



31 October 2016

Stephen King  
Productivity Commissioner  
Level 12, 530 Collins St  
Melbourne 3000

Dear Commissioner Stephen King

Dental Health Services Victoria (DHSV) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Productivity Commission's Preliminary Findings Report from its Review of Introducing Competition and Informed User Choice into Human Services.

It is important that a Review of this nature is conducted, and that competition and informed user choice are embedded in the sector where they lead to efficiency of service provision and socially optimal outcomes.

Despite agreeing with and supporting the objectives of the Review, DHSV is concerned that the contextual information and current experiences used in the Productivity Commission's Preliminary Findings Report has not been considered to the extent necessary in the Review. As such, some observations in the Preliminary Report are not entirely factually correct and lead to recommendations that could ultimately worsen health outcomes and efficiency in the oral health sector.

DHSV responds to the Productivity Commission's Preliminary Findings Report from a public dental service prospective and provides several alternative recommendations that align with the objectives of the Review.

DHSV would like to thank the Productivity Commission for granting DHSV an extension until the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2016.

Please find attached DHSV's response to the Productivity Commission's Preliminary Findings Report and we welcome the opportunity to discuss it further.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Deborah Cole**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Dental Health Services Victoria

