



Public hearings in Coober Pedy, Ceduna and Adelaide for Indigenous Affairs Committee

The House Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs will be holding hearings in South Australia, as it continues to gather evidence for the inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The Committee will hold public hearings in Coober Pedy on Monday 4 May, and Ceduna and Adelaide on Tuesday 5 May.

In Coober Pedy the Committee will hear from the Mayor as well as Aboriginal Health organisations and representatives of the Aboriginal Family Support Services and local hospitals.

Witnesses at the public hearing in Ceduna include the Mayor, the Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation and the Ceduna Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service Aboriginal Corporation.

In Adelaide the Committee will hear from groups such as Drug and Alcohol Services, SA and the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement.

The Committee Chair, Dr Sharman Stone MP, said “We know that towns like Coober Pedy are concerned about the impact of alcohol on their community. The Committee is interested in hearing how the recently developed Alcohol Management Plan provides a framework for minimising the harmful impact of alcohol in Coober Pedy.”

Dr Stone stated “The harmful effects of alcohol can be felt throughout a community. Family members, members of the community, service providers and emergency services all feel the impact of alcohol on their daily lives and work.”

‘The Committee wants to hear more about how communities are impacted as well as examining what works to reduce the harms, with a particular focus in these hearings on communities coming together to respond to the impact of alcohol,’ she added.

Details of the hearings are as follows:

Coober Pedy

Monday 4 May 2015
9.45am – 2.30pm
Comfort Inn Coober Pedy Experience Motel
Crowders Gully Road, Coober Pedy SA

Ceduna

Tuesday 5 May 2015
8.30am to 11.00am
Ceduna Foreshore Hotel Motel
32 O’Loughlin Terrace, Ceduna, SA

Adelaide

Tuesday 5 May 2015
2.00pm to 5.30pm
Old Chamber, Old Parliament House,
North Terrace, Adelaide, SA

Members of the public are welcome to attend all hearings.

The terms of reference and full programs are available at www.aph.gov.au/indigenousaffairs
The proceedings will be audio webcast live on: www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair Dr Sharman Stone MP on (03) 5821 5371. **For background information**, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 62774559 or indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au