



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

From Ms Georgie Crozier MP, Chair

17 May 2013

Child abuse Inquiry – Call for last evidence

With scheduled hearings for the Victorian child abuse Inquiry ending soon, the Committee will not be able to accept any further written submissions after 7 June 2013 as they will move onto the next phase of the Inquiry.

Committee Chair, Ms Georgie Crozier MP, said although the formal deadline for accepting submissions was 21 September 2012, the Committee had used its discretion to accept late submission on a case-by-case basis since then.

“It has been in the best interest of the Inquiry to accept late submissions and we have accepted all written submissions made to us to date,” Ms Crozier said.

“We always anticipated that as the Inquiry progressed, and as more and more people felt engaged by the evidence coming out of the hearings, that additional people would want to share information with us.”

The Committee has to date received 405 written submissions. The total number of hearing sessions conducted is more than 160, including 45 organisations that have appeared in public hearings from a range of religious and other non-government organisations. The remaining hearings included sessions with victims, their families, whistleblowers, experts, and other professionals. Of these, just less than half were held in-camera.

The final two scheduled public hearings are on Monday 20 May and Monday 27 May and then the Committee will move to deliberations. The reporting deadline for the Inquiry is 30 September 2013.

Further assistance:

- For further information regarding submissions, please see the Committee website at <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/fcdc/inquiry/340> or phone (03) 8682 2843
- [Help for victims](#) including 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