

# QUESTION ON NOTICE

## Legislative Council

ASKED BY: The Hon Meg Webb MLC

ANSWERED BY: The Hon Leonie Hiscutt MLC, Leader for the Government in the Legislative Council

### QUESTION:

With regard to the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Response to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings and the Attorney-General's commitment, announced on 17 October this year, to establish an independent review into whether public officers who received a grant of legal assistance during the Commission of Inquiry acted in good faith, or whether they should be required to reimburse the Crown:-

- (1) What is the process and criteria by which the promised "*suitably qualified and independent person*" will be selected?
- (2)
  - (a) Will the independent reviewer be selected from outside the State of Tasmania; and
  - (b) if not, why not?
- (3) What is the expected commencement date for this independent inquiry and its expected timeframe of operation?
- (4) Will the government commit to making the independent review's findings and any recommendations public upon completion?

### ANSWER:

#### Question 1:

- The Government has considered a number of suitably qualified and independent persons who could undertake this role. It is desirable that the individual is legally trained and has experience within Government settings or the practice of public, industrial and administrative law.

- As recently announced, Sam Tatarka OAM, from Victoria, will be undertaking this important work.

Question 2:

- Mr Tatarka OAM is from Victoria.

Question 3:

- It is anticipated that this review will commence prior to the end of 2023 and report in early 2024; however, these are matters that are still subject of negotiations with Mr Tatarka.

Question 4:

- The Government will commit to making as much of the review public as is permissible by law.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy Barnett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hon Guy Barnett MP  
**Attorney-General**

Date: 12 December 2023