



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

MEDIA RELEASE

Young Victorians speak up on homelessness

On Tuesday 14 July 2020, the views and suggestions of young Victorians will be heard at a public hearing for the parliamentary inquiry into homelessness.

The Youth Affairs Council Victoria and Mission Australia will be among the organisations presenting. There will also be an online panel discussion with the Centre for Multicultural Youth, Youth Projects and Melbourne City Mission.

The hearing will be broadcast live on the Victorian Parliament's [website](#) from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm and the schedule is available from the Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee's [website](#).

“In its submission to the inquiry, the Youth Affairs Council Victoria has told us that on any night at least 6,000 young people are homeless in Victoria,” Committee Chair Fiona Patten said.

“This figure shows why this inquiry is so important because we need to find solutions to this problem. We can't stand by and see so many young people living without a home, just leaving them as a lost generation,” Ms Patten said.

According to the Youth Affairs Council, family violence, mental ill-health, relationship breakdown, alcohol and other drug dependence, or transitioning out of the justice system or out-of-home care commonly precede homelessness.

“There are many complex issues associated with homelessness and each of these issues needs to be considered in trying to find the solutions that meet the needs of young Victorians,” Ms Patten said.

“It's vital as part of this inquiry that we hear from young Victorians and the organisations they are involved with so that they are not just faced with the problem but also help us to find some workable solutions,” Ms Patten said.

Submissions from the organisations presenting at the hearing are available to read on the Committee's [website](#).

Issued: 10 July 2020