

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Select Committee on Essential Worker Housing

## MEDIA RELEASE

## **Committee on Essential Worker Housing to visit the Northern Beaches**

The Legislative Assembly Select Committee on Essential Worker Housing will be holding a public hearing in the Northern Beaches on 25 October 2024.

The inquiry is investigating options to increase housing for NSW's essential workers. It is investigating possible criteria to prioritise worker cohorts and geographical areas, and planning tools and resources to boost the supply of essential worker housing.

Committee Chair, Mr Alex Greenwich MP, said that this will be the first of several public hearings.

"Submissions to the inquiry have shown the issues essential workers in the Northern Beaches face trying to find somewhere to live," Mr Greenwich said.

"The area has high levels of rental and mortgage stress. Essential workers are finding it difficult to find an affordable place to live in this area."

"Without suitable accommodation, Northern Beaches-based essential workers are forced to commute significant distances or find a job closer to home. This impacts the whole community."

The schedule for the Northern Beaches public hearing is available on the Committee's <u>webpage</u>. The public hearing will also be live streamed on the NSW Parliament <u>website</u>.

"We will be holding hearings in other parts of NSW later this year and early next year," Mr Greenwich said.

"The Committee wants to hear the issues communities and essential workers are facing due to a shortage of housing for essential workers. We also want to hear what programs or initiatives might help essential workers find a place to live. "

Submissions to the inquiry closed on 13 September 2024. Members of the public can read the submissions on the Committee's <u>website</u>.

Dates and locations for future public hearings will be announced via the Committee's webpage.

For media enquiries please contact EssentialWorkerHousing@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

## Venue details:

Public hearing, 25 October 2024: Balgowlah RSL, 30/38 Ethel St, Seaforth NSW 2092.