



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO.2 - HEALTH

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **INQUIRY INTO COVID-19 CLASSIFICATION OF THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**21 December 2022**

A Parliamentary Upper House Committee has released its report on the inquiry into the COVID-19 classification of the Minister for Health in June 2021.

The inquiry examined the evidence used to determine the classification of the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health, as a casual contact of the Hon. Adam Marshall MP (who was later found to be positive for COVID-19) after they both attended a function at NSW Parliament House on 22 June 2021.

As the evidence presented to the inquiry was conflicting ultimately, the committee resolved that it was not possible to make a conclusive finding about the classification of Mr Hazzard as a casual contact after a person unknowingly infected with COVID-19 attended a function at NSW Parliament House on 22 June 2021.

The Chair, the Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC, said: 'In the course of the inquiry the committee considered evidence from various sources. This included from Mr Marshall; individuals who were at the function; a contact tracer; and the NSW Chief Health Officer, Dr Kerry Chant AO PSM. The committee also scrutinised documents provided by NSW Health in particular, notes and records of interviews of Mr Marshall and Mr Hazzard by contact tracers in June 2021.'

Mr Donnelly went on to say 'An examination of the evidence before the committee produced contradictory accounts of what precisely occurred between Mr Marshall and Mr Hazzard at the function on 22 June 2021, that were not able to be reconciled.'

Mr Donnelly continued: 'The committee also concluded that throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the work of the contact tracing teams from NSW Health, along with the NSW Chief Health Officer, Dr Kerry Chant AO PSM, has been conducted with high levels of integrity given the unprecedented nature of the pandemic.'

### **Report details**

The report is available on the committee's website:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2905>

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*For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC, on 9230 2280.*