MODERN SLAVERY COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN FOR UPPER HOUSE INQUIRY INTO THE MODERN SLAVERY ACT 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 25 AUGUST 2023

The Modern Slavery Committee has commenced a review into the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* and is calling for public submissions.

Dr McGirr Chair of the Modern Slavery Committee said: "The Act requires NSW agencies to take reasonable steps to ensure that goods and services procured by agencies are not the product of modern slavery. It also established the position of the NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner, who advocates for actions to combat modern slavery and monitors modern slavery risks in NSW."

Dr Joe McGirr continued: "The *Modern Slavery Act* requires the committee to review the Act within 2 years of its commencement to determine whether its policy objectives remain valid, and whether it terms remain appropriate for securing those objectives."

Dr McGirr concluded: "We are not immune to modern slavery in NSW. As we mark nearly 20 months since the Act commenced, I and the committee look forward to examining whether the Act is achieving its intended goals of addressing modern slavery risks in NSW Government procurement and in NSW more broadly."

Have your say

The committee is calling for public submissions until 5 October 2023. The committee intends to publish its final report by the end of 2023.

Further information about the inquiry is available on the <u>committee's website</u>.

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, Dr Joe McGirr MP, on (02) 6921 1622.