



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL ISSUES

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES TO BE EXTENDED INTO 2019**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**14<sup>TH</sup> November 2018**

The Social Issues committee has resolved to recommend that the inquiry into Gay and Transgender hate crimes between 1970 and 2010 continue past the March 2019 election to ensure that the committee can take evidence from all stakeholders, including people living in regional and remote locations.

The Chair of the committee, the Hon. Shayne Mallard MLC, said: 'This is too important an inquiry to rush. We know that many people who have experienced hate crimes have left Sydney and are now living in regional or remote locations. We plan to recommend to the Parliament that the inquiry be re-established after the election to ensure that evidence can be taken from all those affected by hate crimes and allow sufficient time to develop considered recommendations to the New South Wales Government.'

The first public hearing on the inquiry into Gay and Transgender hate crimes between 1970 and 2010 was held on 9 November. The committee heard from ACON, the NSW Police Force, the NSW Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby, Mr Nicholas Stewart, Mr Alex Greenwich MP, Mr Larry Galbraith and Mr Duncan McNab. The committee will next hear evidence from survivors of gay hate violence and their families, as well as academics, legal experts and other stakeholders, during hearings scheduled for 27-28 November 2018.

The inquiry will also conduct a guided site inspection of the location for many of the gay hate crimes and murders along the Bondi cliff tops.

Mr Mallard continued: 'The extension of the inquiry into the new year will mean consecutive parliaments will examine this dark chapter in our history in more detail. We want to make concrete recommendations for change, so that we do not, ever again in our lifetimes, examine over 80 homicides and more than 20 unsolved homicides of people in NSW who suffered the indignity and injustice of being a victim of gay and transgender hate crime.'

For further information about the inquiry, including the transcript of the first hearing, please visit the [website](#).

-ENDS-

*For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon. Shayne Mallard MLC, on 0413 302 826*