



MEDIA RELEASE

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Inquiry into the Prevention of Youth Suicide

Parliament's Committee on Children and Young People is commencing an inquiry into the current approaches aimed at preventing youth suicide in New South Wales.

"Too many of us know, or know of, a young person who has taken their own life. The suicide of a young person has a huge and lasting impact on friends, families, schools, and entire communities," said Committee Chair and Holsworthy MP Melanie Gibbons.

"We know that there is much work being done in New South Wales aimed at preventing youth suicide. We want to better understand the ways in which this important issue is being tackled, including what is being done well, and what could be improved.

"We'll be looking at the efforts of government, service providers and schools to prevent the suicide of our young people. We'll also examine the services available on the ground in local communities, especially regional and rural areas."

The Committee will also inquire into any gaps in suicide prevention activities and programs across government, governance arrangements and accountabilities, data collection about the number of young people committing suicide or attempting suicide, the provision of services to vulnerable and at-risk groups, and the information and training available to service providers working on the frontline.

The Committee is currently inviting submissions from the public and in particular is keen to hear from individuals and organisations working to prevent youth suicide.

The closing date for submissions to the inquiry is Thursday 31 August 2017.

Further information about the inquiry can be obtained by visiting the Committee's website at: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/children>

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