



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

21 September 2012

Child abuse handling submissions close today

Submissions to the Family and Community Development Committee on the Inquiry into the handling of child abuse by religious and other organisations close today.

Committee Chair, Ms Georgie Crozier MP said the Committee would now begin the formal process of accepting submissions and finalising the hearing schedule for 2012.

'The next stage of the Inquiry will involve the Committee analysing submissions and gathering further evidence from key witnesses through its hearing process,' Ms Crozier said.

'We anticipate hearings will be held in Melbourne and in regional areas from October and into 2013.'

Further assistance:

- *For further information regarding the Inquiry, please see the Committee website at <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/fcdc/inquiry/340> or phone (03) 8682 2843*
- *For clarification on how Parliamentary privilege will apply to this Inquiry, please visit the website at <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/fcdc/article/1915>*
- *Help for victims - including support in preparing for and attending a public hearing and linking people to local support groups and services - is available through the Victims of Crime Helpline on 1800 819 817*
- *For media queries by journalists, please contact Amanda Kennedy on 0409 890 658*