I Cook Foods inquiry reopens with public hearing

A parliamentary inquiry into the closure of I Cook Foods Pty Ltd will resume this week with a public hearing to be held tomorrow (25 August).

The Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee reopened its inquiry on 24 June 2021 after new allegations were raised in the media on the closure of the family-owned business.

"The fresh evidence contradicts witness testimony provided by senior officials in the Victorian Government and City of Greater Dandenong at our previous hearings," Committee Chair Fiona Patten said.

"We are seeking answers to the new questions which have been raised in the public eye about the closure of I Cook Foods.

"It is important that we hear from all relevant parties in our investigation to determine if this contradicts previous findings of the Committee."

The Committee will hear from former environmental health officer at the City of Greater Dandenong Kim Rogerson, as well as former environmental health officer at Knox City Council Ray Christy.

I Cook Foods founder and director Ian Cook will also be joined by former Victoria Police detective sergeant Paul Brady.

Wednesday's hearing will be live broadcast via Zoom from 10 am.

Another public hearing will be held next Wednesday 1 September, with $\underline{\text{full schedules}}$ and more information, including the $\underline{\text{terms of reference}}$ for the inquiry, available on the $\underline{\text{Committee's website}}$.

A new report is due by Thursday 14 October 2021.

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