



**Statement by the Queensland Integrity Commissioner, Dr Nikola Stepanov PhD.  
Friday, 18 February 2022.**

I welcome the announcement today by the Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Premier and Minister for the Olympics, that a wide-ranging review of the Queensland Government ethics and integrity framework will be undertaken, with a particular focus on the nature of the interactions between the executive, the public sector, and the State's integrity bodies tasked with ensuring that ethics and integrity standards are upheld.

I also welcome the appointment of Professor Peter Coaldrake AO to conduct the review. Professor Coaldrake possesses a deep knowledge and understanding of the Queensland public sector.

This is an important first step.

I note that the review will focus on the need for system-level reforms and will not seek to resolve individual complaints. That is appropriate for a review which does not have the full powers of a Commission of Inquiry.

Whilst the review will not seek to resolve individual complaints, in my view it is important that individuals be given the opportunity to be heard as part of the review process, and that they be able to do so without fear of any repercussions.

I hope that the terms of reference will afford Professor Coaldrake the widest possible scope to conduct his review, in the public interest.

**End of statement.**