



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 2 September 2022

Commission of Inquiry: next week's hearings

The next – and last – scheduled set of hearings of the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings will commence in Hobart next Wednesday 7 September.

To run for five days from Wednesday 7 to Tuesday 13 September, these hearings will include a focus on the Ashley Youth Detention Centre and the Department of Health, as well as opportunities for policy reform and the way forward.

A number of senior public servants from Departments relevant to the Commission's work will be called, including witnesses held over from previous hearings.

Dr Peter Renshaw, Executive Director of Medical Services at the Launceston General Hospital and Kathrine Morgan-Wicks, the Secretary of the Department of Health, are expected to be among those giving evidence.

Other heads of agencies will also be re-called to appear before the Commission.

As with previous hearings, the evidence to be heard is likely to be confronting for many Tasmanians, particularly those directly affected by child sexual abuse.

Help is available and the Commission encourages those affected to reach out during this time.

A list of support organisations is available on the Commission's [website](#).

Details of the hearings are below. A [hearings schedule](#) is available on the Commission's website.

Hearings schedule

Week 8	Wednesday 7 September – Friday 9 September 2022	Kannenner Room, Mövenpick Hotel Hobart, 28 Elizabeth Street, Hobart
Week 9	Monday 12 September – Tuesday 13 September 2022	Kannenner Room, Mövenpick Hotel Hobart, 28 Elizabeth Street, Hobart

As always, members of the public, including the media are welcome to attend in person or watch the live stream on the Commission's website.

Please note, there will be no live streaming room at this venue and space will be limited inside the hearings room.

For those attending, proof of COVID-19 vaccination status will be requested on arrival and masks should be worn on site.

Witness lists will be finalised daily and published on the Commission's website.

The Commission will hand down its final report and recommendations by 1 May 2023.

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