



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

MEDIA RELEASE

Update on inquiry into historical forced adoptions

The Legislative Assembly's Legal and Social Issues Committee has announced that it will commence public hearings on its inquiry into historical forced adoptions once it is safe to do so.

"Given the current restrictions that apply due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to let people know that the inquiry is still going on and that we will commence the public hearings as soon as circumstances allow that to happen. The public hearings will be conducted in regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne," Committee Chair Natalie Suleyman said.

"This is an extremely important inquiry for many people across Victoria. We acknowledge that the delay in commencing the public hearings may be difficult for some. We want to ensure that we can conduct our hearings in a safe and supported environment," Ms Suleyman said.

The Committee is encouraging anyone who wishes to share their experiences with forced adoptions in the public hearings to make contact with the Committee if they have not done so previously. Contact details for the secretariat are available from the Committee's [website](#).

The inquiry is exploring the support services and responses provided to the people who endured the past policies and practice of forced adoption going back several decades.

"The terms of reference for this inquiry are broad, so the Committee will consider all issues raised by community members who have made submissions and/or present at public hearings," Ms Suleyman said

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