

OFFICIAL

The Hon. Mark Latham MLC Chair PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 3 – Education Parliament House, Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Via email: <u>PortfolioCommittee3@parliament.nsw.gov.au</u>

Dear Chair

Thank you for your invitation to appear before the Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education inquiry into the termination of the former Managing Director of TAFE NSW.

I am unavailable to attend the hearing at the time proposed by the Committee due to other ministerial commitments.

Having reviewed the transcripts of earlier hearings, I am also writing to decline to participate in any future hearings of this Inquiry.

The former Managing Director of TAFE NSW chose not to publicly discuss his termination until required to do so by this Committee. I have also chosen not to do so as I believe it to be inappropriate to provide public comment on the detail of individual employment arrangements.

Evidence provided to the Committee to date, including from the former Managing Director, has confirmed that the termination process followed was lawful and consistent with past practice.

With regard to the recruitment of the former Managing Director, I adhered to Departmental advice on all aspects including salary.

Throughout my Ministerial career overseeing multiple agencies, I have always expected the highest standards from senior public servants. The people of New South Wales deserve nothing less.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Dr Geoff Lee MP Minister for Corrections

Cc The Hon Damien Tudehope MLC Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council