



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

29th September 2017

A new Upper House inquiry has been established to inquire into the provision of drug rehabilitation services in regional, rural and remote NSW.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics recently reported that Australia recorded in 2016 the highest number of drug-induced deaths since the late 1990s, with the death rate from psychostimulants, which include methamphetamines and the drug 'ice', quadrupling since 1999. 'These statistics are alarming, and give a sense of urgency to the Committee's investigations' said the Chair of the Committee, the Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC.

Mr Donnelly continued "The committee will focus on the provision of drug rehabilitation services, including the range and types of services available across regional, rural and remote NSW. The funding of services, whether public or private, the cost of services and the ease of which services can be accessed will all be examined."

"The provision of drug rehabilitation services in regional, rural and remote NSW has its own particular challenges, and this inquiry will assist in the identification of any gaps and shortages in the provision of these services" said Mr Donnelly.

The inquiry will also look at the evidence of rehabilitation services that have had both successful and unsuccessful outcomes, and assess the evidence regarding the efficacy and impacts of mandatory detoxification programs for those who self-harm or are subject to an apprehended violence order.

The Committee welcomes submissions from interested parties, which should be received by 8th December 2017. Submissions can be lodged via the parliamentary website:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2466>

For more information, including terms of reference and guidelines for making a submission, please visit the parliamentary website.

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For further information please contact Committee Chair Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC, on 9230 2280