



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA  
Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **First report presented on response to COVID-19**

The Public Accounts and Estimates Committee has today tabled the first [report](#) arising from its inquiry into the Victorian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Committee has made 23 recommendations following six days of public hearings held in mid-May.

Those hearings enabled the Committee to obtain evidence from the Premier and Ministers of the COVID-19 Crisis Cabinet, peak industry groups, community organisations, unions, the education sector, local government and health experts.

"This emergency is unprecedented in the lives of most Victorians and has been a constantly evolving situation that has challenged all of us," Committee Chair Lizzie Blandthorn said.

"The Committee was asked to conduct this inquiry in recognition of the importance of oversight in a time when public sector administration and public finances have been directed in unprecedented ways towards the emergency response."

This first report presents a snapshot in time at the early stages of the pandemic.

The inquiry and this first report have covered many areas of life in Victoria affected during the emergency, including health, economy, jobs, infrastructure, industry, justice, education and environment, as well as social impacts.

"The Committee will have the opportunity to follow up on these issues when we conduct further hearings," Ms Blandthorn said. "The next report is due at the end of October."

Details of further hearings can be found on the Committee's [website](#).

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