



## MEDIA RELEASE

# FIRST HEARINGS FOR INQUIRY INTO THE PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**6 MARCH 2024**

The Legislative Council's Portfolio Committee No. 7 will hold two public hearings at NSW Parliament House in March, as part of its inquiry into the planning system and the impacts of climate change on the environment and communities.

Across both hearings, the committee will hear from government agencies, academics, planning professionals, legal practitioners, local councils, environmental groups, community organisations and the insurance industry, among other stakeholders.

The Chair of the committee, Ms Sue Higginson MLC said: "The committee has received a wide range of submissions from stakeholders concerned about how the planning system in New South Wales operates. Many submissions were received from people across the state worried about the impacts of developments on the environment in their local communities, from flood and fire prone areas to areas vulnerable to coastal erosion and drought."

Ms Higginson continued: "The committee looks forward to hearing directly from a variety of stakeholders about how we can best ensure the planning system protects people and the natural and built environment from the impacts of climate change."

### **Hearing details**

The first hearing will be held on Friday 8 March 2024 from 9.15 am until 4.30 pm in the Jubilee Room, NSW Parliament House. The second hearing will be held on Friday 15 March 2024 from 9.00 am until 1.30 pm in the Macquarie Room, NSW Parliament House.

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 the inquiry, please visit the [inquiry webpage](#).

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*For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Sue Higginson MLC, on (02) 9230 2273.*