



Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

Queensland Parliament's aged care inquiry to investigate understaffing and the drugging of elderly Earle Haven residents

The Queensland Parliament's inquiry into aged care, palliative care and voluntary assisted dying will investigate the quality and safety of aged care at the now closed Earle Haven nursing home at Nerang.

Health Committee Chair, Aaron Harper MP, says the committee will use all of its coercive powers to get to the bottom of what went on at the home. The committee's powers are equivalent to the powers of a royal commission.

"Our investigation follows damning evidence at the Royal Commission hearings this week about poor management practices, understaffing and the overuse of physical restraints and psychotropic drugs on elderly residents at Earle Haven." Mr Harper said.

"People are deeply shocked by what has happened there, and angry at the apparent failure of the federal agencies that are supposed to protect the safety and wellbeing of the elderly in nursing homes."

"It is a national shame that this has happened. We feel for every one of the former residents and staff from Earle Haven and their families whose lives have been turned upside down over recent weeks. Everyone deserves answers. Our priority is to ensure what has happened at Earle Haven doesn't happen to other homes and residents."

The committee is calling for residents and their families, former staff, doctors, industry bodies and anyone else with information about events at Earle Haven to come forward and provide a written submission to its investigation. Submissions to the investigation will be protected by parliamentary privilege. Submissions should be sent to: Health Committee, PARLIAMENT HOUSE QLD 4000; Email: careinquiry@parliament.qld.gov.au

The committee will hold public hearings specifically for the investigation on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 September at the Royal Pines Resort at Ross Street Benowa, and will report its findings later this year.

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Aaron Harper MP on 0427 598 300

For further information: Committee secretariat on (07) 3553 6626 or 1800 504 022

Email: health@parliament.qld.gov.au or visit the [committee's website](#)

Committee Members

Aaron Harper MP, Member for Thuringowa
Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar
Barry O'Rourke MP, Member for Rockhampton

Mark McArdle MP, Member for Caloundra
Martin Hunt MP, Member for Nicklin
Joan Pease MP, Member for Lytton