

STATEMENT

25 October 2021

Strengthening public health at Flinders University

Flinders University is proposing to expand and refocus its disciplines related to Public Health.

The College of Medicine and Public Health has been consulting with staff on a proposal to change the composition of the disciplines, including an overall increase in staffing through the appointment of early- and mid-career academics.

The proposal would see the current disciplines of Public Health and Social Determinants combined into a new discipline of Population Health.

Population Health is proposed to incorporate the functions of the Southgate Institute, so that the reach and impact of those research and education activities aren't confined to a single institute but are more broadly integrated across the discipline.

It would also prioritise the employment of academics identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. It is proposed that the lead of the new discipline will be one of the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander academics.

Public health is a clear national priority and the proposal aims to strengthen the focus on areas of specific need including Indigenous health, as well as align with community, government and the MRFF's research priorities.

The College is assessing staff feedback about the proposal and the result will be shared with them on 26 October.

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