

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Delay in corruption taskforce

HEALTH PROBE

ANDREW HOUGH

A TASKFORCE inquiry responding to allegations of corruption within SA Health faces major delays because of disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The State Government formed the cross-agency team of senior bureaucrats to "critically review" SA Health's response to a scathing anti-

corruption watchdog probe. Originally due by early next year, the taskforce's work is now being held up by ongoing COVID-19 upheavals throughout the \$6.4 billion-a-year health system.

In response to *The Advertiser's* inquiries, SA Health said while the panel continued to meet, "high levels" of consultation and face-to-face interviews with staff were currently not possible.

"The response remains a priority and a revised timeline



for the plan's delivery is expected to be determined later this month," a department

spokeswoman said. In a damning inquiry in December last year, Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Bruce Lander, QC, condemned SA Health's "inappropriate integrity culture" that was "ripe for exploitation".

The 66-page report included allegations of highly-paid specialists falsely claiming against taxpayers or signing off their own timesheets, public funds being held in private bank accounts, undeclared conflicts of interest, poor

records and blundering of clinical trials.

However, the Government rejected calls for an independent inquiry or royal commission. Ministers instead announced a public sector panel, headed by Department of Premier and Cabinet chief executive Jim McDowall, to look into the matter.

Despite operating at "arm's length" from SA Health, the taskforce also includes its chief executive Dr Chris McGowan and Lesley Dwyer, the Central

Adelaide Local Health Network boss.

In a letter to Premier Steven Marshall, dated February 3, Mr McDowall said the taskforce would "independently and critically review" SA Health's plan for reform, which covers industrial relations and cultural changes.

Mr Lander has raised concerns that COVID-19 "increases the risk of corruption, misconduct and maladministration... in public administration".

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TOP 10 TIPS FOR DANCING

1. Find a great teacher or lecturer
2. Find a suitable piece of music with strong beats and rhythm then work to keep in time
3. Watch social media videos for inspiration and learn some easy dance steps
4. Perfect your posture. Keep your shoulders back and your stomach in through the day
5. Stretch everyday. Daily stretching will make your body much more flexible
6. Try a single ballet barre every morning to improve posture and balance
7. Make sure you always have the right shoes for the dance style
8. Be confident. Dance is an expression. Dance can help to release emotion
9. Explore different dance styles and learn how your body and mind move to each style
10. Just give it a go. It's never too late or too early to learn to dance

ON SONG: Dance instructor Zoe Komazec, left, puts students Katie Pasin and Sally Ostrowski through their paces. Picture: RUSSELL WILLARD/JAAP

Dance to the tune of learning a skill

ACTIVITIES

VEATHIKA JAIN

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The masterclasses, the five of which are now all online at advertiser.com.au in video form, include a dance tutorial by instructor Zoe Komazec. It gives you time and opportunity to learn at your own pace.

Even if dance is not your thing, Ms Komazec suggests that if you find a great teacher or lecturer, you'll definitely get a strong headstart.

"Find a great piece of music you love with strong beats and rhythm, and that's the next thing that will help as you are starting to learn," she said.

Other classes in the series include tailoring your resume, plotting a novel, learning common Kooraa language phrases and tips to keep on top of your health and wellbeing.

Psychologist Nicola Vendtuzzi said looking after your

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wellbeing was particularly important at this time.

"Ask yourself 'What can I control in this situation?' Choosing the first thing you do when you open your eyes in the morning is a great place to start. It can set our mood for the rest of the day," she said.

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