

**PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS
FOR PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS IN OPERATION BREDBO
MAY 2022**

Background

IBAC has been conducting an investigation codenamed Operation Bredbo into allegations of serious police personnel misconduct by a serving Detective Sergeant of Victoria Police. In relation to this investigation, the Commission is satisfied that reasonable grounds exist for its belief that the criteria for opening the examinations to the public is met in accordance with section 117(1) of the *Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Act 2011 (IBAC Act)*.

The public examinations will be conducted by the IBAC Commissioner, The Honourable Robert Redlich QC and Deputy Commissioner, Stephen Farrow. Counsel Assisting will be Catherine Boston and Sophie Molyneux of the Victorian Bar.

Dates and location

The public examinations will commence on Tuesday 3 May 2022. At this stage, IBAC anticipates they will conclude on Friday 16 May 2022.

The examinations will be held at IBAC's offices at 459 Collins Street, Melbourne from 10.00am to 4:00pm each sitting day.

Given the limited capacity of IBAC's offices and the need to conduct the examinations in accordance with current Victorian COVID-19 health directions, members of the public and the media will **not** be given access to IBAC's offices for the purpose of observing the examinations.

Members of the public and the media will be able to observe the examinations via video stream through the IBAC website at www.ibac.vic.gov.au.

Procedures and Appearances

A brief opening address by Counsel Assisting will be made on Tuesday 3 May 2022. Evidence relevant to the investigation will be led immediately after.

The Commission's Standard directions for public examinations (**Standard Directions**) will apply subject to consideration of any submissions from represented parties seeking any variation. The Standard Directions are available on the IBAC website under publications and resources.

For interested parties who may wish to apply for IBAC's authorisation to appear at the public examinations, we direct you to section 119A of the IBAC Act and to the Standard Directions.

*Please note: IBAC directs that any notice of a preliminary application by any interested party, together with any supporting material, must be filed in writing with the Commission no later than Friday 29 April 2022. **No late application (which could have been notified by that date) will delay the opening of the public examinations.** IBAC anticipates that preliminary applications will largely be determined on the papers.*

Contacting IBAC

To notify the Commission of an application or for any enquiries regarding these directions and the conduct of the public examinations, please contact Chloe Armstrong at chloe.armstrong@ibac.vic.gov.au or Lauren Kowalski at lauren.kowalski@ibac.vic.gov.au.

Scope and purpose of examinations

The scope and purpose of the public examinations in Operation Bredbo are as follows:

1. Whether the Detective Sergeant of Victoria Police has misused their position to:
 - a. improperly influence parties to, or persons involved in, civil disputes or litigation;
 - b. attempt to pervert the course of justice by falsifying evidence; or
 - c. attempt to improperly influence persons involved in criminal investigations or prosecutions.
2. Whether the Detective Sergeant of Victoria Police has engaged in misconduct through:
 - a. maintaining undeclared improper relationships;
 - b. unauthorised secondary employment; or
 - c. unauthorised access to, use of or disclosure of police information.
3. The circumstances surrounding any actual or potential personal benefits obtained by the Detective Sergeant of Victoria Police and/or other police personnel, their associates, resulting from, or otherwise in connection with, their misuse of their position or access to police information.