



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL ISSUES

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES LAST HEARINGS FOR 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26TH November 2018

The final two hearings for 2018 will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday this week for the inquiry into Gay and Transgender hate crimes between 1970 and 2010. Tuesday will see the committee take evidence from witnesses including Mr Alan Rosendale, a survivor of gay hate crime; Mr Steve Johnson, brother of the deceased victim of gay hate crime, Scott Johnson; and journalist Mr Rick Feneley.

The Chair of the committee, the Hon. Shayne Mallard MLC, said: 'Mr Alan Rosendale is the only surviving victim of the cases listed the committee's terms of reference. His evidence to the committee will be a first-hand account of his experience of gay hate violence in NSW in 1989.'

Mr Mallard continued: 'Steve Johnson, Scott's brother, will be able to speak to his experience as the family member of a victim of hate crime and the response of the NSW criminal justice system to Scott's death in Sydney, 30 years ago. Rick Feneley has written extensively about gay hate crimes and will be able to share a valuable perspective on response to hate crime over the key years that are the focus of the inquiry.'

Other survivors of gay hate violence, Mr David McMahon and Mr Michael Atkinson, will also give evidence on Tuesday, as well as Mr Paul Simes, who witnessed gay hate violence. Other witnesses include Mr Peter Rolfe, President of homicide support group, Support after Murder Inc and Professor Stephen Tomsen of the University of Western Sydney.

On Wednesday, the committee will hear from Professor Willem de Lint and Associate Professor Derek Dalton of the Flinders University, who will speak to their review of Strike Force Parrabell; Dr Andy Kaladelfos of the University of New South Wales; Associate Professor Shirleene Robinson of Macquarie University; and Dr Allen George of the University of Sydney, who will share insights from their research.

To ensure that all stakeholders have the opportunity to participate in the inquiry, particularly those in regional areas, the committee intends to recommend that hearings continue after the 2019 election.

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

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon. Shayne Mallard MLC, on 0413 302826