

Issued 16 July 2012



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT Review into bullying in the workplace Chair: Ms Amanda Rishworth MP Deputy Chair: Mr Rowan Ramsey MP

REVIEW INTO BULLYING IN THE WORKPLACE

Workplace bullying inquiry travels to Darwin and Brisbane in July

The Education and Employment Committee will continue to take evidence in Darwin and Brisbane on 17 and 18 July 2012 on workplace bullying. The Committee will hear from representatives of unions, industry groups, organisational psychologists, workplace consultants, academic experts, and community groups as well as individuals who have experienced bullying in their workplaces.

The Committee Chair, Ms Amanda Rishworth MP, said 'The Committee continues to receive a strong response to its call for written submissions and is seeking to explore issues associated with workplace bullying in greater detail.'

'The Minister has asked us to complement work currently under way to develop a *Code of Practice: Preventing and Responding to Workplace Bullying* and initiatives by state and territory governments,' she said.

As well as the formal public programs (see below), the Committee has set aside time to hear from individuals about their experiences of bullying in the workplace. To encourage maximum participation by individuals, who may be reluctant to be publicly identified, the media will not be permitted to report on these individual impact statements and none of the statements provided to the Committee will be published. Only those wishing to make statements or observe proceedings will be allowed to be present in the room.

Ms Rishworth said, 'Bullying has serious consequences for individuals and the wider community. Every Australian has a right to feel safe and respected at work. While it is not the role of the Committee to intervene in or consider individual cases, we welcome submissions from employers, employees and their representative organisations regarding proposals and suggestions for securing workplaces against bullying at a national level.'

For media comment: contact the Committee Chair, Ms Amanda Rishworth MP on 0416 086 019.

For information on the inquiry: contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4578 email workplacebullying.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the inquiry's website at http://www.aph.gov.au/workplacebullying

DARWIN PROGRAM

Date:	Tuesday, 17 July 2012	
Venue:	Ormiston Room, Level 3, Parliament House, Northern Territory Parliament	
Time:	8:15 am 8:50 am 9:35 am 10:10 am 10: 20 am 10: 50 am 11:30 am	National Network of Working Women's Centres Unions NT and affiliated unions Chamber of Commerce NT <i>Break</i> Employee Assistance Service NT Inc. (EASA) Impact Statements <i>Close</i>

BRISBANE PROGRAM

Date:	Wednesday, 18 July 2012	
Venue:	Dandiir Room, Parliament House, Queensland Parliament	
Time:	9:00 am 9:35 am 10:15am 10:55 am 11:10 am 11:45 am 12:20 pm 12:50 pm 1:25pm 2:25 pm	Harmer's Workplace Lawyers Academics Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland <i>Break</i> Dr Donna-Louise McGrath Queensland Council of Unions (QCU) and affiliated unions <i>Lunch break</i> Master Electricians Australia Impact Statements <i>Close</i>

Webcast:Live on http://www.aph.gov.au/News and Events/Watch_Parliament
(audio only). Please note that Impact statements will not be broadcast.