



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON BIRTH TRAUMA

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA WILL HOLD ITS FIRST PUBLIC HEARINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

31 August 2023

The Select Committee on birth trauma in New South Wales will hold its first two public hearings on Monday 4 September at NSW Parliament in Sydney and Thursday 7 September in Wollongong.

On Monday 4 September the committee will hear from witnesses including NSW Health, peak birth trauma and maternity organisations, expert bodies in obstetrics, gynaecology and midwifery, as well as legal experts and representative organisations and associations.

The committee will then travel to Wollongong on Thursday 7 September to hear directly from people with lived experience of birth trauma, as well as key advocacy and health organisations, health experts, and local hospitals and health districts from the Illawarra Shoalhaven region.

With the committee receiving over 4000 submissions, Committee Chair, the Hon Emma Hurst MLC, acknowledged the considerable public interest in the inquiry, and noted the value of hearing from these witnesses: "The volume of submissions speaks to the importance of this issue to the community. The witnesses at these hearings represent a wide range of expertise in the maternity care and advocacy space."

"The committee looks forward to hearing evidence from all stakeholders, particularly those with lived experience who will provide a unique insight into the extent of birth trauma, and the breadth of its impact."

The Chair concluded: "The committee is grateful to these witnesses for agreeing to share their stories and expertise, and in doing so, invaluable contributing to this important inquiry."

Hearing details

The hearings will be held on Monday 4 September and Thursday 7 September 2023.

The hearings will be open to the public, and live streamed on the NSW Parliament's website: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Pages/webcasts.aspx>

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

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