



Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory

Select Committee on Privileges 2026

Dr Margot McNeill
CEO
Canberra Institute of Technology
Margot.McNeill@cit.edu.au

Cc: rfaulks@shglawyers.com.au

Dear Dr McNeill

Inquiry—Possible contempt of the Assembly—Evidence given by Dr McNeill during Inquiry into the CIT CEO recruitment process

The Committee notes your response of 12 June 2026 provided through your legal advisers.

The Committee has considered your answers to the questions put and the preliminary matters raised.

The Committee is aware of possible prejudice to legal proceedings through the publication of legal advice and that would be a factor in any consideration given to whether or not to publish such advice. It is not, however, a bar to an order for production.

What weight, if any, to be given to any such advice from an evidentiary perspective will be determined by the Committee upon receipt.

The Committee orders you to produce, pursuant to standing order 239, any advice relating to whether to disclose information to the CIT Board regarding the existence and/or nature of misconduct investigations by TAFE NSW.

The Committee rejects the assertions made in your letter of 12 June 2026. The practice of Australian parliaments is not to recognise claims of legal professional privilege. *Odgers Australian Senate Practice* notes¹:

It has never been accepted in the Senate, nor in any comparable representative assembly, that legal professional privilege provides grounds for a refusal of information in a parliamentary forum.

The New South Wales Legislative Council deals with such claims regularly and its guide to practice notes²:

The House is not bound, as is a court, to uphold a claim of legal professional privilege simply because it is a valid claim, but rather to evaluate whether it is in the public interest for the document to be made public.

¹ Odger's Australian Senate Practice, 14th edition, p. 668.

² New South Wales Legislative Council Practice, 2nd Edition, p. 698.

The Committee requests your response by 15 July 2026 to facilitate bringing this matter to a close.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Lee', is written over the printed name.

Elizabeth Lee MLA
Chair

8 July 2026