



MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 20 October 2021

Commission of Inquiry hearings to open in Hobart

The Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings will hold an opening hearing at 10am on Tuesday 26 October 2021.

To be held in Hobart, the hearing will provide an opportunity for the Commissioners (the Honourable Marcia Neave AO, Professor Leah Bromfield and the Honourable Robert Benjamin AM) to formally commence proceedings and give an update of the Commission's progress, as well as an overview of the next stages of the inquiry.

The Commissioners will also hear opening remarks from Counsel Assisting, Maree Norton, who will be speaking on behalf of other Counsel, Rachel Ellyard, Elizabeth Bennett and Alexandra Darcey. She will explain their approach to the conduct of future hearings, which will hear evidence in early 2022.

The hearing will be held at the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal in Barrack Street, Hobart, and will be open to the public and the media.

Footage of the hearing and the hearing room will also be live-streamed to the Commission's website.

"We are delighted to formally open the hearings of the Commission of Inquiry," said Commissioner Neave.

"This is a vital opportunity to learn from the past so we can better protect Tasmanian children in government institutional settings in the future."

Hearings are just one element of the Commission's work to obtain a better understanding of the Tasmanian Government's current responses to child sexual abuse.

Further details on the opening hearing will be available on the Commission's website: commissionofinquiry.tas.gov.au.

Contact: Commission of Inquiry

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