



# Media release

## Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee

### Hearings begin on community consultation practices

This week the Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee will hold the first public hearing for its inquiry into community consultation practices.

On Friday 22 August, the Committee will hear from peak bodies, academics and consulting organisations, with the public hearing broadcast live on the Committee's [website](#) from 10 am.

The Engagement Institute (formerly IAP2 Australasia), New Democracy Foundation and the Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance will be among those presenting to the Committee. Wimmera Southern Mallee Development will also appear and provide a regional voice.

The full schedule of witnesses is available on the Committee's [website](#), along with the submissions received.

Under the terms of reference for the inquiry, the Committee is looking at how the community is consulted and whether certain groups or regions are being well served by existing consultation practices.

At the public hearing, the Committee will be exploring with witnesses how processes can be improved, with the aim of making recommendations to the Victorian Government to improve its practices for future consultations.

A further hearing is scheduled for 5 September, and the Committee is due to present its report by February 2026.

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