Between 2 and 26 July 2019 the Royal Commission will conduct its first public hearings. The public hearings are an important part of the activities of the Royal Commission and will allow the Commission to gather information about Victoria’s Mental Health System. The hearings will inform the Commissioners deliberations leading up to the production of an interim report in November 2019.

At the public hearings, the Royal Commission will hear from witnesses about issues and questions relevant to the Royal Commission’s Terms of Reference. Witnesses will include consumers and carers, service providers and their workforce, experts and government representatives.

The Royal Commission values and respects the contribution that people living with mental illness provide to inform the work of the Commission, and a significant proportion of the hearings will be dedicated to listening to hearing about their experiences.

The schedule below may be subject to variation and the Royal Commission may depart from it before or during the hearings if it considers it appropriate to do so.

### Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day and date of hearing</th>
<th>Topic and witness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day ten</strong>&lt;br&gt;15 July 2019</td>
<td><strong>Rural</strong>&lt;br&gt;Terry Welch, Chief Executive Officer, Maryborough District Health Service&lt;br&gt;Community witness&lt;br&gt;Community witness&lt;br&gt;Community witness&lt;br&gt;Dr Ravi Bhat, Divisional Clinical Director, Goulburn Valley Area Mental Health Service, Goulburn Valley Health&lt;br&gt;Dr Alison Kennedy, Research Fellow, Deakin University and National Centre for Farmer Health&lt;br&gt;Dr Gerard Ingham, General Practitioner, Springs Medical Clinic, Daylesford</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong>&lt;br&gt;Maryborough Community Hub, 48 Burns Street, Maryborough, Victoria</td>
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<td><strong>Day eleven</strong>&lt;br&gt;16 July 2019</td>
<td><strong>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</strong>&lt;br&gt;Community witness&lt;br&gt;Helen Kennedy, Chief Operations Officer, Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation&lt;br&gt;Andrew Jackomos, Executive Director, Aboriginal Economic</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong>&lt;br&gt;Aborigines Advancement League, 2 Watt Street,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day and date of hearing</td>
<td>Topic and witness</td>
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| Thornbury, Victoria    | Development, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions  
                          Community witness  
                          Winthrop Professor Helen Milroy, Commissioner, National Mental Health Commission  
                          Adam Burns, Psychiatric Nurse, Wadamba Wilam  
                          Dr Graham Gee, Senior Psychologist, Victorian Aboriginal Health Service |
| **Day twelve**  
17 July 2019  
**Location**  
Level 2, Melbourne Town Hall,  
90-130 Swanston Street,  
Melbourne, Victoria | **Inclusive systems - LGBTIQ+ and culturally and linguistically diverse communities**  
Ro Allen, Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality  
Dr Ruth McNair, General Practitioner, Northside Clinic and Co-chair, Victorian Government Health and Human Services LGBTI Working Group  
A/Prof Michelle Telfer, General Paediatrician, Adolescent Medicine Physician and Head of the Department of Adolescent Medicine, The Royal Children’s Hospital  
Katie Larsen, General Manager, Diversity, Inclusion and Participation, Mind Australia Limited  
Community witness |
| **Day thirteen**  
18 July 2019  
**Location**  
Level 2, Melbourne Town Hall,  
90-130 Swanston Street,  
Melbourne, Victoria | **Inclusive systems - LGBTIQ+ and culturally and linguistically diverse communities**  
Adriana Mendoza, Manager, Victorian Transcultural Mental Health  
Community witness  
Kylie Scoullar, General Manager Direct Services, Foundation House  
Community witness |
| **Day fourteen**  
19 July 2019  
**Location**  
Level 2, Melbourne Town Hall,  
90-130 Swanston Street,  
Melbourne, Victoria | **Community resilience**  
Gregory McMahon, Executive Principal, Hallam Senior College and Strategic Director, Doveton College  
Emma King, Chief Executive Officer, Victorian Council of Social Service  
Scientia Professor Helen Christensen AO, Director and Chief Scientist, Black Dog Institute  
Jane Anderson, La Trobe Health Advocate  
Matiu Bush, Founder, One Good Street |

The hearings will also be live streamed on our website at [www.rcvmhs.vic.gov.au](http://www.rcvmhs.vic.gov.au), unless the Royal Commission orders otherwise.