



19 September 2012

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISION OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS

Mr Bruce Notley-Smith MP, Chair of the Social Policy Committee, announced today that following the closing date for submissions to its inquiry into the provision of alcohol to minors, the Committee has considered the submissions it has received and anticipates obtaining further evidence through public hearings commencing in October.

Mr Notley-Smith said 'The Committee appreciates the number and quality of submissions that have been received. A number of important stakeholders have provided valuable information to the Committee and a variety of relevant issues regarding the use of alcohol by minors in NSW have been brought to the Committee's attention.'

'The submissions received by the Committee to date have also drawn our attention to the efforts being made in other jurisdictions to address this area of concern.' Mr Notley-Smith further added. 'The fact that a number of submissions have been received from regional and metropolitan areas of the state indicates the widespread interest across NSW regarding this important topic.'

As part of the next stage of the inquiry, the Committee will hear from experts and representatives from key stakeholder organisations, in order to obtain a greater appreciation of the complexities of legislation relevant to the provision of alcohol to minors and the enforcement of related laws.

'The hearing to be conducted on 31 October will allow the Committee to obtain further evidence from some of the individuals and organisations who have made submissions to the inquiry,' Mr Notley-Smith said.

The public hearing will commence at 9.30am on Wednesday, 31 October at Parliament House. Representatives of the press who wish to record proceedings are asked to contact Committee staff to confirm arrangements for covering the hearings.

Submissions received to the inquiry and further information about the progress of the inquiry and upcoming public hearing can be found on the Committee's website www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/socialpolicy.

For additional comments, please contact Mr Bruce Notley-Smith MP on 02 9389 6669.