft of *The Health Revolution – 20-Year Preventative Health Strategy* and commends the Tasmanian Government on its efforts to set the long-term direction for keeping Tasmanians healthy.

We express our support for the strategy and offer recommendations for further consideration, based on feedback received from our membership in response to the following questions.

### Recommendations

#### 1. How does the long-term vision in this draft feel to you?

*We want to know how the big picture lands for you.*

The College broadly supports the long-term vision outlined in the draft Strategy. The emphasis on prevention is strongly aligned with contemporary health system reform and efforts to support community health.

However, while prevention is appropriately prioritised, the Strategy would be strengthened by clearer articulation of funding commitments, implementation mechanisms, and long-term accountability arrangements. Achieving meaningful progress will require sustained investment, strong community engagement, and improved health literacy across the lifespan.

To support effective delivery, the College recommends:

- The Tasmanian Government establishes a Chief Paramedic Officer role to provide expert guidance and leadership to the Tasmanian Government on paramedic practice across a range of health care settings, and the role of paramedics in preventative health and community-based

care.

- Identifying a small number of early, high-impact priorities to guide initial implementation such as coordinated sugar-sweetened beverage reduction initiatives, strengthened school-based health literacy, and improved access to active transport in priority communities.
- Publishing a detailed implementation roadmap alongside the first four-year action plan, including timelines, milestones, responsibilities and indicative funding.
- Establishing bipartisan commitment to the 20-year Strategy, supported by independent oversight.

## **2. What do you think about the visuals and tagline?**

*Do the colours, visuals (logo, infographics etc.), and tag-line work for you and help you understand the strategy and/or vision - or do you think we should make any changes.*

The College considers the visuals to be polished and generally accessible. However, the Strategy would benefit from imagery that more clearly reflects everyday Tasmanian communities. The cover image in particular appears more representative of visitors than local residents. Updating imagery to better reflect Tasmania's diversity would strengthen the Strategy's relevance and relatability.

The number and repetition of infographics can also make the document difficult to navigate. Streamlining the visual content would improve clarity and make the sub-pillars easier to understand. Greater transparency around the Strategy's development process would also be beneficial. This could include clearer acknowledgement of contributors and more visible endorsement from trusted Tasmanian voices.

## **3. Does the strategy reflect the things you believe keep Tasmanians well?**

*Tell us if anything important feels missing.*

The College considers that the Strategy captures many of the key determinants of health. While the Strategy appropriately recognises the importance of social determinants of health, it would benefit from clearer articulation of how these determinants will be operationalised across government portfolios. Strengthening cross-agency commitments would significantly enhance the Strategy's potential impact.

## **4. Do the sub-pillars feel like the right ingredients in the recipe?**

*Do any need clearer explanation, or feel like they belong in a different pillar?*

The College supports the intent of the sub-pillars but considers that the structure would benefit from simplification. The current number and similarity of sub-pillars can make the Strategy difficult to navigate and may reduce clarity. Consolidating related sub-pillars would improve coherence and accessibility. The Strategy would also benefit from short practical examples illustrating what each sub-pillar means in practice.

## **5. Do the ways we'll make this happen feel complete?**

*Tell us if anything feels missing or if there's a statement you think we should add or change.*

Greater clarity is needed around intended outcomes, measurable targets, and mechanisms for accountability. Clear signals of long-term investment and system-wide coordination would strengthen confidence in the Strategy's deliverability. Establishing strong governance arrangements

and bipartisan commitment will be critical to ensuring the Strategy is implemented consistently over the long term.

The Strategy would also benefit from a stronger emphasis on integrated and cooperative health system design. Paramedics, for example, are an accessible and trusted health workforce with a unique reach into homes and communities across Tasmania. With appropriate system design and support, paramedics can play a significant role in preventative health through health education, early identification of risk, referral and navigation support, and multidisciplinary community-based care. Greater recognition of paramedics as part of the preventative health workforce would strengthen the Strategy's capacity to improve health outcomes and reduce avoidable demand on acute services.

#### **6. Is the language clear and easy to understand?**

*We want the strategy to make sense to everyone, and easy to talk to others about.*

The language is generally clear and accessible, though at times it adopts a promotional tone. Some terminology, particularly the term "sub-pillars," may reduce clarity and accessibility for general audiences. The College recommends the inclusion of a brief glossary and consistent plain-English explanations to support understanding.

#### **7. Does this plan make you feel included in Tasmania's long-term health journey?**

*Tell us what helps it feel like a shared vision for the whole community.*

The College acknowledges the extensive consultation process that informed the Strategy. Clear pathways for ongoing community participation in future action plans would further strengthen the Strategy as a genuinely shared long-term vision.

## **Conclusion**

The Australasian College of Paramedicine supports the vision and intent of *The Health Revolution – 20-Year Preventative Health Strategy* and commends the Tasmanian Government for its commitment to a long-term, prevention-focused approach to improving health outcomes. This submission reflects the perspectives of College members alongside the College's professional and policy expertise.

The Strategy provides a strong foundation for strengthening prevention and addressing the broader determinants of health. Its long-term success will depend on clear implementation pathways, sustained investment, measurable outcomes and governance arrangements that support continuity over the full life of the Strategy.

Paramedics are an accessible and trusted workforce with unique reach into homes and communities across Tasmania. They are well placed to contribute to preventative health through education, early risk identification and community-based care. Recognising and including paramedics within the preventative health workforce will help ensure the Strategy has the workforce capacity to improve health outcomes and help Tasmanian's stay well for longer.

The College looks forward to working with the Tasmanian Government and health system partners to support implementation of the Strategy and to ensure paramedics are effectively integrated into preventative healthcare approaches that improve access, equity and health outcomes for all Tasmanian communities.