



Inquiry into the CIT CEO recruitment process

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Parton MLA, Ms Tough MLA

Addressed to: Dr Margot McNeill

In relation to: Leave taken during Jan-March

Hearing: 1 April 2026

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 6, p 16

Transcript provided: 1 April 2026

Answer Due: 10 April 2026

Dr McNeill took on notice the following question(s):

MR PARTON: Documents from the Industrial Relations Commission New South Wales show that you lodged an application for unfair dismissal against TAFE New South Wales on 14 January this year. A hearing was held last month with the decision handed down on 13 March. The documents also show that you provided a witness statement to the IRC on 24 February this year. Did you take leave from your position as CEO of CIT when you were actively participating in the action against TAFE New South Wales over the period January to March of this year? And if so, what type of leave was it?

Dr McNeill: I will just check, because as far as I understand, that seems to be outside of the recruitment process. But I will just check with my council. Yes, I will take the question on notice. Thank you.

[...]

MS TOUGH: Thank you. It is another one just following up from Mr Parton's question. When you go back and check if you were on any leave during your participation in the Industrial Relations Commission process, can you provide the dates?

Dr McNeill: Yes.

MS TOUGH: If you were on any leave, the dates you were on leave and the type of leave, all those particular dates, like—

Dr McNeill: It was a very short online hearing so, like, less than two hours, but I will definitely provide the dates.

MS TOUGH: Yes, and also in that time, for any meetings you may have had with legal representatives or any other meetings you had to attend in the lead-up to that hearing or post that hearing, whether you were on leave for those appointments and meetings as well?

Dr McNeill: Okay, sure.

Dr McNeill: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

I attended a meeting to participate in an IRC conference at 2pm on 23 January 2026, in lieu of a lunch break. I had an online meeting at 3pm that day, which I attended.

I took half day of annual leave for the IRC online hearing on 10 March 2026.

All other meetings have taken place after 5pm.