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## Community action on climate change to be explored

Ways in which Victorian communities are responding to climate change will be the focus of a new parliamentary inquiry, with the Victorian Legislative Assembly's Environment and Planning Committee inviting public submissions.

The Committee wants to hear from community members and organisations on actions they are taking to mitigate the severity of climate change and to adapt to its current and future impacts.

“Community action is a key component of efforts to tackle climate change around the world and we’re keen to find out about the best examples of actions being taken right here in Victoria,” Committee Chair Darren Cheeseman said.

“Actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by Victorian urban and regional communities will be crucial to achieving the state’s goal of a net zero emissions economy by 2050,” Mr Cheeseman said.

“Those actions will also help to keep us on track in achieving the five yearly interim emissions reduction targets.”

A significant focus of the inquiry is to consider ways in which the government can best support communities in their efforts.

“An issue such as climate change and how to tackle it can be seen as too daunting or too big. That’s why this inquiry is so important to highlight the strategies and ideas that are already being implemented to show that individuals can make a difference,” Mr Cheeseman said.

“At the same time, we want to know what the government can do to support those communities already taking action and to help other communities follow the good practice examples of their neighbours,” he said.

As part of the inquiry the Committee will be conducting public hearings across the state.

“With the information we get from communities in regional and urban areas, the Committee will make recommendations to ensure that Victorians working together are well-placed to tackle climate change and adapt to its impacts,” Mr Cheeseman said.

Written submissions are welcome by 26 August 2019. For information on how to make a submission go to the Committee’s [website](#).

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