



Upper House
Committees

Inquiry into reparations for the Stolen Generations in NSW

A NSW parliamentary committee is inquiring into reparations for the Stolen Generations in New South Wales. It will be looking at the NSW Government's response to the Bringing them Home report, as well as potential legislation and policies to make reparations to members of the Stolen Generations in NSW and their descendants. Inquiries like this are an opportunity for members of Parliament to look at issues closely. They can help contribute to changes in public policy or laws.

What will the inquiry involve?

The first stage of the inquiry is the submission stage, where people can write to the committee to share their story or views. Submissions were due on **18 October 2015**. Submissions received after this date, in most cases, will be accepted by the committee. It is anticipated that the committee will table the report by mid-2016.

How do I write a submission?

There is no set format for a written submission. It can be in the form of a letter, or it could be a more substantial document. You can write it in your own words, telling the committee how you, your organisation or your community feel about the issues. It's an opportunity for you to tell your story in your own words. If you want some or all of your submission to be confidential, or your name to be kept confidential, you should request this and in most cases, the committee will agree.

You can email your submission to **gpsc3@parliament.nsw.gov.au**, or you can lodge it online via the committee's website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc3. You can also post or fax it to the secretariat – more details about how to do this are on the website. After the submission closing date, the committee will hold public hearings.



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NSW Parliament Art Collection

Who is on the committee?

The committee is made up of seven members:

Chair: Ms Jan Barham (*The Greens*)

Deputy Chair: The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones (*Liberal Party*)

The Hon Ben Franklin (*The Nationals*)

The Hon Courtney Houssos (*Labor Party*)

The Hon Sarah Mitchell (*The Nationals*)

Revd the Hon Fred Nile (*Christian Democratic Party*)

The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane (*Labor Party*)

You can read more about each member at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au by clicking on the 'Members' link.

The committee is also supported by the secretariat: Teresa McMichael, Tina Higgins and Angeline Chung, who would be happy to speak to you at any time during the course of the inquiry. Their contact details are listed on the back of this page.

What is a hearing?

A hearing is where the committee can speak to people in person. It's an opportunity for the committee to ask questions about particular matters and collect evidence to write its report.

When will hearings be held?

Hearings will be held later this year and early 2016, with some to be held in regional areas. The secretariat is responsible for co-ordinating the hearings and will be contacting people to invite them to attend the hearing as a witness. Not everyone who makes a submission will be invited to speak at a hearing, but if you would like to be a witness, please let the secretariat know.

The hearings are usually held in public, which means anyone can attend to watch the proceedings. This means that family members, support people and other witnesses may be in the room while people are giving evidence. It is also open to the media to attend as well.

If you are invited to appear at a hearing, the secretariat can give you more information about what is involved.

What happens after the hearings?

After the hearings, the committee will consider all of the information it has received. A report will then be prepared and presented to Parliament. The report will include a summary of the issues and committee's findings, as well as recommendations to the NSW Government.

The report will be published online and available to the public. Anyone can ask for a free copy of the report to be sent to them in the post by contacting the committee secretariat.

Contacting the committee secretariat:

The secretariat can help you if you have questions about making a submission, or if you want more information about the inquiry. You can contact the committee secretariat by calling **(02) 9230 2739** or by emailing: gpsc3@parliament.nsw.gov.au.



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