## Public submissions invited on drug law reform

Drug law reform is in the spotlight with a new parliamentary inquiry calling for public submissions.

The Victorian Parliament's Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee is examining how effectively laws, procedures and regulations minimise drug-related harms.

"We welcome input from people and organisations with information and views to share on these important issues," said Committee Chair Geoff Howard.

"Communities across Victoria are affected by the laws that Parliament makes on illicit and synthetic drugs and prescription medicines," he said.

"This parliamentary inquiry is an important opportunity for community members to put forward their views and suggestions on drug law reform."

As part of the inquiry, the Committee will consider approaches to drug law reform in other Australian states and territories and overseas jurisdictions.

It will also look at how other positive reforms could be adopted into Victorian law.

"It's vital for us to look at what other communities are doing in relation to drug law reform and learn the lessons of their experience," Mr Howard said.

"The ultimate aim of our inquiry is to make meaningful recommendations to the Victorian Parliament on how we can minimise drug-related harm, including the health, economic and social impacts of drug use."

Public submissions to the inquiry can be made until Friday, 17 March 2017.

Public hearings will then be conducted.

More details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, are available from the Committee's website.

## Media comment

For media comment, contact the Committee Chair, Geoff Howard MP on 5331 7722

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