



23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601

GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

tel: (02) 6243 1111
exemptions@acc.gov.au

www.acc.gov.au

Contact officer: Gemma Smith
Contact phone: 03 9290 1405

17/12/2021

By email

Dear Madam or Sir

WA Primary Health Alliance — application for authorisation AA1000577 — draft determination & interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has issued a draft determination, including interim authorisation, in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by WA Primary Health Alliance (**WAPHA**) on behalf of itself and 14 other Primary Health Networks on 14 September 2021.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 5 years.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination is attached and also available on the ACCC's [authorisations public register](#).

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **28 January 2022**. Submissions should be emailed to exemptions@acc.gov.au with the subject "AA1000577– WAPHA– submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Gemma Smith via the details at the end of this letter to arrange a suitable time.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made at a pre-decision conference (should one be called – see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a pre-decision conference in relation to its draft determination. If a conference is called it will be open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **28 January 2022** by email to exemptions@accc.gov.au.

Timetable

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
14 September 2021	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
21 September 2021	Public consultation process begins.
27 September 2021	Closing date for submissions on interim authorisation.
29 October 2021	Closing date for submissions on substantive authorisation
12 November 2021	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process,
17 December 2021	Draft determination and Interim Authorisation Decision
December 2021/January 2022	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
February/March 2022	Final determination.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Gemma Smith at gemma.smith@accc.gov.au or on 03 9290 1405.

Yours sincerely



Darrell Channing
Director
Competition Exemptions