



Queensland Government Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

ISSN 0155-9370

VOL. 394]

THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER 2023

[No. 30

Commissions of Inquiry Act 1950

COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY ORDER (No.1) 2023

Short title

1. This Order in Council may be cited as the *Commissions of Inquiry Order (No.1) 2023*.

Commencement

2. This Order in Council commences on 5 October 2023.

Appointment of Commission

3. On 13 December 2022, a *Commissions of Inquiry Order (No.3) 2022* Report was handed down (the Report).
4. The Report made 123 recommendations and all the recommendations were accepted by the Queensland Government.
5. To ensure continued public confidence in the delivery of the recommendations, and following recent concerns raised, a further investigation will be undertaken.
6. This new investigation will provide an opportunity for new information to be considered in relation to 'Project 13. Report on the Verification of an Automated DNA IQ™ Protocol using the MultiPROBE® II PLUS HT EX with Gripper™ Integration Platform' (Project 13).
7. The Honourable Dr Annabelle Bennett AC SC is appointed as the Commissioner (the Commissioner).
8. The Commissioner will undertake an open and independent inquiry to:
 - (a) Review recent public statements and other documents, including but not limited to documents that will be provided by Queensland Health, in relation to Project 13; and
 - (b) Consider whether the Recommendations in the Report are sufficient to address the matters raised in the above materials; and
 - (c) In undertaking a) and b) interview any or all experts who provided advice in *Commissions of Inquiry Order (No.3) 2022* in relation to Project 13 or related DNA extraction methods.

Commission to report and make recommendations

9. The Commissioner will provide a report and recommendations, including an executive summary, by 17 November 2023.
10. The Honourable the Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Honourable Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women and the Honourable Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence will be provided with the report and recommendations.

Application of Act

11. Pursuant to section 4(2) of the *Commissions of Inquiry Act 1950*, it is declared that all of the provisions of the *Commissions of Inquiry Act 1950* shall be applicable for the purposes of this inquiry, except for section 19C (Authority to use listening devices).

Conduct of Inquiry

12. The Commission may receive submissions from relevant individuals and entities and hold public and private hearings in such a manner and in such locations as determined by the Commissioner, as appropriate and convenient and in a way that protects and promotes the rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

ENDNOTES

1. Made by the Governor in Council on 4 October 2023.
2. Notified in the Gazette on 5 October 2023.
3. Not required to be laid before the Legislative Assembly.
4. The administering agency is the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

