



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Pandemic Declaration Accountability and Oversight Committee

MEDIA RELEASE

Pandemic Committee to explore mental health impact of pandemic

The Pandemic Declaration Accountability and Oversight Committee will examine the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and related health orders on the mental health of Victorians in public hearings this Friday April 29.

The Committee will hear from Chief Psychiatrist, Dr Neil Coventry and Chief Mental Health Nurse, Anna Love as well as the Chief Executive Officer of Beyond Blue, Georgie Harmon and Acting Chief Executive Officer of Mental Health Victoria, John Foley.

In the afternoon representatives of youth mental health services Yourtown and Headspace, Professor Joseph Ibrahim of Monash University, and representatives of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists and the Australian Association of Psychologists will appear before the Committee.

“The pandemic has affected the mental health of Victorians in different ways,” said Committee Chair Suzanna Sheed MP.

“It’s important for the Committee to hear about the impact of the pandemic orders on mental health and about lessons that can be learnt for future pandemic responses,” she said.

The Committee will meet from 8:45 am to 5:15 pm.

The full schedule is available on the Committee’s [website](#).

The hearings will be [live broadcast](#) on Parliament’s website.

The Pandemic Declaration Accountability and Oversight Committee was set up late last year under new provisions of the Public Health and Wellbeing Act.

The joint investigatory committee will continue to hold public hearings throughout the year.

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