



Media release

Legal and Social Issues Committee

Support and advocacy groups to present at inquiry hearing on cults

On Wednesday 5 November, the parliamentary inquiry into the recruitment methods and impacts of cults and organised fringe groups will hear from three groups that support cult survivors.

The public hearing by the Legislative Assembly Legal and Social Issues Committee will be broadcast live from 1:15 pm to 4:00 pm.

Representatives of Olive Leaf Network Australia, Decult (based in New Zealand) and BATForce (Barwon Adolescent Task Force) will share insights on supporting people who have left high-demand, coercively controlling groups, and on raising awareness of the effects of these groups.

“At earlier hearings we heard from people with lived experience of coercive groups, so this hearing will be an important opportunity for the Committee to learn more about the support that is provided and needed for survivors,” Committee Chair Ella George said.

“Through this evidence gathering we are getting a comprehensive picture of the impacts of high-control groups, which will help to shape the recommendations we make.”

Previous hearings were held in July and October. The Committee is due to report its findings to Parliament by September 2026.

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