



Local Government Act 1993

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

BLUE MOUNTAINS CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC INQUIRY

On 27 June 2018 the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP, appointed Mr Richard Beasley SC as Commissioner to hold a Public Inquiry under section 438U of the *Local Government Act 1993* into Blue Mountains City Council.

On 8, 9 and 12 April this year, the Inquiry conducted public hearings in relation to Term of Reference 4.

On 8 May 2019, the Commissioner provided an Interim Report on Term of Reference 4 to the Minister. The report was subsequently tabled in Parliament, and was made publicly available on the Inquiry's website.

On 16 May 2019, Mr Ray Hadley, the host of the Ray Hadley Morning Show on radio station 2GB, made serious allegations on his show that question some of the findings made in the Interim Report.

Those allegations include that the Council, certain named members of its staff, as well as other unnamed persons, had mislead the Commissioner.

On 22 May 2019 the Commissioner gave notice that he had determined to re-open Term of Reference 4 and for that purpose to seek documents and evidence.

Further hearings in relation to Term of Reference 4 will take place at the NSW Bar Association Dispute Resolution Centre, level 1, 174 Phillip Street Sydney.

The hearings will commence on Tuesday 11 June 2019 and continue on Monday 17 June 2019. If necessary, the hearings will continue on Wednesday 26 June 2019.

On sitting days, the usual hours for the hearings will be from 9.30am to 1pm (with a 20 minute break between 11:30am and 11:50am), and from 2pm to 4.00pm, subject to variation by the Commissioner.

The Commissioner's General Practice Direction to provide guidance as to the procedures to be adopted in the ordinary course of the Inquiry. Interested persons, including any person who seeks authorisation to appear before the Inquiry, should

read the General Practice Direction and the Information Paper, both of which are available on the Inquiry's website.

Following a short opening statement from the Commissioner, the hearings on 11 June 2019 will commence with private hearings.

Further enquiries regarding the Inquiry can be made to the Office of the Commissioner at the address given or telephone (02) 4428 4167, fax (02) 4428 4199, or email at bluemountainspublicinquiry@olg.nsw.gov.au