



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

MEDIA RELEASE

Online hearings underway for next stage of homelessness inquiry

On Wednesday 12 August 2020, the Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee will continue its inquiry into homelessness in Victoria when it holds an online hearing with mental health and legal specialists.

The online hearing will be broadcast live on the Victorian Parliament's [website](#) from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm, with the schedule available from the Committee's [website](#).

It will include two panel discussions. The first in the morning will be with mental health service provider Mind Australia and the Victorian Branch of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists.

The second in the afternoon will be with Magistrate Pauline Spencer, Head of the Specialist Courts Division at the Magistrates' Court of Victoria, and representatives from the Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (VACRO).

Also presenting at the online hearing will be Dr Brian Vandenberg, Health Economist from the School of Social Sciences at Monash University, as well as Anglicare Victoria and the Office of the Public Advocate.

Last week the Committee presented an [interim report](#) to Parliament on the inquiry and published an interactive [dashboard](#) that shows who has engaged with the inquiry and what issues are most important to them.

This and upcoming hearings will enable the Committee to explore in depth some of the factors behind homelessness and what can be done to solve the problems that are arising.

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