



The Healing Foundation to appear before alcohol inquiry

The House Indigenous Affairs Committee will receive evidence from the Healing Foundation on Thursday as part of its inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The Healing Foundation will give evidence on the role of services dealing with trauma and their Community Healing strategies in addressing intergenerational trauma. As well as providing treatment and support to people affected by alcohol misuse.

In its submission to the inquiry, the Healing Foundation drew the Committee's attention to the role of trauma as a key determinant of alcohol misuse, and subsequent alcohol-related harm.

The Chair of the Committee, Dr Sharman Stone said 'The effects of trauma on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities cannot be underestimated and it is tragic but not surprising that people tend to misuse alcohol.'

Dr Stone added, 'There is increasing evidence that shows that services which adopt a trauma informed approach, incorporate recent learnings about the physical and psychological effects of trauma, and that respect and draw on the ancient wisdom of Indigenous cultures are most successful in facilitating healing and recovery.'

Details of the hearing are as follows:

When Thursday, 26 June 2014
Time 11.30am – 12.30pm
Where Committee Room 1R4, Parliament House, Canberra

The full terms of reference are available at www.aph.gov.au/indigenousaffairs

The proceedings will be audio webcast live on: www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair Dr Sharman Stone MP on (03) 5821 5371. **For background information**, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 62774559 or indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au