



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Family and Community Development Committee

MEDIA RELEASE

Gippsland hearings on care of mothers and babies

The parliamentary inquiry into perinatal services will hold its next public hearings and community forums in Bairnsdale and Warragul on 7 and 8 December.

The Bairnsdale hearing will be from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm on Thursday 7 December, and will be followed by a community forum from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm at which community members can share their views and suggestions with the Committee. The venue is the Lakes Room, Bairnsdale RSL, 2 Forge Creek Road, Bairnsdale.

On Friday 8 December the Warragul public hearing will be from 12:30 pm to 4:45 pm, followed by the community forum from 4:45 pm to 5:30 pm. The venue is the Conference Room, Mercure Warragul, 23 Mason Street, Warragul.

During the two days of hearings, the Family and Community Development Committee will hear from a range of local health care providers. The community forums will enable anyone with matters to raise about perinatal services in regional areas to have their say.

As part of its inquiry the Committee is considering the adequacy of services for dealing with high risk and premature births. It is also examining access to and provision of an appropriately qualified workforce, as well as the disparity in outcomes between rural, regional and metropolitan locations.

The inquiry also has a particular focus on the mental health of women in the perinatal period.

The schedule for the Bairnsdale and Warragul hearings and more details on the inquiry are available from the Committee's [website](#).

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