



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 raises concerns to ICAC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12 July 2022

The Upper House committee conducting an inquiry into the appointment of Mr John Barilaro as Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner to the Americas has forwarded a copy of its transcript from Monday 11 July 2022 to the state's watchdog.

Chair of the committee, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC, stated, "The evidence that the Public Accountability Committee heard from Ms Jenny West, Former Deputy Secretary of Investment NSW, about the circumstances and reasons why she did not get the Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner to the Americas role was nothing short of explosive."

Ms Faehrmann continued, "The committee was particularly concerned at Ms West's evidence that the role was being given as a 'present' to someone else. The public demands that public service roles, funded by the taxpayer dollar, be recruited with the highest level of integrity. It is clear that this has not been the case in this situation."

"The committee has therefore forwarded a copy of Ms West's evidence to the Independent Commission Against Corruption for their information."

Another hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday 19 July with invitations issued to the General Counsel of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and two former staffers of Mr Barilaro.

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 [website](#).

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Cate Faehrmann, on 0487 247 960 or Ben.Cronly@parliament.nsw.gov.au.