



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Family and Community Development Committee

MEDIA RELEASE

Call for submissions on abuse in disability services

The Victorian Parliament's Family and Community Development Committee is commencing stage 2 of its inquiry into abuse in disability services.

This stage of the inquiry will focus on why abuse is not reported or acted upon and what can be done to prevent it.

It will also look at how Victoria's disability care system can be improved and strengthened in the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

"We want to hear from the community on these issues, particularly from people who have direct experience that can help the Committee make meaningful recommendations," said Committee Chair Maree Edwards.

"We are calling for anyone who has a view on these issues or evidence to present to the Committee to make a written submission."

All submissions will be made public. However, confidentiality can be requested.

"We want to know the extent of the problem. We also want to hear suggestions about what can be done to ensure people with disabilities do not suffer abuse," Ms Edwards said.

The Committee will be conducting public hearings in Melbourne and regional areas.

"We need to get a state-wide perspective on these issues and we encourage people from across Victoria to contribute to this inquiry.

"We will be keeping people updated on the progress of the inquiry as we receive submissions and hold hearings."

The closing date for submissions is Friday, 30 October 2015.

The Committee is due to report by March 2016. An [interim report](#) was tabled on 6 August 2015.

A news video about the inquiry can be viewed on the [Victorian Parliament's YouTube Channel](#).

More information on the inquiry is available from the Committee's [website](#).

Media queries: Maree Edwards MP, Committee Chair on (03) 5444 4125.

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