



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA  
Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Ambulance Victoria to give evidence on drug law reform**

The parliamentary inquiry into drug law reform continues with a public hearing this Monday 19 June.

Ambulance Victoria will be a key organisation presenting to the Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee.

The public hearing will be held from 9:45 am to 4:00 pm at 55 St Andrews Place, East Melbourne.

In its submission to the inquiry, Ambulance Victoria expresses concern that misuse of illicit and prescription drugs for recreational purposes is becoming an increasing problem, with many assaults and injuries to paramedics occurring as a result of attending cases involving illicit drugs.

“Paramedics report 45 instances of occupational violence every month,” Ambulance Victoria says.

It has observed an increase in the use of illicit drugs at public events over recent years, leading to the death of individual patrons and several mass-overdose incidents.

“These events are occurring increasingly in regional and remote areas where access to suitable medical facilities, including intensive care, is both limited and delayed by distance,” Ambulance Victoria says.

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation, the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, and Alfred Health will be among other organisations also presenting to the Committee.

The hearing schedule and further details on the inquiry are available from the Committee’s [website](#)

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