PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

PUBLIC HEARING INTO FLAMMABLE CLADDING ON NSW BUILDINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10 December 2019

The Upper House Public Accountability Committee will be holding a further hearing tomorrow, Wednesday 11 December 2019 for its inquiry into the regulation of building standards, building quality and building disputes.

The hearing will specifically focus on the issue of flammable cladding and non-conforming building products on New South Wales Buildings.

Mr David Shoebridge MLC, Chair of the Committee, said, "Hundreds of buildings across New South Wales are potentially clad in highly flammable material. Urgent action is needed to rectify these issues and make the buildings we live in here in New South Wales safe."

Mr Shoebridge continued, "We do not want to wait for an incident such as the Grenfell Tower fire in London to take action on this matter. It is important that people are made aware if they are living or working in buildings containing flammable cladding and are provided support and guidance from government in order to rectify these buildings."

"The committee will be talking to key stakeholders at its upcoming hearing on this issue and a way forward. We will hear from owners who are currently navigating the rectification of cladding on their buildings, as well as Local Government NSW, the Insurance Council of Australia, a number of unions and key industry stakeholders. The committee will also hear from representatives from Fire and Rescue NSW and the Investigations and Counter Terrorism unit in the NSW Police Force. Finally the committee will question departmental representatives, including the NSW Fair Trading Commissioner, on what they are doing to fix this concerning issue," Mr Shoebridge stated.

The hearing will commence at **10.00** am at Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. The hearing is open to the public and will be webcast live via the Parliament's <u>website</u>.

For further information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference, and submissions received, please visit the committee's website at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/publicaccountability.

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