



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEE SYSTEM

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **BEYOND 2015: SHAPING THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM OF THE FUTURE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**10 November 2015**

The NSW Legislative Council recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of its modern committee system. This provided an opportunity to acknowledge the significant contribution by committees to the effective governance of NSW. During this time committees have conducted hundreds of inquiries into significant issues including forced adoption practices, policing in Cabramatta, domestic violence and same-sex marriage. An inquiry to examine how to shape the committee system of the future was announced today.

‘Our committee system owes much to the foresight of a small group of members in the mid-1980s tasked with proposing a committee structure that would reflect the contemporary role of an upper house.’ said the Hon Scott Farlow MLC, Chair of the Select Committee on the Legislative Council Committee System.

Mr Farlow continued, ‘Today, the Select Committee on the Legislative Council Committee System offers an opportunity to build on this vision and ensure that Council committees continue to play a key role in policy development, lawmaking and holding the executive government to account.’

‘The committee has published a discussion paper that highlights key matters we are interested in addressing. This paper is intended to provide a starting point for your submission, however stakeholders should not feel constrained by these issues; we are keen to hear a wide range of perspectives on any aspect of the role and operation of parliamentary committees.’ Mr Farlow concluded.

The discussion paper is available on the committee’s website at: [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lccommitteesystem](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lccommitteesystem). Submissions are due by Sunday 6 March 2016 and should be lodged via the committee’s website. The committee intends to conduct a symposium and hearings in 2016. If you are interested in attending the symposium and/or giving evidence at a hearing please indicate this in your submission.

For more information, including terms of reference and guidelines for making a submission, please visit the committee’s website.

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*For further comment please contact the Hon Scott Farlow MLC,  
Committee Chair, on 9230 3786*