



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Legal and Social Issues Standing Committee – Legislative Council

MEDIA RELEASE

Inquiry hearing focuses on homelessness in Melbourne's west

The Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee this week will hold two days of public hearings for its inquiry into homelessness in Victoria.

The hearings on 1 and 2 July will be held online and will be broadcast live on the Victorian Parliament's [website](#) from 10 am on both days.

The 1 July hearing will focus on homelessness in Melbourne's west, with local councils and service providers presenting to the Committee.

"Significant population growth in Melbourne's western suburbs has put pressure on organisations providing services to people who are homeless or who are facing homelessness, particularly during the COVID-19 emergency," Committee Chair Fiona Patten said.

"This week's public hearings will give us the opportunity to hear from people working on the front line in communities and listen to their suggestions on what needs to be done to address homelessness in their areas," Ms Patten said.

The 2 July hearing will involve a range of organisations, including legal, housing and domestic violence policy groups.

"Among the issues we will be discussing at this hearing will be the needs of women who are homeless or facing homelessness because of domestic violence," Ms Patten said.

"The impact of COVID-19 on women facing such difficulties places a particular obligation on us to find solutions to their needs."

The schedule for the hearings is available from the Committee's [website](#), along with the submissions received and transcripts from earlier hearings.

A further public hearing will be held on 13 July focusing on homelessness in the Geelong and Warrnambool areas.

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