



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

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **First regional hearings for homelessness inquiry**

On 2 and 3 December 2019, the Legislative Council’s Legal and Social Issues Committee will hold public hearings in Bairnsdale and Morwell for its inquiry into homelessness.

They are the first regional hearings for the inquiry, and the Committee will be speaking with a range of organisations that provide services and support to people who are homeless or who may be facing homelessness.

On Monday 2 December, the public hearing will be held from 11 am to 4:30 pm at the Lakes Room, Bairnsdale RSL, 2 Bairnsdale-Forge Creek Rd, Bairnsdale.

On Tuesday 3 December, the public hearing will be held from 10:15 am to 3:15 pm in the Conference Room, Morwell Club, 136 Helen Street, Morwell.

The schedule for the two days of hearings is available from the Committee’s [website](#). The media and public are welcome to attend.

“These hearings will help the Committee to understand the challenges for people in regional Victoria who endure homelessness or provide services to people who are homeless,” Committee Chair Fiona Patten said.

“It’s important for the Committee to hear firsthand about the circumstances in regional communities. We want to learn about their specific needs and how we can best respond to them,” Ms Patten said.

“We will be speaking with representatives of organisations that have direct experience of homelessness and the way it touches all aspects of a person’s life. Through these conversations we can start to think about the recommendations we can make to help address homelessness in Victoria.”

The Committee has invited community input to the inquiry, with an [online submission form](#) available for community members and organisations with experience of homelessness that want to put forward suggestions to the Committee.

The submission closing date has been extended until 31 January 2020. The Committee will now report on this inquiry in November 2020.

### **Media queries**

Phone 8682 2778 or email [news@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:news@parliament.vic.gov.au)

*Issued: 28 November 2019*