



MEDIA RELEASE

SUBMISSIONS OPEN FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ETHICAL CLOTHING EXTENDED RESPONSIBILITIES SCHEME 2005 (NSW)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1 December 2023

The Modern Slavery Committee has commenced an inquiry into the Ethical Clothing Extended Responsibilities Scheme 2005 (NSW) (the Scheme) and is calling for public submissions.

Dr Joe McGirr, Chair of the Modern Slavery Committee said: 'The Scheme sets out to ensure outworkers in the clothing trades receive their lawful entitlements as prescribed under the Clothing Trades (State) Award and any other industrial instrument enforceable under the *Industrial Relations Act 1996*'.

The Chair continued: 'This inquiry will investigate the Scheme's potential to mitigate the risks of modern slavery in the clothing manufacturing industry in New South Wales, by examining the key characteristics of the industry, the application and enforceability of the current scheme and whether it conforms with Australia's commitment to relevant international standards and frameworks'.

'The committee will also consider whether changes to the scheme are required to better mitigate the risks of modern slavery, and whether the scheme should be extended to other industries vulnerable to the risks of modern slavery.' Dr McGirr added.

Have your say

The committee invites interested stakeholders to lodge a submission. The closing date for submissions is **29 February 2024**.

Further information about the inquiry is available on the committee's [website](#).

-ENDS-

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