

## **Electoral commissioner to appear before election review**

Representatives of the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC), including newly appointed Commissioner, Sven Bluemmel, will appear before the Electoral Matters Committee this Friday.

The Committee is reviewing the conduct of the 2022 state election.

The inquiry is examining a host of key issues from enrolment, to candidature, campaigning behaviour and the voting process, as well as the role and functions of the VEC. The inquiry is also looking at options for reforms, including changes to the Upper House voting system and improvements to the voter experience.

The Commissioner will be joined by several other VEC officials, including the Deputy Electoral Commissioner and the Director, Electoral Integrity and Regulation.

A further hearing will take place on Monday August 28, which will include an appearance from Stuart Smith, State Director of the Liberal Party of Australia (Victorian Division).

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

The Committee invited political strategist Glenn Druery to appear as a witness at its public hearings. However, Mr Druery declined.

Luba Grigorovitch, Chair of the Committee, said, "This is disappointing. There are important questions for Mr Druery to answer, given the prominent role he's played in recent Victorian elections."

Evan Mulholland, Deputy Chair of the Committee, stated, "Multiple submissions to this inquiry have raised concerns about the role of Mr Druery. His refusal to appear before the Committee will only serve to amplify those concerns."

Both hearings will be available to watch via the [live stream](#).

The Committee will table its final report in mid-2024.