



Media release

Legal and Social Issues Committee

Bone marrow registry to appear at donor inquiry

The Legislative Assembly's Legal and Social Issues Committee will meet representatives of the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry in a public hearing this week.

The hearing will take place at 11:45 am this Friday, 25 August.

Lisa Smith, Chief Executive Officer and Jeffrey Szer AM, Chair of the Registry's Scientific and Expert Advisory Committee, will appear at the hearing which will be available to watch via [live stream](#).

Since 1991 the Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry has been Australia's only source of volunteer stem cell donors for patients. Australia has the smallest cohort of optimal donors of any comparable country (as measured by transplant rates per million), which means the country is dependent on overseas donors.

In October this year, the Registry will launch a large scale public awareness campaign under their donor-facing brand Strength to Give.

The inquiry is exploring ways to increase the number of people registered as organ and tissue donors in Victoria.

Issued: 23 August 2023