



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Environment and Planning Standing Committee – Legislative Council

MEDIA RELEASE

Register for fires inquiry open mic sessions

Victorians impacted by the 2026 summer fires can register to speak directly to members of parliament during a series of open mic sessions to be held across the state.

The Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee is travelling to regional Victoria for public hearings in late April.

The open mic sessions for community members to have their say will be:

- Tuesday 21 April: Colac, 1 pm – 2pm
- Wednesday 22 April: Natimuk/ Quantong, 3 pm – 4 pm
- Friday 24 April: Alexandra, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

More details about the public hearing schedules will be released closer to those dates.

People interested in speaking at the open mics must [register their interest on the inquiry website](#) by Thursday 16 April 2026.

“This will be an important opportunity for people affected by the fires to share their experiences and make us aware of any ongoing issues,” Committee Chair Ryan Batchelor said.

“Our extensive terms of reference allow us to explore numerous matters including the emergency response to the fires, resourcing of fire agencies, support for volunteers, recovery efforts and the impact on the environment.”

The parliamentary inquiry has received almost 200 public submissions so far which are being progressively published on the [Committee’s website](#).

The closing date for written input is Sunday 19 April 2026.

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