



28 February 2008

Legislative Council

INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING

Public hearings commence Monday 3 March 2008

The Select Committee on Electoral and Political Party Funding will hold the first of four hearings on Monday, 3 March 2008. Committee Chairman Revd Fred Nile said, "The Committee is committed to conducting a thorough and wide ranging inquiry into the issues affecting electoral and political party funding in New South Wales."

Revd Nile continued, "The Committee welcomes the Premier's commitment to reforming the electoral funding and disclosure regime and in particular scrutinising the vexed issue of developer donations.

Clearly there is a high level of community concern about this issue as shown by the large number of submissions to the Committee. The Committee has received over 160 submissions to date, with more arriving every day. The Committee will ensure that there are opportunities for continued public participation throughout the inquiry."

The Committee's four public hearings will be held at Parliament House on the following dates:

- Monday 3 March 2008
- Monday 10 March 2008
- Monday 31 March 2008
- Friday 4 April 2008.

The Committee will shortly announce details of a public forum at which community members will be able to speak with the Committee about the issues that concern them. Revd Nile said, "The Committee is pleased to examine an issue of such importance to the people of New South Wales. We look forward to making positive recommendations for policy change."

The Committee's website www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/partyfunding contains a witness schedule for the first public hearing and will be updated with further information on future Committee activities.

**For further comment please contact Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC,
Chairman, ph. 9230 2478**