LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

Parliamentary inquiry into the appointment of Mr John Barilaro as Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner to the Americas to hold first hearing on 29 June 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 28 June 2022

The Upper House committee which recently established an inquiry into the appointment of Mr John Barilaro as Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner to the Americas will hold its first hearing on Wednesday 29 June 2022. The key issues being explored by the committee include:

- the circumstances leading up to the appointment
- the process undertaken to make the appointment
- the probity and integrity measures that were undertaken as part of the appointment.

The hearing will take place over two hours and hear from one witness, Ms Amy Brown, Chief Executive Officer of Investment NSW and Secretary of Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade.

The Chair of the committee, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC said, "The committee is pleased that Ms Amy Brown has accepted our invitation to discuss the recruitment processes and circumstances leading up to the former Deputy Premier's appointment as Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner to the Americas, a role that attracts a \$500,000 salary package funded by NSW taxpayers."

Ms Faehrmann continued, "The community places its trust in the public service and its leaders to make integrous recruitment decisions, based on merit and the candidate's experience. It is therefore essential that the NSW Government representatives, who appear to be the key decision-makers in this appointment, provide an accurate and fulsome account to the NSW public of how Mr Barilaro was the best candidate for the role."

Hearing details

The hearing will be held on Wednesday 29 June 2022 commencing at 10.00 am.

The hearing will be live streamed on the NSW Parliament's website via bit.ly/webcastnsw.

For further information about the inquiry, including the committee membership, terms of reference, and hearing schedule, please visit the committee's <u>website</u>.

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Cate Faehrmann, on 9230 3771.