



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE  
Senate Community Affairs References Committee

Senate inquiry into a possible cancer cluster on the  
Bellarine Peninsula

Opportunity to speak to the committee

Issue date: 20 January 2021

**Public hearing – 10 February 2021**

As part of its inquiry into investigations into a possible cancer cluster on the Bellarine Peninsula in Victoria, the Senate Community Affairs References Committee will hold a public hearing on 10 February 2021 on the Bellarine Peninsula.

The committee would like to hear from people who want to share with the committee their experiences and concerns in relation to a possible cancer cluster on the Bellarine Peninsula.

The Chair of the Committee, Senator Siewert said 'it is very important for the committee to hear first-hand from residents'. 'The committee is making time available so people can tell us about their personal experiences'.

**How to register your interest in speaking to the committee:**

If you, or someone you know, would like to speak to the committee, please email the following information to the committee as soon as possible to register your interest

([community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au)):

- your name; and
- a telephone number and email address so that we can contact you.

**What happens next**

One of the committee's staff will contact you to arrange a time for you to speak to the committee. They will also provide you with information about what to expect on the day of the hearing.

Requests to speak to the committee will be processed in the order in which they are received. If all of the time available at the hearing you would like to attend has been allocated, the committee's staff will contact you to let you know this. You can still attend the hearing and listen to what is being said.

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**DATE REFERRED**

17 October 2019

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**SUBMISSIONS CLOSE**

27 March 2020

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

1 May 2020

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**REPORTING DATE**

18 March 2021

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Senator Rachel Siewert  
(Chair)

Senator Wendy Askew  
(Deputy Chair)

Senator Catryna Bilyk

Senator Hollie Hughes

Senator Malarndirri McCarthy

Senator Anne Urquhart

*Participating member:*

Senator the Hon Sarah  
Henderson

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**CONTACT THE COMMITTEE**

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on Community Affairs

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## **Additional information about public hearings**

Most committee hearings are held in public. The audio and video of each hearing will also be broadcast live on the internet: [www.aph.gov.au/News\\_and\\_Events/Watch Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament)

Further information about what to expect when attending a Senate committee hearing is available on the Senate website: [Attending a public hearing](#)

## **Further information**

Further information about the inquiry, including published submissions and hearing programs, is available on the committee website: [www.aph.gov.au/senate\\_ca](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate_ca).

**Media enquiries:** Office of Senator Rachel Siewert, Committee Chair on (02) 6277 3587.  
**For background information:** contact the committee secretariat.

## **Inquiry Terms of Reference**

Investigations into a possible cancer cluster on the Bellarine Peninsula, Victoria, with particular reference to:

- (a) the health concerns of local residents;
- (b) the incidence of cancer cases in the area, and any possible environmental or other contributing factors;
- (c) the evidence, approach and outcomes concerning the Victorian Chief Health Officer's investigation of cancer rates on the Bellarine Peninsula; and
- (d) any other related matter.