



**Media Statement**

**Wednesday 16 March 2016**

Today the public hearings of Operation Dunham, the Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption Commission's investigation into the Department concluded.

The Victorian Education Department's Secretary Gill Callister outlined a range of reforms in response to issues raised during IBAC's Operation Dunham.

An ambitious reform program is already underway within the Department, including the recent introduction of a confidential 'Speak up' service for people to raise concerns about corrupt, illegal, unethical or negligent conduct; new governance arrangements; new standards for ethical leadership and stronger financial control functions.

New actions will include tougher requirements on both staff and suppliers to prevent inducements that could influence decision-making, strengthened processes for the declaration of private interests and development of a range of tools to ensure concepts in the Code of Conduct are properly understood by all employees and applied to their work.

The Department is also working in partnership with the Victorian Secretaries Board, which is made up of the Secretaries of all seven Victorian Government Departments, the Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police and the Victorian Public Sector Commissioner, to ensure action is taken across government.

**Quotes attributable to Secretary Gill Callister:**

*"Like many of my colleagues in the Department and the wider public service who work hard for the benefit of others, I found it hard to listen to some of the revelations coming out of the recent hearings."*

*"A number of individuals – repeatedly and over a period of time – failed to uphold the values of honesty, integrity and impartiality the community rightly expects of us."*

*"Our public education system provides immeasurable value to Victoria's children and young people, and the economic and social prosperity of our State. As such, we must uphold the highest ethical standards and ensure that as stewards of public education, our conduct consistently meets the public's expectations of integrity."*

To read more about these changes, please visit  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/ibac.aspx>