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MEDIA RELEASE

Public Hearing to Examine the Report of the Inspector of the Independent Commission Against Corruption regarding Operation Hale

The Chair of the Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption, Mr Damien Tudehope MP, has announced a public hearing to be held on Thursday 11 February 2016. The hearing will examine the report of the Inspector of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) into Operation Hale handed down on 4 December 2015. The report is available at www.oiiac.nsw.gov.au and at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/icac.

The ICAC Inspector, the Hon David Levine AO RFD QC; the ICAC Commissioner, the Hon Megan Latham; and the NSW Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Mr Lloyd Babb SC, will appear to give evidence at the hearing.

The ICAC launched Operation Hale in 2014 to investigate allegations that Deputy Senior Crown Prosecutor Margaret Cunneen SC had acted with the intention to pervert the course of justice. The ICAC Inspector announced an audit of Operation Hale on 3 November 2014.

On 15 April 2015, the High Court ruled that the ICAC had no jurisdiction to investigate the matter and the ICAC later referred the matter to the DPP to consider whether charges of attempting to pervert the course of justice and giving false evidence to the ICAC were available. On 24 July 2015, the NSW Solicitor General (to whom the matter had been referred) announced that no criminal charges should be laid.

The public hearing will be held in the Macquarie Room Parliament House, commencing at 10am. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

For media comment, please contact Mr Damien Tudehope MP on (02) 9877 0266. Further information about the public hearing can be found at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/icac or by contacting Elspeth Dyer, Committee Manager, on (02) 9230 2214.