



Indigenous alcohol inquiry continues in Brisbane

The House Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs will be holding a public hearing in Brisbane on Friday, 20 June 2014, 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 hear evidence from the Queensland Government and a range of groups and individuals including the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council, Synapse, Professor Heather Douglas and Professor Peter D'Abbs.

The Committee Chair, Member for Murray, Dr Sharman Stone MP, expects a broad range of issues to be covered at the hearing.

Dr Stone said: "While substantial and commendable efforts have been made in Queensland by communities and the government to minimise alcohol related harm in remote communities, the majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people live in regional and urban parts of the state. The Committee anticipates that the evidence given in Brisbane will help identify strategies that are best practice and can help bring about change in all indigenous communities, regardless of where they are."

Details of the hearing are as follows:

When Friday, 20 June 2014
Time 9.00am – 3.15pm
Where Parliament House, Dandair Room, Level 5 Parliamentary Annexe,
Cnr George and Alice Street, Brisbane

Program

9.00am Queensland Government (Submission 98)
9.45am Professor Peter D'Abbs (Submission 99)
11.00am Professor Heather Douglas (Submission 22)
11.30am Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (Submission 20)
12.00pm Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Corporation for Alcohol and Drug Dependence Services
1.15pm Synapse (Submission 41)
2.00pm Queensland Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies Ltd (Submission 43)
2.30pm National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (Submission 58)

The terms of reference are available at www.aph.gov.au/indigenoussaffairs

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 indigenoussaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au