

# **Report on various Auditor- General reports referred to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee in 2015 and 2016**

**Report No. 40, 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament  
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee  
September 2016**



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## Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

<b>Chair</b>	Mr Mark Furner MP, Member for Ferny Grove
<b>Deputy Chair<sup>1</sup></b>	Mr Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera (from 25 May 2016)
<b>Current Members</b>	Mr Don Brown MP, Member for Capalaba Mr Jon Krause MP, Member for Beaudesert Ms Joan Pease MP, Member for Lytton Mrs Jann Stuckey MP, Member for Currumbin (from 10 May 2016)
<b>Former Members</b>	Mrs Tarnya Smith MP, Member for Mount Ommaney (to 10 May 2016) Miss Verity Barton MP, Member for Broadwater (to 10 May 2016)
<b>Staff</b>	Ms Emily Booth, Acting Research Director (from 5 September 2016) Mr Stephen Finnimore, Research Director (from 4 April 2016) Ms Bernice Watson, Research Director (to 1 April 2016) Mrs Kelli Longworth, Principal Research Officer Mr Gregory Thomson, Principal Research Officer Ms Yasmin Ashburner, Committee Support Officer Ms Carolyn Heffernan, Committee Support Officer
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<sup>1</sup> Mr Crandon was appointed Deputy Chair on 25 May 2016. Mr Krause was Deputy Chair until 25 May 2016.

## Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Chair's foreword</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1 Role of the committee</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.2 Role of the Auditor-General</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.3 Referral</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Examination</b>	<b>3</b>



## Chair's foreword

This report presents a summary of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee's examination of four Queensland Auditor-General reports to Parliament referred to the committee in 2015 and 2016.

On behalf of the committee, I thank the committee's secretariat and the Queensland Audit Office for their assistance with the committee's consideration of these Auditor-General reports.

I commend this report to the House.



Mr Mark Furner MP

**Chair**





## Recommendation

### Recommendation 1

3

The Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly note the contents of this report.



## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Role of the committee

The Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee is a portfolio committee of the Legislative Assembly which commenced on 27 March 2015 under the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (PoQA) and the Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly.<sup>2</sup>

The committee's primary areas of responsibility include:

- Justice and Attorney-General
- Police Service
- Fire and Emergency Services, and
- Training and Skills.

A portfolio committee is to consider legislation, public works and public accounts matters pertaining to its areas of responsibility, and to deal with any matters referred to it by the Legislative Assembly.<sup>3</sup> The committee may deal with the matter under section 94(1) of the PoQA by considering the matter, reporting on the matter and making recommendations about it to the House.

Reports of the Auditor-General tabled in the Assembly are referred to the relevant portfolio committee for consideration.<sup>4</sup>

### 1.2 Role of the Auditor-General

The Auditor-General is an independent statutory officer appointed by the Governor in Council under the *Auditor-General Act 2009*. The Auditor-General is supported by the Queensland Audit Office.<sup>5</sup>

The Auditor-General undertakes both financial audits and performance audits of public sector entities. Financial audits provide an opinion on the financial statements of public sector entities. Performance audits encompass broader objectives, including evaluating whether an entity, program or initiative has achieved its objectives in an economical and efficient manner.<sup>6</sup> The Auditor-General must report to the Legislative Assembly on each audit conducted of a public sector entity.<sup>7</sup>

### 1.3 Referral

Standing Orders require that the Committee of the Legislative Assembly refer an Auditor-General report to the relevant portfolio committee as soon as practicable after it has been tabled.<sup>8</sup>

The Auditor-General reports considered in this report are listed in the table below, including the dates they were referred to the committee for consideration.

Report No	Name of Report	Date of Referral
Report 13: 2014-15	<a href="#">Procurement of youth boot camps</a>	15 May 2015
Report 9: 2015-16	<a href="#">Provision of court recording and transcription services</a>	15 March 2016

<sup>2</sup> *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, section 88, and Standing Order 94.

<sup>3</sup> *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, section 92.

<sup>4</sup> Standing Order 194B.

<sup>5</sup> *Auditor-General Act 2009*, ss 6, 9.

<sup>6</sup> Queensland Audit Office, '[Our business](#)' (accessed 7 September 2016); *Auditor-General Act 2009*, ss 30, 37A.

<sup>7</sup> *Auditor-General Act 2009*, s 60.

<sup>8</sup> Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly, 194B.

Report 11: 2015-16	<a href="#">Management of privately operated prisons</a>	15 March 2016
Report 12: 2015-16	<a href="#">Follow up Report 12: 2012-13 Community benefit funds: grant management</a>	15 March 2016

## 2. Examination

The committee has examined four reports referred during 2015 and 2016. This includes meeting privately with representatives from the Queensland Audit Office on the dates listed below.

Report no.	Name of report	Date of private briefing
Report 13: 2014-15	Procurement of Youth Boot Camps	20 May 2015
Report 9: 2015-16	Provision of court recording and transcription services	20 April 2016
Report 11: 2015-16	Management of privately operated prisons	20 April 2016
Report 12: 2015-16	Follow Up Report 12: 2012-13 on Community benefit funds: grant management	20 April 2016

The committee has considered key audit findings, issues identified during the audits, recommendations made to address the issues and verbal evidence provided by the Queensland Audit Office. The committee notes the conclusions and recommendations made by the Auditor-General.

The committee recommends that the House note the contents of this report.

### Recommendation 1

The Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly note the contents of this report.