



Kevin Greene MP
Minister for Community Services
MEDIA RELEASE

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DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR SPECIAL COMMISSION INTO CHILD PROTECTION

Community Services Minister Kevin Greene today announced the NSW Government has agreed to extend the deadline for the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection, following a request from its independent chair.

Mr Greene said the deadline will be extended three months until September 30.

“The Honourable James Wood, who is heading the review, has requested this extension from the Government,” he said.

“Mr Wood has chaired more than 20 forums across NSW and has asked for a three month extension to fully process the huge amount of information gathered.

“The forum has now received more than 600 submissions, has held 65 stakeholder meetings, and issued 73 official summons’ for information.

“Nine forums focusing on specific issues were held in Sydney and 14 forums were taken to regional and rural NSW.

“And the Commission announced last week another forum will be held in Toomelah/Boggabilla next Wednesday, June 11.

“It’s clear there has been a huge interest in the Commission, with a massive volume of information collected. Due to this and the complex nature of the child protection system itself, Mr Wood has requested more time to make his recommendations.

Mr Greene said the Lemna Government established the Special Commission of Inquiry in November last year to examine the most critical issues relating to child protection in the State, including:

- the process of making child protection reports and how they are managed;
- the management of individual cases;
- the professional supervision of staff;
- the oversight framework and processes for reviewing the deaths of children;
- the systems around caring for children who can no longer live safely at home;
- resources in the child protection system; and
- how government and non-government agencies work with each other to provide services to vulnerable children and families.

Mr Greene said he looks forward to receiving the report at the end of September.

Media Inquiries: Adam Wallace 0407 079 369