

# Public hearings

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## Case Study 54, March 2017, Sydney

The Royal Commission will hold a public hearing to inquire into the current policies and procedures of Jehovah's Witnesses and Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia Ltd in relation to child-protection and child-safety standards, including responding to allegations of child sexual abuse.

The public hearing will commence in the week beginning 20 March 2017 at the Royal Commission's hearing rooms in Sydney.

### Location

The hearing will be held at Level 17, Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney.

### The scope and purpose of the public hearing is to inquire into:

1. The current policies and procedures of Jehovah's Witnesses and Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia Ltd in relation to child protection and child-safe standards, including responding to allegations of child sexual abuse.
2. Factors that may have contributed to the occurrence of child sexual abuse at Jehovah's Witnesses and Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia Ltd institutions.
3. Factors that may have affected the institutional response of Jehovah's Witnesses and Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia Ltd to child sexual abuse.
4. The responses of Jehovah's Witnesses and Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia Ltd to relevant case study report(s) and other Royal Commission reports.
5. Any related matters.

The purpose of this public hearing is not to inquire into individual sets of facts or particular events as has occurred in previous Royal Commission case studies.

### Leave to appear

The Royal Commission may invite selected individuals or organisations to speak to, or give evidence about, the submissions they have previously provided, however it is not proposed that leave to appear will be granted to these individuals or organisations, on the basis that they are speaking or giving evidence in this capacity.

It is not essential for others who give evidence in a hearing to apply for leave to appear – witnesses may give evidence without applying for leave.

Any person or institution wishing to seek leave to appear is invited to lodge a written application for leave to appear at the public hearings by 7 December 2016

Applications for leave to appear should be made using the form available [here](#).

### Exhibits

[View the exhibits list](#)

### Transcripts

There are no transcripts currently available for this case study.

### Media Releases

There are no media releases currently available for this case study.