



# STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria  
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party

## MEDIA RELEASE



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### **Grimley Calls for Implementation of Interim Mental Health Royal Commission Interim Recommendations**

State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party Stuart Grimley MP has asked the State Government why they haven't yet implemented the interim recommendations handed down by the Royal Commission Into Mental Health last November.

Using Question Time, Mr Grimley asked the Health Minister to "outline which of the 9 recommendations from the Interim Report have now been fully implemented, specifically the status of recommendation 9 which is the 'Mental Health Implementation Office'".

The Mental Health Implementation Office is an administrative office which would operate under the Department of Health and Human Services and be in charge of ensuring all recommendations are implemented and are true to the intent of the Royal Commission, including establishing 'lived experiences workforces'.

Mr Grimley's urgent request has come as a result of a fourth young man taking his own life in the past three months in the Geelong region alone; one as recent as the weekend.

In his speech, Mr Grimley acknowledged the Government's 3-month extension in handing down the full report (now February 2021) to allow for more submissions given the cancellation of hearings due to COVID-19, but also asked if regional Victorians would be at a disadvantage because of this.

Mr Grimley has travelled his Western Victoria electorate extensively and a recurring theme among meetings with constituents and councils is the lack of mental health support, especially for rural Victorians.

The Royal Commission issued nine interim recommendations which can be viewed [here](#) [MS Download].

#### **Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:**

"The Interim Report contains a number of priority recommendations that address immediate needs and lay the foundations for a new approach to mental health.

Why is it that we are now six months' down the track after the Interim Report has been released and the Mental Health Implementation Office doesn't have an implementation date? I'm aware of the huge curve ball that is Coronavirus, but mental health is now more important than ever to be addressing swiftly.

There are big differences between the mental health services we need in the city, versus the mental health services we need in country Victoria and I want to make sure this is addressed without delay."

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