



Media release

Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee

Fires inquiry travels to regional Victoria

The parliamentary committee inquiring into the 2026 summer fires will begin travelling to affected areas across the state next week.

“You can join us at the first round of hearings in Colac, Quantong and Alexandra,” Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee Chair Ryan Batchelor said.

“The Committee also has visits planned to Gellibrand, Natimuk and across the Longwood fireground.”

Over the past week members of the community who wanted to address MPs directly have registered to speak at open mic sessions.

The schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday 21 April: Colac Performing Arts & Cultural Centre (COPACC), 289 Murray Street Colac. Public hearing from 9 am and open mic from 1 pm
- Wednesday 22 April: Quantong Community Recreation Facility, Chequers Road, Quantong. Public hearing from 12 pm and open mic from 3 pm
- Friday 24 April: Alexandra Shire Hall, 55 Grant Street, Alexandra. Public hearing from 9 am and open mic from 12:30 pm

Local CFAs, councils, health services and community organisations will be represented at the hearings, which alongside the open mics will be live broadcast on the [Committee’s website](#).

The Committee is also planning on holding a hearing and open mic at Harcourt.

“Keep an eye out on the [inquiry’s website](#) for all the latest information, including details on future visits and hearings,” Mr Batchelor said.

Issued: 17 April 2026