



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON BIRTH TRAUMA

MEDIA RELEASE

Over 4000 submissions received to NSW Upper House inquiry into birth trauma

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

28 August 2023

The NSW Legislative Council Select Committee on Birth Trauma has received over 4000 submissions to its inquiry, with the majority from individuals sharing their personal stories of birth trauma.

Committee Chair, the Hon Emma Hurst MLC, thanked submission authors for sharing their stories: 'The committee appreciates the response to our call for submissions. The sheer number of submissions alone demonstrates the prevalence of birth trauma and the urgent need to consider legislative, policy or other reforms that can be enacted to prevent birth trauma. Thank you to all individuals from across the country who have taken the time to share their story with us.'

Given the large number of submissions received and the need to start organising hearings, the committee is prioritising the processing and reviewing of individual submissions received from individuals based in New South Wales. The committee will then move onto other submissions received from individuals based in other states. Interstate submissions will be accepted by the committee and likely be kept confidential due to resourcing constraints.

'Consistent with standard practice in previous inquiries with a large number of submissions, the committee has adopted an approach to the management of submissions that will enable it to progress the inquiry onto the next important phase. The committee has begun organising hearings in September to question key witnesses on the important themes raised in submissions,' the Chair commented.

Hearing schedules

The committee is in the process of finalising witness lists for its upcoming hearings on 4 and 7 September 2023. The hearing schedules for these hearings will be uploaded on the committee's website closer to the hearing dates.

For more information about this inquiry, see the [inquiry webpage](#).

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Emma Hurst MLC, on (02) 9230 3462