



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 8 February 2018

Preventing youth suicide – public hearing on 12 February

“Youth suicide affects families, schools and entire communities. Preventing youth suicide is an issue which the Committee takes very seriously,” said Committee Chair and Holsworthy MP Melanie Gibbons.

“We visited Singleton late last year to meet those working on the frontline in regional areas to help young people struggling with mental health issues.”

“Now we’re holding a hearing in Sydney to hear from other stakeholders, including Orygen, ReachOut, the NSW Child Death Review Team and the Coroner. We’ll also hear from the National Mental Health Commission to see what’s being done to combat youth suicide on a national level.”

The Committee’s hearing will be held at Parliament House in Sydney on Monday, 12 February 2018. Anyone is welcome to attend.

“We want to learn how data on suicide and self-harm is collected. We also want to learn about gaps in services and potential solutions. And importantly, what role should technology play in helping our young people?”

The inquiry’s terms of reference also focus on the governance arrangements and accountabilities for suicide prevention, approaches taken by primary and secondary schools, and the provision of services to vulnerable and at-risk groups.

To learn more about the hearing and the Inquiry, visit the Committee’s website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/children. A further hearing will be held in Sydney on Monday, 5 March.

If you or anyone you know needs help, please contact Lifeline on 13 11 14, Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 or the Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467.

Media contact: Melanie Gibbons 02 9825 3653