

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

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact tracing inquiry to start taking evidence

The parliamentary inquiry into Victoria's COVID-19 contact tracing system will begin taking evidence during November.

Being conducted by the Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee, the inquiry will consider the capacity and fitness for purpose of the Victorian Government's COVID-19 contact tracing system and testing regime.

"Through this inquiry we want to make sure that we have the best possible COVID-19 tracing and testing in Victoria so that we can stay COVID safe in the months ahead," Committee Chair Fiona Patten said.

"We will be consulting businesses, including small business representatives, the community sector, medical professionals and Victoria's multicultural communities to ensure that a wide range of community members get to share their experiences and views about the system that is in place," Ms Patten said.

The Committee will also hear from experts on contact tracing from Victoria and interstate.

Submissions to the inquiry can be made via an online form.

"Any submissions made must address the specific focus of the inquiry. We want to assess how well the COVID-19 contact tracing system and testing regime are working and whether there are any improvements needed so that our community can be confident about the ongoing measures being taken to deal with this virus," Ms Patten said.

The Committee is preparing its schedule of public hearings, which will commence from 16 November.

"With zero new cases and no deaths in recent days, it's important that we undertake this inquiry as quickly as possible to ensure we can keep those numbers low," Ms Patten said.

The Committee is required to present its report to Parliament by 14 December 2020.

Details on hearings and other information about the inquiry will be posted to the Committee's website.

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