

# **Annual Reports of Former Committees 2017 – 2018**

**REPORT NO. 22**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**September 2018**

## Chair's Foreword

Honourable Members

It is my pleasure to present this compilation of annual reports for eight former committees of the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly which was dissolved by virtue of proclamation on 29 October 2017:

- Agriculture and Environment Committee
- Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee
- Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee
- Finance and Administration Committee
- Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee
- Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
- Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee, and
- Public Works and Utilities Committee.

I commend this report to the House.



Hon Curtis Pitt MP

**Speaker, Legislative Assembly and**

**Chair, Committee of the Legislative Assembly**

## COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

### Chair

Hon. Curtis Pitt MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

### Members

Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana

Mr Don Brown MP, Member for Capalaba [Deputy Premier's nominee]

Ms Yvette D'Ath MP, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice and Leader of the House

Mr Shane Knuth MP, Member for Hill

Mr Tim Mander MP, Deputy Opposition Leader

Mr Linus Power MP, Member for Logan [Premier's nominee]

Mr Pat Weir MP, Member for Condamine [Leader of the Opposition's nominee]

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## Introduction

This report presents the 2017 – 2018 annual reports for seven former portfolio committees and the select committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly:

- Agriculture and Environment Committee
- Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee
- Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee
- Finance and Administration Committee
- Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee
- Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
- Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee, and
- Public Works and Utilities Committee.

These committees ceased to exist on 29 October 2017 when the Parliament was dissolved for the state election held on 25 November 2017. Due to their cessation, the seven former portfolio committees and the select committee, detailed above, have not reported on their activities for the 2017/2018 year. The financial figures provided in the reports that follow reflect costs to 29 October 2017, the dissolution date.

Costs for committee travel and stationery (unless otherwise stated in an individual committee report) are met from a central committee office budget. The reporting period saw a total of \$118,134 spent on travel and \$4,568.35 spent on stationery.

Portfolio committees are established by Standing Orders, as required by section 88 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*. Standing Orders also set out the areas of responsibility for each portfolio committee (its portfolio area).

Each committee has the following roles in relation to its portfolio area:

- examine Bills and consider the policies to be enacted
- examine the Appropriation Bill estimates for the portfolios within its responsibility
- examine Bills' compliance with the fundamental legislative principles set out in section 4 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992* (Qld)
- consider the lawfulness of, and the application of the fundamental legislative principles to, subordinate legislation
- assess the public accounts of each portfolio unit in relation to the integrity, economy, efficiency and effectiveness of financial management by examining government financial documents and considering the annual and other reports of the Auditor-General, and
- consider portfolio public works in light of matters including, but not limited to, the:
  - suitability of the works for the purpose
  - necessity for the works
  - value for money of the works
  - revenue produced by, and recurrent costs of, the works, or estimates of revenue and costs
  - present and prospective public value of the works
  - procurement methods used for the works
  - actual suitability of the works in meeting the needs in and achieving the stated purpose of the works.

Portfolio committees may also initiate an inquiry into any other matter it considers appropriate, in relation to its portfolio area. As well, portfolio committees are required to deal with any issue referred to them by the Legislative Assembly or under an Act, whether or not the issue is within their areas of responsibility.

Some portfolio committees have additional oversight responsibilities. These responsibilities are discussed in the individual reports that follow for the Finance and Administration Committee, the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee, the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee and the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee.

More detailed information about the work of former committees is available: [www.parliament.qld.gov.au/formercommittees](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/formercommittees).

## **Agriculture and Environment Committee**

### **Annual Report 2017 – 2018**

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#### **Committee Responsibilities**

The Agriculture and Environment Committee was a committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament. The committee's portfolio areas of responsibility were: agriculture, fisheries and rural economic development; environment and heritage protection; and national parks and the Great Barrier Reef.

#### **Bills examined**

##### **Safer Waterways Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 25 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 27 November 2017

*Status:* Lapsed

For its inquiry, the committee received eight submissions, and was briefed by the Member for Dalrymple on 9 August and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection on 6 September 2017. The committee conducted inspections in Coowonga on 27 July, and public hearings in Brisbane on 11 October 2017.

The Bill lapsed upon the dissolution of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

##### **Appropriation Bill 2017 – Consideration of the 2017-18 portfolio budget estimates**

*Date referred:* 16 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 4 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 4 August 2017

On 16 June 2017, the Appropriation Bill 2017 and the estimates for the committee's portfolio areas of responsibility were referred by the House to the committee for examination and report. Public hearings were conducted on 21 July 2017.

In its report No. 38 tabled on 4 August 2017, the committee recommended that the proposed expenditure, as detailed in the Appropriation Bill 2017 for the committee's areas of responsibility, be agreed to by the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

##### **Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 14 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 11 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 11 August 2017

The committee received 63 submissions for its inquiry. On 12 July 2017, the committee held public hearings and was briefed by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in Brisbane. On 27 July 2017, the committee held a public roundtable meeting in Yeppoon.

In its report No. 39 tabled on 11 August 2017, the committee recommended that the Bill be passed with amendments. The Bill was passed with amendments on 5 September 2017.

##### **Nature Conservation (Special Wildlife Reserves) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 14 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 11 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 11 August 2017

The committee received 34 submissions for its inquiry, and held public hearings and a public briefing by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in Brisbane on 12 July 2017.

For its report No.40 on the Bill, the committee was unable to reach a majority decision as to whether the Bill should be passed.

The Bill lapsed upon the dissolution of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament.



## **Inquiries**

### **Inquiry into the impacts of invasive plants (weeds) and their control in Queensland**

*Date referred:* Self-referred 11 November 2016

*Reporting deadline:* n/a

*Status:* not reported

The committee received 60 submissions for its inquiry, and received public briefings by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries on 10 May 2017. Public hearings, inspections and roundtable meetings were held in Gladstone (27 April), Gatton (4 May), Hughenden (19 June) and Barcaldine (20 June 2017). Further public hearings were held in Brisbane on 14 June and 25 October 2017.

### **Auditor-General's Report to Parliament No. 16, 2015-16: Flood resilience of river catchments**

*Date referred:* 19 April 2016

*Reporting deadline:* n/a

*Status:* not reported

The committee received ten submissions for its inquiry, held public briefings on 12 October 2016 and public hearings in Brisbane on 30 November 2016, 10 May 2017 and 25 October 2017. The committee held inspections on 11 August 2017.

### **Auditor-General's Report to Parliament No. 12, 2016-17: Biosecurity Queensland's management of agricultural pests and diseases**

*Date referred:* 19 April 2016

*Reporting deadline:* n/a

*Status:* reported on 30 August 2017

For the inquiry, the committee received a briefing from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, and noted the progress by the department to implement the Auditor-General's recommendations. The committee in its report No. 42 recommended that the Minister report to the House on the implementation of all recommendations from the audit within six months (by April 2018).

### **Auditor-General's Report to Parliament No. 1, 2017-18: Follow up Report 15: 2013-14 - Environmental regulation of the resources and waste industries**

*Date referred:* 10 October 2017

*Reporting deadline:* n/a

*Status:* not reported

The committee considered this report briefly before its dissolution, and did not resolve whether to conduct an inquiry.

## **Subordinate legislation examined**

As part of its examination of subordinate legislation, the committee tabled the following reports:

- Report No. 41, 55th Parliament - Subordinate legislation tabled 22 March - 9 May 2017
- Report No. 43 – 55th Parliament – Subordinate legislation tabled 10 May – 13 June 2017
- Report No. 45, 55th Parliament – Subordinate legislation tabled 14 June – 8 August 2017

The committee recommended that the Legislative Assembly note the content of the reports and the committee's conclusion that the subordinate legislation did not raise any significant issues regarding the application of fundamental legislative principles.

**Committee travel****Inquiries into the Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Bill 2017 and the Safer Waterways Bill 2017**

The committee travelled to Yeppoon on 27 July 2017 for work on two Bill inquiries. The committee convened a public roundtable meeting with local community and business representatives to discuss the Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Bill 2017. The committee also visited the Koorana Crocodile Farm at Coowonga to learn about commercial farming of crocodiles and the management of captured nuisance crocodiles from the wild. This was in relation to the inquiry into the Safer Waterways Bill.

**Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

<b>Item</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employee expenses <sup>1</sup>	198,730
Travel	5,569
Meeting expenses <sup>2</sup>	5,278
Communications	1,051
Printing and stationery	1,054
Newspapers	104
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>211,786</b>

**Membership**

Mr Joe Kelly MP, Member for Greenslopes (Chair)

Mr Pat Weir MP, Member for Condamine (Deputy Chair)

Mrs Julianne Gilbert MP, Member for Mackay

Mr Robbie Katter MP, Member for Mount Isa

Mr Jim Madden MP, Member for Ipswich West

Mr Lachlan Millar MP, Member for Gregory

<sup>1</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>2</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

**Meeting attendance record**

The table below shows the attendance of committee members at committee and sub-committee meetings during the reporting period.

Date	J Kelly MP	P Weir MP	J Gilbert MP	R Katter MP	J Madden MP	L Millar MP
05 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
11 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12 July 2017 <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓	n/a	n/a	✓	✓
14 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27 July 2017	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓
02 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
02 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
09 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x
09 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
09 August 2017	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓
23 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
01 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
06 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
06 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x
29 September 2017	✓	✓	Substitution <sup>4</sup>	✓	✓	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
25 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Standing Order 202(1) provides that in the case of a committee members' illness or inability to attend, another member may be appointed to attend that meeting or stand in for a particular inquiry.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs Gilbert MP and Mr Katter MP were not members of the sub-committee that met on 12 July 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Ms Boyd MP substitute for Mrs J Gilbert MP.

## Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee

### Annual Report 2017 – 2018

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#### **Committee Responsibilities**

The Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee was a committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament. The committee was established on 15 September 2016 to conduct an inquiry into the re-emergence of coal workers' pneumoconiosis in Queensland coal mine workers, following a thirty-year period in which the occupational lung disease was thought to have been eradicated.

The committee's terms of reference were later extended to include examination of other workforce cohorts and occupational lung diseases, and to provide a role for the committee to monitor and review the implementation of its report recommendations, including developing a draft bill for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly.

#### **Inquiry into the re-identification of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis: Government response**

On 29 August 2017, the Government tabled an interim response to the committee's 2016-17 *Black lung, white lies* inquiry report (on the re-identification of coal workers' pneumoconiosis). A final Government response to the report was subsequently tabled on 8 September 2017, in which the Government:

- advised that it had actioned two of the committee's recommendations
- expressed support for 15 recommendations, and
- expressed 'in principle support' for the remaining 51 of the committee's 68 recommendations, with the qualification that further consultation or investigation is required.

#### **Inquiry into occupational respirable dust issues (Report No. 4)**

*Date referred:* 23 March 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 29 September 2017

*Status:* reported 29 September 2017

During 2017-18, the committee held a private briefing and three public hearings and accepted a further 22 submissions, for a total of 27 accepted submissions, for its broader inquiry into occupational respirable dust issues. Additionally, representatives of the committee attended the Queensland Mining Industry Safety and Health Conference on the Gold Coast and Australian Mine Ventilation Conference in Brisbane (August 2017).

The committee tabled its report on the inquiry on 29 September 2017. The report included five recommendations to Government dealing with the management and monitoring of worker exposure to dust hazards across industries, and with research, planning and engagement around the interactions between occupational dust exposure and environmental dust exposure in communities.

#### **Monitor and review responsibilities**

*Date referred:* 23 March 2017

*Status:* reported 24 August 2017 (report no. 3) and 26 October 2017 (report no. 5)

#### **Report No. 3, A Mine Safety and Health Authority for Queensland, including the committee's exposure draft Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017**

On 24 August 2017, the committee tabled a report presenting its exposure draft Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017 for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly. The provisions of the draft bill served to give effect to many of the legislative recommendations of the committee's *Black lung, white lies* inquiry report, central to which was the establishment of a new and fully independent authority with responsibility for protecting the health and safety of Queensland mining industry workers. The report included a

recommendation that the exposure draft bill be referred to the relevant portfolio committee for examination and report, as per the usual process for committee scrutiny of bills introduced to the House.

### **Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee inquiry into the committee's exposure draft Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017**

As per the committee's recommendation, the Parliament referred the committee's exposure draft bill to the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee for its consideration and report. The Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee provided assistance to that committee over the duration of its inquiry into the draft bill, including during a public briefing (appearance of counsel assisting) and in written responses to questions and issues raised in public submissions.

### **Report No. 5, A Mine Safety and Health Authority for Queensland: A further response**

On 26 October 2017, the committee tabled a further 'monitor and review' report in response to both the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee's report on its exposure draft bill, and the final Government response to the recommendations of its *Black lung, white lies* report.

The report also included commentary on a committee meeting and site visit with experts at the University of Melbourne's Lung Health Research Centre on 16 October 2017, including identifying promising developments with relevance for the implementation of the committee's report recommendations.

### **Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

<b>Item</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employee expenses <sup>5</sup>	102,861
Travel	16,820
Consultant	36,629
Meeting expenses <sup>6</sup>	1,493
Printing and stationery	1,075
Newspapers	104
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>158,982</b>

### **Membership**

Mrs Jo-Ann Miller MP, Chair and Member for Burdekin

Hon Lawrence Springborg MP, Deputy Chair and Member for Condamine

Mr Craig Crawford MP, Member for Barron River

Mr Jason Costigan MP, Member for Whitsunday

Mrs Julieanne Gilbert MP, Member for Mackay

Mr Shane Knuth MP, Member for Dalrymple

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<sup>5</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>6</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

**Meeting attendance record**

The committee held 14 meetings during the reporting period. The table below shows the attendance of committee members at these meetings.

Date	J Miller MP	L Springborg MP	C Crawford MP	J Costigan MP	J Gilbert MP	S Knuth MP
21 July 2017	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
09 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
23 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
23 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
24 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
24 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
01 September 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x
06 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
21 September 2017	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x
27 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x
25 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
25 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
27 October 2017 <sup>7</sup>	✓	✓	x	N/A	N/A	N/A

<sup>7</sup> Subcommittee formed for the meeting. Mr Costigan MP, Mrs Gilbert MP and Mr Knuth MP were not members of the subcommittee.

## Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee

### Annual Report 2017 – 2018

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#### **Committee Responsibilities**

The Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee was a committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament. The committee's portfolio areas were: education, innovation, science, the digital economy, and small business.

#### **Bills examined**

##### **Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) Bill 2017 (Report No. 36)**

*Date referred:* 9 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 14 July 2017

*Status:* reported on 12 July 2017

The Bill replaced the *Education (Non-State Schools Accreditation) Act 2001*. It maintained most of the existing arrangements for accreditation of non-state schools and the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board (Board). The Bill simplified the process for accreditation eligibility for non-state school funding, and gave the Board responsibility for monitoring compliance with the Act.

The committee was briefed by the Department of Education and Training, received four submissions and held a public hearing on the Bill. The committee recommended that the Bill be passed, and recommended two amendments.

##### **Appropriation Bill 2017 - Consideration of 2017/18 Portfolio Budget Estimates (Report No. 37)**

*Date referred:* 13 June 2017<sup>8</sup>

*Reporting deadline:* 4 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 4 August 2017

The committee held a public hearing on 25 July 2017 and took evidence about the proposed expenditure from the Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism and Major Events and the Commonwealth Games, Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business, and other witnesses.

The committee's report summarises the estimates referred to the committee and highlights some of the issues the committee examined. The committee recommended that the expenditure be agreed to without amendment.

##### **University Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No. 38)**

*Date referred:* 23 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 7 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 7 August 2017

The Bill proposed amendments to seven university Acts, and governance reforms for James Cook University.

The committee was briefed by the department, received eight submissions and held a public hearing on the Bill. It recommended that the Bill be passed.

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<sup>8</sup> Standing Order 177 provides for the automatic referral of the Annual Appropriation Bills to portfolio committees once the Bills have been read a second time.

### **Education (Overseas Students) Bill 2017 (Report No. 42; Bill lapsed)**

*Date referred:* 8 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 15 September 2017

*Status:* reported on 15 September 2017

The Bill proposed to repeal the *Education (Overseas Students) Act 1996* and create a new regime for the regulation of providers of courses to overseas students and international student exchange programs, provide the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority with functions to administer new senior assessment and tertiary entrance systems commencing for students starting Year 11 in 2019, and making minor and technical amendments to other Acts.

The committee recommended that the Bill be passed. Three amendments were recommended: to limit the changes to a school provider or student exchange approval that could be made without prior notification to the approval holder; to clarify that a 'parent' includes appointed guardians and people regarded as a parent under Aboriginal tradition or Torres Strait Islander custom; and to limit the use in proceedings of documents required to be kept by approval holders under the legislation. The Bill lapsed on dissolution of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament on 29 October 2017.

### **Child Protection and Education Legislation (Reporting of Abuse) Amendment Bill 2017 (lapsed)**

*Date referred:* 21 March 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 21 September 2017; extended to 9 March 2018

*Status:* lapsed

The private Member's Bill proposed to amend the *Child Protection Act 1999* and the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* to impose the obligation of mandatory reporting of sexual abuse (real or suspected) on ministers of religion.

The committee was briefed by the private Member, received submissions and held a public hearing. The final report of the Royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse was due in December 2017. To enable it to consider relevant recommendations of the Royal Commission, the committee sought and the Legislative Assembly granted, an extension on the reporting date.

### **Subordinate legislation examined**

From its examination of portfolio subordinate legislation, the committee tabled Report No. 39: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 25 May and 13 June 2017*

### **Other inquiries**

#### **Inquiry into improving the delivery of respectful relationships and sex education relevant to the use of technology in Queensland state schools (lapsed)**

*Date referred:* 2 November 2016

*Reporting deadline:* No date set

*Status:* lapsed

The Legislative Assembly referred terms of reference for an inquiry to examine improvements in education in state schools on respectful relationships and sex education, with a focus on students' use of technology. The committee released an Information Paper on the scope of the inquiry, including the extent of students' use of technology and social media to create, send or view sexualised content.

The committee was briefed by the department, conducted a study tour in Melbourne and Sydney where it was briefed by academics and state education departments and reviewed published research. The committee received 30 submissions and planned two public hearings, one of which was held before the inquiry lapsed on dissolution of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament.



**Inquiry into measures to support the retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to Year 12, and students' attainment of a Queensland Certificate of Education (lapsed)**

*Date referred:* Initiated by committee

*Reporting deadline:* None set

*Status:* lapsed

After considering the Auditor-General's report into education and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people education in Queensland state schools, the committee decided to inquire into measures to support student retention and attainment in both state and non-government schools.

The committee was briefed on 11 October 2017 by the Department of Education and Training, the Queensland Catholic Education Commission and Independent Schools Queensland. Submissions were invited with a closing date of 27 October 2017. The inquiry lapsed on 29 October 2017.

**Auditor-General's Report 11: 2016-17 Audit of Aurukun school partnership arrangement**

*Date referred:* 9 May 2017

*Status:* not reported

After a briefing from the Queensland Audit Office, and consideration of the issues raised in the report, the committee agreed on 9 August 2017 that no further examination of the report was required, and that it would not report separately to the Legislative Assembly on the Auditor-General's report.

**Auditor-General's Report 15: 2016-17 Managing the performance of teachers in Queensland state schools**

*Date referred:* 9 May 2017

*Status:* reported 7 August 2017

The committee considered the Department of Education and Training's initial implementation of the Auditor-General's recommendations, and reported to the Legislative Assembly on the department's progress. The committee recommended that the department report to the relevant portfolio committee of the next Parliament by the end of September 2018 for further consideration by the committee.

**Auditor-General's Report No. 18: 2016-17 Universities and grammar schools: 2016 results of financial audits**

*Date referred:* 8 August 2017

*Status:* not reported

The committee received a briefing from the Queensland Audit Office on the annual financial audit of universities and grammar schools. After considering the report the committee decided that no further examination was necessary and decided not to report separately to the Legislative Assembly, and to note its consideration of the financial audit report in its annual report.

**Auditor-General's Report 20: 2016-17 Education and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people**

*Date referred:* 8 August 2017

*Status:* Inquiry initiated into measures to support student retention and attainment in both state and non-government schools (see above)

**Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

Item	\$
Employee expenses <sup>9</sup>	198,730
Meeting expenses <sup>10</sup>	4,519
Communications	1,401
Printing and stationery	1,054
Newspapers	104
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>205,808</b>

**Membership**

Mr Stott Stewart MP, Member for Townsville

Miss Verity Barton MP, Member for Broadwater

Mr Mark Boothman MP, Member for Albert

Mr Bruce Saunders MP, Member for Maryborough

Mr Ted Sorensen MP, Member for Hervey Bay

Mr Richard (Rick) Williams MP, Member for Pumicestone

**Meeting attendance record**

The table below shows the attendance of members during the reporting period.

Date	S Stewart MP	V Barton MP	M Boothman MP	B Saunders MP	T Sorensen MP	R Williams MP
05 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
02 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
09 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
01 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
06 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
20 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓

<sup>9</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>10</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

## Finance and Administration Committee

### Annual Report 2017 – 2018

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#### **Committee responsibilities**

The Finance and Administration Committee was a committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament, established on 27 March 2015 as a portfolio committee of the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The committee's portfolio responsibilities were Premier, Cabinet and the Arts, Treasury, Trade and Investment, and Employment, Industrial Relations, Racing and Multicultural Affairs.

The committee also had oversight responsibilities for the Queensland Audit Office, the Integrity Commissioner, and the Queensland Family and Child Commission.

#### **Bills examined**

##### **Report No. 41 – Labour Hire Licensing Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 25 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 24 July 2017

*Status:* reported on 24 July 2017

The committee received 41 submissions to its inquiry, and was briefed by officers from the Office of Industrial Relations on 14 June 2017 and 19 June 2017. The committee also held a public hearing on 22 June 2017.

The committee made no recommendations.

##### **Reports No. 42 and 43 – Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2017 and Appropriation Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 13 June 2017<sup>11</sup>

*Reporting deadline:* 4 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 4 August 2017

The committee held a public hearing on 18 July 2017 and took evidence about the proposed expenditure from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Premier and Minister for the Arts, Treasury and Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, Minister for Racing, Minister for Multicultural Affairs and other witnesses.

The committee's report summarises the estimates referred to the committee and highlights some of the issues the committee examined. The committee recommended that the expenditure be agreed to without amendment.

##### **Report No. 44 – Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation (Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 14 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:*

*Status:* reported on 11 August 2017

The committee was briefed by officers from the Office of Industrial Relations on 10 July 2017, and held a public hearing on 31 July 2017 to hear from stakeholders. Six submissions to the inquiry were received and published.

The committee recommended that the Bill be passed, and made a further four recommendations including that the Bill be amended. The Bill was passed with amendment on 23 August 2017.

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<sup>11</sup> Standing Order 177 provides for the automatic referral of the Annual Appropriation Bills to portfolio committees once the Bills have been read a second time.

**Report No. 46 – Work Health and Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 22 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:*

*Status:* reported on 5 October 2017

The committee received 29 submissions to its inquiry, and was briefed by officers from the Office of Industrial Relations on 5 October 2017. The committee also held a public hearing on 25 September 2017 to hear from stakeholders.

The committee made no recommendations.

**Report No. 48 – Appropriation (Parliament) Bill (No. 2) 2017 and Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2017**

*Date referred:* 5 September 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 11 October 2017

*Status:* reported on 11 October 2017

The committee was briefed by officers from the Queensland Treasury on 25 September 2017. No submissions were received on the Bills.

The committee recommended that both Bills be passed.

**Oversight responsibilities**

**Report No. 51 – Consideration of the recommendations of the strategic review of the Queensland Audit Office**

In accordance with the *Auditor-General Act 2009* a strategic review of the Queensland Audit Office is conducted at least every five years, including a review of the Auditor-General's functions and performance of the functions to assess whether they are being performed economically, effectively and efficiently. The *Strategic Review of the Queensland Audit Office* was tabled on 23 March 2017 and referred to the committee for consideration under the *Auditor-General Act 2009* and the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*.

The committee held a public briefing with the strategic reviewers on 19 April 2017 and public and private briefings with the Queensland Audit Office on 10 May 2017.

The committee tabled its report on Friday 13 October 2017. The committee made six recommendations.

**Subordinate legislation examined**

From its examination of portfolio subordinate legislation, the committee tabled the following reports:

- Report No. 45: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 1 March and 9 May 2017*
- Report No. 47: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 10 May and 13 June 2017*
- Report No. 49: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 14 June and 8 August 2017, and*
- Report No. 52: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 9 August and 22 August 2017.*

**Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

Item	\$
Employee expenses <sup>12</sup>	198,730
Meeting expenses <sup>13</sup>	4,782
Communications	1,676
Printing and stationery	1,054
Newspapers	104
Miscellaneous	19
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>206,365</b>

**Membership**

Mr Peter Russo MP, Chair, Member for Sunnybank

Mr Ray Stevens MP, Deputy Chair, Member for Mermaid Beach

Mr David Janetzki MP, Member for Toowoomba South

Mrs Jo-Ann Miller MP, Member for Bundamba

Mr Steve Minnikin MP, Member for Chatsworth

Mr Linus Power MP, Member for Logan

**Meeting attendance record**

The following table shows committee members' attendance at committee meetings during the reporting period.

Meeting Date	P Russo MP	R Stevens MP	J Miller MP	L Power MP	D Janetzki MP	S Minnikin MP
10 July 2017	✓	✓	substitution <sup>14</sup>	✓	✓	✓
17 July 2017	✓	✓	substitution <sup>15</sup>	✓	✓	✓
18 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
31 July 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
02 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

<sup>12</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>13</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

<sup>14</sup> Mr Stewart MP was appointed as a substitute for Mrs Miller MP.

<sup>15</sup> Mr Whiting MP was appointed as a substitute for Mrs Miller MP.

Meeting Date	P Russo MP	R Stevens MP	J Miller MP	L Power MP	D Janetzki MP	S Minnikin MP
09 August 2017	✓	✓	substitution <sup>16</sup>	✓	✓	✓
23 August 2017	✓	✓	substitution <sup>17</sup>	✓	✓	✓
06 September 2017	✓	✓	substitution <sup>18</sup>	✓	✓	✓
15 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	substitution <sup>19</sup>	✗	✓
25 September 2017 <sup>20</sup>	✓	✓		✓		
03 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
09 October 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
11 October 2017	✓	✓	substitution <sup>21</sup>	✓	✓	✗
25 October 2017	✓	✓	substitution <sup>22</sup>	✓	✗	✗

*Mrs Jo-Ann Miller MP, Member for Bundamba, was appointed as Chair of the Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee on 15 September 2016 and was unable to attend a number of the committee's meetings following that date due to her commitments as Chair of the Select Committee.*

Standing Order 202(1) provides that in the case of a committee members' illness or inability to attend, another member may be appointed to attend that meeting or stand in for a particular inquiry.

<sup>16</sup> Ms Farmer MP substitute for Mrs Miller MP.

<sup>17</sup> Ms Farmer MP substitute for Mrs Miller MP.

<sup>18</sup> Ms Farmer MP substitute for Mrs Miller MP.

<sup>19</sup> Mr Whiting MP substitute for Mr Power MP.

<sup>20</sup> Subcommittee.

<sup>21</sup> Ms Farmer MP substitute for Mrs Miller MP.

<sup>22</sup> Mr Byrne MP substitute for Mrs Miller MP.

## Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

### Annual Report 2017 – 2018

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#### **Committee responsibilities**

The Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee was a committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament. The committee's portfolio areas of responsibility were: health and ambulance services; communities, women, youth and child safety; domestic and family violence prevention and disability services and seniors.

The committee had oversight responsibility for the Health Ombudsman and the health service complaints management system in Queensland.

#### **Bills examined**

##### **Public Health (Medicinal Cannabis Affordability) Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No. 39)**

*Date referred:* 14 February 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 14 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 6 July 2017

The committee received 10 submissions to its inquiry, was briefed by officers from the Queensland and Commonwealth Department of Health and held a public hearing on 10 May 2017.

The committee recommended that the Bill not be passed.

##### **Appropriation Bill 2017 - Consideration of 2017/18 Portfolio Budget Estimates (Report No. 41)**

*Date referred:* 13 June 2017<sup>23</sup>

*Reporting deadline:* 4 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 4 August 2017

The committee held a public hearing on 26 July 2017 and took evidence about the proposed expenditure from the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services; Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, and Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Seniors and Minister Assisting the Premier on North Queensland and other witnesses.

The committee's report summarises the estimates referred to the committee and highlights some of the issues the committee examined. The committee recommended that the expenditure be agreed to without amendment.

##### **Healthy Futures Commission Queensland Bill 2017 (Report No.40)**

*Date referred:* 23 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 24 July 2017

*Status:* reported on 24 July 2017

The committee received and accepted 37 submissions to its inquiry and held a public hearing on 27 June 2017 at which witnesses provided evidence. A public briefing was also received from the Department of Health on 14 June 2017.

The committee was unable to reach a majority decision as to whether the Bill should be passed.

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<sup>23</sup> Standing Order 177 provides for the automatic referral of the Annual Appropriation Bills to portfolio committees once the Bills have been read a second time.

### **Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No.42)**

*Date referred:* 13 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 11 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 11 August 2017

The committee received 39 submissions to its inquiry, and was briefed by officers from the Department of Health on 27 June 2017. The committee also held a public hearing on 17 July 2017.

The committee recommended that the Bill be passed.

### **Child Protection Reform Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No.45)**

*Date referred:* 9 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 28 September 2017

*Status:* reported on 28 September 2017

The committee requested and received a written briefing from the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. The committee accepted 30 submissions.

The committee held public briefings on 23 August 2017 and 21 September 2017. The committee held a public hearing in Brisbane on 15 September 2017 and regional public hearings in Mt Isa on 18 September 2017, Palm Island on 19 September and Townsville on 20 September 2017.

The committee recommended that the Bill be passed.

### **Hospital Foundations Bill 2017 (Report No.46)**

*Date referred:* 22 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 13 October 2017

*Status:* reported on 13 October 2017

The committee requested and received a written briefing from the Department of Health. The committee held a public briefing on 6 September 2017. The committee received and accepted 1 submission.

The committee recommended that the Bill be passed.

### **Oversight responsibilities**

The Standing Orders provide that the committee has oversight responsibilities for the Health Ombudsman. In addition, the *Health Ombudsman Act 2013* provides that the committee is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the operation of the health service complaints management system in Queensland, which includes:

- the Health Ombudsman, and
- the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) and 14 health practitioner registration boards (National Boards) – regarding the conduct, performance and health of registered health practitioners who provide health services in Queensland.

The committee's functions do not include re-investigating complaints or reconsidering a decision or finding of the Health Ombudsman, AHPRA or the National Boards.

During the reporting period, the committee considered the Office of the Health Ombudsman's (OHO) quarterly performance reports and its annual report for 2016-17. The committee received and examined regular reports and correspondence from the Health Ombudsman in compliance with requirements under the *Health Ombudsman Act 2013*.

In addition, the committee received and considered notifications from the Health Ombudsman, under section 85 of the *Health Ombudsman Act 2013*, about investigations which had exceeded two years. Where appropriate, the committee requested further information from the Health Ombudsman in relation to investigations that had exceeded two years. For example, the committee requested explanations of the delays in completing investigations and information about the steps taken to protect public health and safety



while investigations were being completed, eg immediate action to suspend, or impose conditions on, a practitioner's registration.

The committee did not table any reports on its oversight of the Health Ombudsman during the reporting period.

### **Auditor-General's reports**

**Auditor-General Report 17: 2014-15 – Managing child safety information**

**Auditor-General Report 15: 2015-16 – Queensland public hospital operating theatre efficiency**

**Auditor-General Report 9: 2016-17 – Hospital and Health Services: 2015-16 results of financial audits**

**Auditor-General Report 10: 2016-17 – Efficient and effective use of high value medical equipment (Report No.47)**

*Reporting deadline:* Nil

*Status:* reported on 17 October 2017

The committee monitored the effectiveness of implementation of the Auditor-General's recommendations by departments and other agencies. The committee held a number of public briefings attended by departmental officers and officers from the Queensland Audit Office (QAO). In addition, the committee requested written briefings from departments and the QAO in relation to the implementation of the Auditor-General's recommendations.

### **Subordinate legislation examined**

From its examination of portfolio subordinate legislation, the committee tabled the following reports:

- Report No. 44: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 10 May 2017 and 13 June 2017*
- Report No. 48: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 14 June 2017 and 8 August 2017*

The committee recommended in each of these reports that the Legislative Assembly note the content of the reports and the committee's conclusion that the subordinate legislation did not raise any significant issues regarding the application of fundamental legislative principles, and was lawful and within power.

### **Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

<b>Item</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employee expenses <sup>24</sup>	198,730
Travel	23,319
Meeting expenses <sup>25</sup>	4,747
Communications	1,051
Printing and stationery	1,054
Newspapers	104
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>229,005</b>

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<sup>24</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>25</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

**Membership**

Ms Leanne Linard MP, Chair, Member for Nudgee

Mr Mark McArdle MP, Deputy Chair, Member for Caloundra

Mr Sid Cramp MP, Member for Gaven

Ms Leanne Donaldson MP, Member for Bundaberg

Mr Aaron Harper MP, Member for Thuringowa

Dr Mark Robinson MP, Member for Cleveland

**Meeting attendance record**

The following table shows committee members' attendance at committee meetings during the reporting period:

Date	L Linard MP	M McArdle MP	S Cramp MP	A Harper MP	L Donaldson MP	M Robinson MP
06 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
17 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26 July 2017 - Estimates	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
02 August 2017 - Estimates	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓
09 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30 August 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓
06 September 2017 (9:05am)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
06 September 2017 (6:40pm)	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x
15 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓
21 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27 September 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 October 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓

## Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee

### Annual Report 2017 – 2018

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#### **Committee Responsibilities**

The Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee was a committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament. The committee's portfolio areas of responsibility were: Transport, Infrastructure and Planning, State Development, Natural Resources and Mines, and Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.

The committee had an oversight role regarding the Family Responsibilities Commission.

#### **Bills examined**

##### **Gasfields Commission and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 - Report No. 46**

*Date referred:* 10 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 14 July 2017

*Status:* tabled 13 July 2017

The purpose of the Bill was to:

- Amend the *Gasfields Commission Act 2013* and implement specific recommendations made by the independent reviewer in relation to the *Gasfields Commission Act 2013*.
- Amend the *Biodiscovery Act 2004* allowing the formation of biodiscovery commercial chains.
- Amend the *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2015* to ensure that port overlay provisions which implement a priority port master plan are applied consistently.

The committee made two recommendations. The Government accepted the committee's recommendations. The bill was passed on 7 August 2017.

##### **Transport and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 - Report No. 48**

*Date referred:* 23 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 24 July 2017

*Status:* tabled 24 July 2017

The policy objectives of the Bill were to enable people aged 15 to 17 years of age to obtain an evidence of identity card and to allow new technologies such as apps and online portals to be used when applying for certain transport products and services.

The committee made four recommendations. The Government accepted two of the recommendations and supported one in principle. The bill was passed on 23 August 2017.

##### **Appropriation Bill 2017 – Consideration of the 2017-18 portfolio budget estimates - Report No. 49**

*Date referred:* 13 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 4 August 2017

*Status:* tabled 1 August 2017

On 19 July 2017, the committee conducted a public hearing and took evidence about the proposed expenditure from the Deputy Premier and Minister for Transport and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning; the Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines; and the Minister for Local Government and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, the directors-general of the relevant departments and certain chief executive officers.

The committee tabled Report No. 49 and recommended that the proposed expenditure be agreed to.

**Land Access Ombudsman Bill 2017 - Report No. 50***Date referred:* 23 May 2017*Reporting deadline:* 7 August 2017*Status:* tabled 7 August 2017

The purpose of the Bill was to establish an independent land access ombudsman to provide an independent service in regard to disputes relating to conduct and compensation agreement and make good agreement between a land owner and a resource tenure holder. The Bill also sought to save transitional provision of the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Transitional Regulation 2016 that would otherwise expire in September 2017.

During the inquiry the committee received 8 submissions, took a departmental briefing and held a public hearing. The committee made one recommendation that the Land Access Ombudsman Bill 2017 be passed. The Bill was passed on 7 September 2017.

A response to the committee's report was not received prior to the dissolution of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

**Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017 (exposure draft) - Report No. 54***Date referred:* 24 August 2017*Reporting deadline:* 5 October 2017*Status:* tabled 5 October 2017.

The exposure draft of the Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017 was tabled by the Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee (CWPSA) as part of its Report No. 3, 55th Parliament: A Mine Safety and Health Authority for Queensland in the Legislative Assembly on 24 August 2017.

The Bill was referred to the committee for consideration on the same day. The referral of the exposure draft Bill to the committee was unique as it was as a result of a recommendation made by the CWPSA and because the Bill was drafted by the CWPSA and provided to the committee as an exposure draft Bill.

The aim of the Bill was to establish an independent Mine Safety and Health Authority for Queensland.

The committee made one recommendation that the Legislative Assembly note the committee's consideration of the Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017.

**Mines Legislation (Resources Safety) Amendment Bill 2017 - Report No. 57***Date referred:* 7 September 2017*Reporting deadline:* 23 October 2017*Status:* tabled 23 October 2017.

The Bill proposed to address 15 matters identified for improvement in the resources safety and health regulatory framework.

During the inquiry the committee received 9 submissions, took a departmental briefing and held a public hearing on 25 October 2017. The committee made three recommendations. A response to the committee's report was not received prior to the dissolution of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

**Mineral, Water and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017***Date referred:* 22 August 2017*Reporting deadline:* 3 November 2017*Status:* Lapsed on 29 October 2017

The primary policy objectives of the Bill were to:

- Give effect to the Queensland Government's response to four recommendations of the Independent Review of the Gasfields Commission Queensland and Associated Matters;
- Remove the automatic referral of compensation matters to the Land Court of Queensland under the Mineral Resources Act 1989;

- Ensure the consideration of the water-related effects of climate change on water resources is explicit in the water planning framework;
- Provide for the inclusion of cultural outcomes in water plans to support the protection of the cultural values of water resources for Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders;
- Provide a mechanism to allow for temporary access to unallocated water held in strategic water infrastructure reserves; and
- Establish new powers for dealing with urgent water quality issues.

During the inquiry the committee received 19 submissions, took a departmental briefing on 6 September 2017 and held a public hearing on 11 October 2017. A draft report had been prepared by the committee. The Bill lapsed when the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament was dissolved on 29 October 2017.

#### **Land, Explosives and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 10 October 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 23 November 2017

*Status:* Lapsed on 29 October 2017

The policy objectives of the Bill were to streamline the regulatory frameworks within the Natural Resources and Mines portfolio; enhance worker and community safety and security in the explosives and gas sectors; and support the protection and cooperative management of cultural and natural values of Cape York Peninsula.

During the inquiry the committee received 4 submissions and took a departmental briefing on 25 October 2017. The Bill lapsed when the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament was dissolved on 29 October 2017.

#### **Vegetation Management (Clearing for Relevant Purposes) Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 26 October 2017

*Status:* Lapsed on 29 October 2017

The policy objectives of the Bill were to amend the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* to:

- Create an obligation on the chief executive to issue an information notice where an application for clearing, as assessed under section 22A of the Act, has been rejected; and
- Remove “grazing activities” from the definition of high value agriculture clearing to ensure that it is considered a relevant purpose in the chief executive’s consideration of an application to clear under the Act.

The Bill lapsed when the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament was dissolved on 29 October 2017.

#### **Other inquiries**

##### **Annual Report 2016-17 - Report No. 55**

*Status:* tabled 13 October 2017

The committee tabled its Annual Report which outlined the work of the committee during the 2016-2017 financial year.

#### **Oversight responsibilities**

##### **Oversight of the Family Responsibilities Commission - Report No. 52**

*Status:* tabled 28 August 2017

Standing Order 194A (Oversight of entity by Portfolio Committees) sets out the committee's oversight functions in relation to the Family Responsibilities Commission.

The committee identified several issues during the reporting period which it canvassed in Report No. 52: Oversight of the Family Responsibilities Commission.

**Inquiry into the Queensland Audit Office Report to Parliament**

*Status:* Lapsed on 29 October 2017

The Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee established an inquiry into the long-term financial sustainability of local government and the issues arising from the Queensland Auditor-General's Report 2 for 2016-17: Forecasting long-term sustainability of local government and Report 13 for 2016-17: Local government entities: 2015-16 results of financial audits.

The committee received 44 submissions, held two public departmental briefings and six public hearings for this inquiry. The committee had prepared a report for this inquiry which lapsed upon the dissolution of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

**Subordinate legislation examined**

From its examination of portfolio subordinate legislation, the committee tabled the following reports:

- Report No. 47: Subordinate legislation tabled between 15 February and 21 March 2017
- Report No. 51: Subordinate legislation tabled between 22 March and 9 May 2017
- Report No. 53: Subordinate legislation tabled between 10 May and 13 June 2017
- Report No. 56: Subordinate Legislation tabled between 14 June and 8 August 2017

**Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

<b>Item</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employee expenses <sup>26</sup>	198,730
Travel	6,580
Meeting expenses <sup>27</sup>	5,771
Communications	1,752
Printing and stationery	1,054
Newspapers	104
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>213,991</b>

**Membership**

Mr Jim Pearce MP, Member for Mirani, Chair

Ms Ann Leahy MP, Member for Warrego, Deputy Chair

Mr Craig Crawford MP, Member for Barron River

Mr Shane Knuth MP, Member for Dalrymple

Mrs Brittany Lauga MP, Member for Keppel

Mr Tony Perrett MP, Member for Gympie

<sup>26</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>27</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

**Meeting attendance record**

The following table shows committee members' attendance at committee meetings during the reporting period:

Date	J Pearce MP	A Leahy MP	B Lauga MP	C Crawford MP	S Knuth MP	T Perrett MP
05 July 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
10 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
19 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
20 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
31 July 2017	✓	✗	Substitution <sup>28</sup>	✓	✓	✗
31 July 2017	✓	✗	Substitution <sup>29</sup>	✓	✓	✗
09 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
23 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
24 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
06 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
08 September 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
08 September 2017	Substitution <sup>30</sup>	✓	✗	Substitution <sup>31</sup>	✗	✓
25 September 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
25 September 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
03 October 2017	Substitution <sup>32</sup>	✓	✓	Substitution <sup>33</sup>	✗	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
19 October 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
25 October 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
26 October 2017	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓

Standing Order 202(1) provides that in the case of a committee members' illness or inability to attend, another member may be appointed to attend that meeting or stand in for a particular inquiry.

The committee was responsible for reporting on the draft exposure of the Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017, which was tabled by the Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee (CWPSC) as part of its Report No. 3, 55th Parliament: *A Mine Safety and Health Authority for Queensland, including the committee's exposure draft Mine Safety and Health Authority Bill 2017*. As Mr Pearce MP and Mr Crawford MP were also members of the CWPSC, the Leader of the House resolved, to avoid any potential conflict of interest, to appoint substitutes in their positions.

<sup>28</sup> Ms Pease MP substitute for Mrs Lauga MP.

<sup>29</sup> Ms Pease MP substitute for Mrs Lauga MP.

<sup>30</sup> Mr Pegg MP substitute Chair for Mr Pearce MP.

<sup>31</sup> Ms Donaldson MP substitute for Mr Crawford MP.

<sup>32</sup> Mr Pegg MP substitute Chair for Mr Pearce MP.

<sup>33</sup> Ms Donaldson MP substitute for Mr Crawford MP.

## Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

### Annual Report 2017 – 2018

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#### **Committee responsibilities**

The Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee was a committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament. The committee's portfolio areas of responsibility were Justice and Attorney-General, Training and Skills, Police, Fire, Emergency Services and Corrective Services.

The committee had oversight roles regarding the:

- Information Commissioner
- Queensland Ombudsman
- Electoral Commissioner

#### **Annual report**

##### **Report No. 72: Annual Report 2016-2017**

In accordance with section 108 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, the committee is required to table an annual report within four months and 14 days after the end of each financial year. The report must include:

- a list of meetings of the committee and the names of members attending or absent from each meeting
- a summary of issues considered by the committee, including a description of the more significant issues arising from the considerations
- a statement of the committee's revenue and spending for the year
- a brief description of responses by Ministers to recommendations of the committee.

On 27 October 2017, the committee tabled Report No. 72: Annual Report 2016-2017. This report detailed the activities of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament during the 2016-17 financial year.

#### **Appropriation Bill 2017-2018**

##### **Report No. 60 – 2017–18 Budget Estimates**

The committee examined the budget estimates for the 2017-18 financial year contained in the Appropriation Bill 2017 for the committee's areas of responsibility. The committee held a public hearing on 20 July 2017 at which it questioned the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills, and the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services, as well as other witnesses, regarding the proposed expenditures for the committee's portfolio areas.

The committee reported on 4 August 2017 (Report No. 60) on its consideration of the 2017-18 budget estimates for its portfolio areas.

#### **Bills examined**

##### **Report No. 57 – Criminal Law (Historical Homosexual Convictions Expungement) Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 11 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 14 July 2017

*Status:* Reported on 14 July 2017

The objective of the Bill is to establish a scheme for the expungement, on application, of convictions and charges for particular offences involving homosexual activity. The scheme applies to convictions or charges that happened before 19 January 1991.



During its examination, the committee received 13 submissions and held a public briefing and a public hearing. The committee made one recommendation, that the Bill be passed.

**Report No. 58 – Corrective Services (No Body, No Parole) Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 23 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 24 July 2017

*Status:* Reported on 24 July 2017

The objective of the Bill is to amend the *Corrective Services Act 2006* to introduce the policy that is colloquially referred to as ‘No Body, No Parole’, in Queensland. The policy is predicated on the notion that by making parole release for particular prisoners contingent on them satisfactorily cooperating in the investigation of an offence to identify a victim’s location, it will encourage and provide incentive for these prisoners to assist in finding and recovering the body or remains of a victim.

During its inquiry, the committee received four submissions and held a public briefing and a public hearing. The committee made one recommendation, that the Bill be passed.

**Report No. 62 – Counter-Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 14 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 11 August 2017

*Status:* Reported on 11 August 2017

The primary objective of the Counter-Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 is to amend the *Public Safety Preservation Act 1986* (PSPA), the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* (PPRA) and the *Terrorism (Preventative Detention) Act 2005* to enhance public and police officer safety and ensure police are able to respond rapidly and effectively to terrorist acts and other critical incidents which pose a serious risk to life.

Further objectives of the Bill are to enhance the operational effectiveness of surveillance device powers under the PPRA and amend the PSPA and the PPRA to provide power for police to destroy explosives. The final objective of the Bill is to repeal the *Queensland Police Welfare Club Act 1970*.

During its inquiry, the committee received four submissions and held a public briefing. The committee made one recommendation, that the Bill be passed.

**Report No. 64 – Honourable Angelo Vasta (Reversal of Removal) Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 2 March 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 4 September 2017

*Status:* Reported on 4 September 2017

The purpose of the Bill is to set aside or revoke the decision of the Queensland Parliament made on 7 June 1989 (which was subsequently accepted by the Governor of Queensland) to remove Justice Angelo Vasta as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland.

During its inquiry, the committee received eight submissions and held a public briefing and a public hearing. The committee made one recommendation, that the Bill not be passed.

**Report No. 66 – Liquor (Rural Hotels Concession) Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 23 March 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 25 September 2017

*Status:* Reported on 25 September 2017

The policy objective of the Bill is to change the existing liquor licencing framework to reflect the unique circumstances of licenced venues in very remote communities.

During its examination of the Bill, the committee received 19 submissions. It held a public briefing, and public hearings in Normanton, Cunnamulla, Charleville, Blackall, Longreach, Hughenden, Brisbane and on Thursday Island. The committee made one recommendation, that the Bill be passed.

#### **Report No. 67 – Penalties and Sentences (Drug and Alcohol Treatment Orders) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 10 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 28 September 2017

*Status:* Reported on 28 September 2017

The primary objective of the Bill is to establish a new sentencing option, referred to as a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Order, for offenders whose criminal behaviour is linked to their serious drug or alcohol use.

During its inquiry, the committee received seven submissions and held a public briefing and public hearings in Brisbane, Cairns and Mackay. The committee made one recommendation, that the Bill be passed.

#### **Bills still under consideration at 29 October 2017**

Five bills referred to the committee for consideration during 2017-18 had not been reported on by the dissolution of Parliament on 29 October 2017:

- Working with Children Legislation (Indigenous Communities) Amendment Bill 2017 was referred on 14 June 2017. The committee was required to report by 14 December 2017.
- Guardianship and Administration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 was referred on 5 September 2017. The committee was required to report by 2 November 2017.
- Civil Liability (Institutional Child Abuse) Amendment Bill 2017 was referred on 10 October 2017. The committee was required to report by 10 April 2018.
- Local Government (Councillor Complaints) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 was referred on 10 October 2017. The committee was required to report by 27 November 2017.
- Local Government Electoral (Implementing Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 was referred on 12 October 2017. The committee was required to report by 27 November 2017.

#### **Oversight responsibilities**

##### **Report No. 68 - Information Commissioner**

Section 189 of the *Right to Information Act 2009* and section 195 of the *Information Privacy Act 2009* set out the committee's oversight functions in relation to the Information Commissioner.

The committee tabled Report No. 68: Oversight of the Information Commissioner, on 29 September 2017.

##### **Report No. 69 - Queensland Ombudsman**

Section 89 of the *Ombudsman Act 2001* sets out the oversight functions of the committee in relation to the Queensland Ombudsman. The committee tabled Report No. 69: Oversight of the Queensland Ombudsman, on 29 September 2017.

The committee also has a role in relation to the strategic review of the Office of the Ombudsman. Section 83 of the *Ombudsman Act 2001* provides for a strategic review of the Office of the Ombudsman to be conducted at least every seven years.

During 2016-17, the committee was consulted on proposed terms of reference for the strategic review. During 2017-18, the committee was consulted on a proposed reviewer to conduct the strategic review. The review is expected to be completed in early 2018.

### **Electoral Commissioner**

The committee was not required to perform its oversight functions in relation to the ECQ during the reporting period.

### **Subordinate legislation examined**

From its examination of portfolio subordinate legislation, the committee tabled the following reports.

#### **Report No. 59 - Subordinate legislation tabled between 1 March 2017 and 21 March 2017**

On 4 August 2017, the committee tabled Report No. 59: Subordinate legislation tabled between 1 March 2017 and 21 March 2017. The report advised of the committee's findings with respect to the following subordinate legislation:

- Associations Incorporation (Unsuitable Name) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 33)
- Tattoo Industry (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 34)

The committee did not identify any significant policy issues or issues relating to fundamental legislative principles or lawfulness in the subordinate legislation examined.

#### **Report No. 61 - Subordinate legislation tabled between 22 March 2017 and 9 May 2017**

On 11 August 2017 the committee tabled Report No. 61: Subordinate legislation tabled between 22 March 2017 and 9 May 2017. The report advised of the committee's findings with respect to the following subordinate legislation:

- Drugs Misuse Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 (SL No. 41)
- State Penalties Enforcement (Model By-laws for Trust Land) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 42)
- Legal Profession (External Examinations of Trust Records) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 43)
- Criminal Practice (Fees) and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 52)
- Disaster Management (Extension of Far North Disaster District) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 57)
- Penalties and Sentences (Penalty Unit Value) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 60)
- Legal Profession (Society Rules) Notice 2017 (SL No. 61)
- Charitable and Non-Profit Gaming (Prohibited Prizes) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 64)

The committee identified possible issues of fundamental legislative principle in SL No. 42 and 43, which were considered appropriate in the circumstances.

#### **Report No. 63 - Subordinate legislation tabled between 10 May and 13 June 2017**

On 25 August 2017, the committee tabled Report No. 63: Subordinate legislation tabled between 10 May and 13 June 2017. The report advised of the committee's findings with respect to the following subordinate legislation:

- Weapons and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 86)
- Fire and Emergency Services (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 87)

The committee noted that the fee increases made by the Weapons and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2017 are in line with the Queensland Government's indexation policy of 3.5% for the 2017-18 financial year, with two exceptions of 3.6% due to rounding. The committee did not identify any significant policy issues or issues relating to fundamental legislative principles or lawfulness in the subordinate legislation examined.

**Report No. 73 - Subordinate legislation tabled between 14 June 2017 and 8 August 2017**

On 27 October 2017, the committee tabled Report No. 73: Subordinate legislation tabled between 14 June 2017 and 8 August 2017. The report advised of the committee's findings with respect to the following subordinate legislation:

- Liquor (License Conditions) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 91)
- Proclamation made under the *Corrective Services (Parole Board) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2017* (SL No. 93)
- Professional Standards (The Law Society of South Australia Professional Standards Scheme) Notice 2017 (SL No. 95)
- Professional Standards (South Australia Bar Association Inc Scheme) Notice 2017 (SL No. 96)
- Proclamation made under the *Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2017* (SL No. 101)
- Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 (SL No. 108)
- Justice Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 (SL No. 109)
- Civil Liability and Other Legislation (Prescribed Amounts) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 110)
- State Penalties Enforcement (Heavy Vehicle National Law) Amendment Regulation 2017 (SL No. 114)
- Weapons Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 (SL No. 117)
- State Penalties Enforcement Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 (SL No. 119)
- Gaming Machine Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 (SL No. 125)
- Legal Profession (Society Rules) Amendment Notice (No. 1) 2017 (SL No. 128)
- Professional Standards Regulation 2017 (SL No. 131)

The committee noted that fee increases with Justice Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 are in line with the government indexation policy of 3.5% (subject to rounding).

The committee also identified that the Weapons Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2017 incorporates transitional provisions which are applicable to blank-fire firearms and apply retrospectively and as such may breach the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*. The committee considered the explanation provided in the explanatory notes and concluded that on balance, the potential breach was justified in the circumstances.

**Auditor-General reports****Report No. 70 - Review of the Auditor General's Report to Parliament No. 4: 2016-17 Criminal Justice System - Prison Sentences**

*Date referred:* 29 November 2016

*Status:* Reported on 27 October 2017

The committee made one recommendation, that the House note the contents of the report.

**Report No. 71 - Review of the Auditor General's Report to Parliament No. 14: 2016-17 Criminal Justice System - Reliability and Integration of Data**

*Date referred:* 9 May 2017

*Status:* Reported on 27 October 2017

The committee made one recommendation, that the House note the contents of the report.

**Auditor-General Report to Parliament No. 2: 2017-18 – Managing the mental health of Queensland Police employees**

*Date referred:* 10 October 2017

*Status:* Not reported on by the date the parliament was dissolved

### **Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

<b>Item</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employee expenses <sup>34</sup>	198,730
Travel	64,702
Meeting expenses <sup>35</sup>	5,471
Communications	1,752
Printing and stationery	1,054
Newspapers	104
Miscellaneous	140
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>271,953</b>

### **Membership**

Mr Duncan Pegg MP, Chair, Member for Stretton

Mr Michael Crandon MP, Deputy Chair, Member for Coomera

Ms Nikki Boyd MP, Member for Pine Rivers

Mr Don Brown MP, Member for Capalaba

Mr Jon Krause MP, Member for Beaudesert

Mrs Jann Stuckey MP, Member for Currumbin

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<sup>34</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>35</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

**Meeting attendance record**

The table below shows the attendance of committee members at committee meetings during the reporting period.

Date	D Pegg MP	M Crandon MP	N Boyd MP	D Brown MP	J Krause MP	J Stuckey MP
13 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18 July 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓
20 July 2017 (AM)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Substitution <sup>36</sup>	✓
20 July 2017 (PM)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Substitution <sup>37</sup>	✓
1 August 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x
1 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23 August 2017	✓	Substitution <sup>38</sup>	x	✓	✓	✓
30 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓
31 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15 September 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x
15 September 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x
25 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
26 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x
25 October 2017	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓
27 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Standing Order 202(1) provides that in the case of a committee members' illness or inability to attend, another member may be appointed to attend that meeting or stand in for a particular inquiry.

<sup>36</sup> Ms Barton MP substitute for Mr Krause MP.

<sup>37</sup> Ms Barton MP substitute for Mr Krause MP.

<sup>38</sup> Ms Simpson MP substitute for Mr Crandon MP.

## Public Works and Utilities Committee

### Annual Report 2017 – 2018

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#### **Committee responsibilities**

The Public Works and Utilities Committee was a committee of the 55th Parliament. The committee's portfolio areas of responsibility were main roads, road safety, ports, energy and water supply, housing, public works and sport.

#### **Bills examined**

##### **Appropriation Bill 2017 – Consideration of the 2017-2018 portfolio budget estimates (Report No. 42)**

*Date referred:* 13 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 4 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 4 August 2017

On 27 July 2017, the committee conducted public hearings and took evidence about the proposed expenditure from the Acting Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports, the Acting Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply, and the Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport, the Directors-General of the relevant departments and certain chief executive officers.

The committee's report summarised the estimates referred to the committee and highlighted some of the issues the committee examined. The committee recommended that the expenditure be agreed to. The bill was passed by the House on 8 August 2017.

##### **Building and Construction Legislation (Non-conforming Building Products – Chain of Responsibility and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No. 43)**

*Date referred:* 25 May 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 7 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 4 August 2017

The bill proposed to amend the *Queensland Building and Construction Act 1991* (QBCC Act) and other Acts to:

- confer responsibilities on the building product supply chain participants that ensure a building product, so far as reasonably practicable, is not a non-conforming building product
- enable the (QBCC) to ensure buildings are safe and better align its powers with those of other Queensland safety regulators
- facilitate safety on building and construction sites by requiring QBCC licensees to notify the QBCC about activities on a site that might present a work health and safety issue
- require the QBCC to report to regulatory agencies about work health and safety issues, where there is a serious injury or death
- enable the QBCC to enter into information sharing arrangements with other regulatory agencies, particularly in relation to work health and safety issues, and
- widen grounds for the QBCC to take disciplinary action against a licensee to include convictions relating to laws that can impact on health and safety or if the licensee's work on a building site may have caused a death, grievous bodily harm, or a serious risk to the health or safety of a person.

Following a public briefing by the Department of Housing and Public Works and the QBCC, a public hearing and receipt of 20 written submissions, the committee deliberated on a range of aspects and recommended that the bill be passed and made a further 2 recommendations.

The Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport tabled the Government Responses to Report No. 43 on 24 August 2017 advising that the Government supported all the recommendations made by the committee. The bill was passed by the House with amendment on 24 August 2017.

### **Electricity and Other Legislation (Batteries and Premium Feed-in Tariff) Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No. 44)**

*Date referred:* 15 June 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 11 August 2017

*Status:* reported on 11 August 2017 – lapsed on 29 October 2017

The bill proposed to amend the *Electricity Act 1994* and the *Energy and Water Ombudsman Act 2006* to:

- clarify when additional generation systems and electricity storage devices can be deployed in association with the Solar Bonus Scheme (SBS) by detailing the specific circumstances in which SBS customers will not be permitted to use additional generation and electricity storage devices, and
- enable the effective implementation of a new national regulatory framework for retail competition in embedded electricity networks commencing on 1 December 2017 by removing the restriction placed on embedded network customers having to connect to the local distribution network in order to access retail market offers from an authorised retailer and also enabling embedded network customers to access the dispute resolution services of the Energy and Water Ombudsman Queensland.

Following a public briefing by the Department of Energy and Water Supply and receipt of 12 written submissions, the committee deliberated on a range of aspects and recommended that the bill be passed.

The bill lapsed when the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament was dissolved on 29 October 2017.

### **Housing Legislation (Building Better Futures) Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No. 48)**

*Date referred:* 10 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 28 September 2017

*Status:* reported on 28 September 2017

The bill proposed to amend the *Manufactured Homes (Residential Parks) Act 2003*, the *Residential Services (Accreditation) Act 2002*, the *Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Act 2008* and the *Retirement Villages Act 1999* to ensure fairness and consumer protections for people who are either living in regulated accommodation or considering moving into these types of housing while enabling the continued viability of these industries and sectors.

The bill also proposed to amend the *Housing Act 2003* to provide clarity regarding the definition of a 'relevant asset' in relation to the implementation of the National Regulatory System for Community Housing in Queensland.

Following a public briefing by the Department of Housing and Public Works, 3 public hearings and receipt of 97 written submissions, the committee deliberated on a range of aspects and recommended that the bill be passed and made a further 17 recommendations, including 6 recommendations that the bill be amended.

The Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport tabled the Government Response to Report No. 48 on 24 October 2017 advising that the Government supported 4 of the 6 recommendations that the bill be amended and 9 of the other 11 recommendations made by the committee. The bill was passed by the House with amendment on 25 October 2017.



### **Tow Truck and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 (Report No. 49)**

*Date referred:* 22 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 5 October 2017

*Status:* reported on 4 October 2017 – lapsed on 29 October 2017

The bill proposed to amend the *Tow Truck Act 1973*, *State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999*, *Youth Justice Act 1992* and the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* as well as amend the *Tow Truck Regulation 2009* and *State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2014* to:

- introduce reforms to the towing industry, particularly regarding private property towing
- ensure young drivers aged 17-years continue to be accountable for their driving behaviour
- provide transitional arrangements to ensure any debts registered with the State Penalties Enforcement Registry can be enforced when 17-year-olds are transferred out of the adult justice system, and
- provide toll road operators and local government tollway operators with the flexibility to issue a single demand notice for multiple unpaid tolls and associated image processing fees, with one administration charge applied to the notice.

Following a public briefing by the Department of Transport and Main Roads and receipt of 5 written submissions, the committee deliberated on a range of aspects and recommended that the bill be passed and made one further recommendation that the bill be amended.

The bill lapsed when the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament was dissolved on 29 October 2017.

### **Building Industry Fairness (Security of Payment) Bill 2017 (Report No. 50)**

*Date referred:* 22 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 13 October 2017

*Status:* reported on 13 October 2017

The objectives of the bill were to:

- improve security of payment for subcontractors in the building and construction industry by providing for effective, efficient, and fair processes for securing payment, including the establishment of a framework to establish Project Bank Accounts
- modernise and simplify the provisions for making a subcontractors charge
- increase ease of access to security of payment legislation, and
- improve legislation to provide increased ability of the QBCC to provide regulatory oversight to the building and construction industry.

Following a public briefing by the Department of Housing and Public Works and the QBCC, a public hearing and receipt of 33 written submissions, the committee deliberated on a range of aspects and recommended that the bill be passed and made a further 6 recommendations, including two recommendations that the bill be amended.

The Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport tabled the Government Response to Report No. 50 on 25 October 2017 advising that the Government supported all the committee's recommendations. The bill was passed by the House with amendment on 26 October 2017.

### **Tow Truck (Towing from Private Property) Amendment Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 8 August 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 8 February 2017

*Status:* Lapsed on 29 October 2017

Mr Andrew Powell MP, member for Glass House introduced the bill as a private members bill.

The bill proposed to amend the *Tow Truck Act 1973* to expand existing requirements on accident towing to towing from private property. In particular, the bill sought to:

- create a head of power for setting towing fees from private property
- create a head of power to regulate the distance a vehicle can be towed without the vehicle owner's written consent
- set minimum signage standards
- expand consideration of an appropriate person to hold a tow truck licence to include complaints made against a person when performing the activities under the Act, and
- create an obligation on the Chief Executive to establish a complaints management process for operations that occur under the Act and publish statistics annually about the number of complaints received against tow truck licence holders and the outcome of these complaints.

The bill lapsed when the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament was dissolved on 29 October 2017.

### **Plumbing and Drainage Bill 2017**

*Date referred:* 10 October 2017

*Reporting deadline:* 23 November 2017

*Status:* Lapsed on 29 October 2017

The bill proposed to repeal the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002* and replace it with a new Act – entitled the *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2017* in order to:

- establish a contemporary, streamlined and flexible legislative framework for plumbing and drainage that is clear and simple for the end user; will ensure both public health and the environment are protected; and will meet industry and community expectations over the next decade
- provide authority for the making of a contemporary plumbing regulation that will be clear and easy for practitioners to use; reduce the regulatory burden on consumers, industry and local government; and include improved regulatory requirements for obtaining approvals for plumbing and drainage work
- provide authority for the making of a contemporary plumbing code that will include all plumbing standards required to vary and complement national plumbing standards, and
- protect public health and safety through the regulation of mechanical services work, including medical gas work, under the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991*.

The committee held a public briefing by the Department of Housing and Public Works and the QBCC and received 17 written submissions. The bill lapsed when the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament was dissolved on 29 October 2017.

### **Consideration of Auditor-General reports**

#### **Auditor-General's Report to Parliament 19: 2016-17 Security of critical water infrastructure**

*Date tabled in Parliament:* 27 June 2017

*Date referred:* 8 August 2017

*Status:* Inquiry not finalised prior to the dissolution of Parliament on 29 October 2017

The Auditor-General's report assessed whether a selection of entities responsible for critical water infrastructure have processes in place to protect their water control systems. The Queensland Audit Office

carried out its own tests, known as penetration tests, to identify and exploit security vulnerabilities. It also assessed whether these entities could detect the security breaches and restore the systems in the event of an attack.

The committee held a public briefing with the Queensland Audit Office on 25 October 2017. The committee's inquiry was not finalised prior to the dissolution of Parliament on 29 October 2017.

### **Subordinate legislation examined**

The committee's consideration of subordinate legislation resulted in the tabling of three reports:

- Report No. 45: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 1 March 2017 and 9 May 2017*
- Report No. 46: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 10 May 2017 and 13 June 2017*
- Report No. 51: *Subordinate legislation tabled between 14 June 2017 and 8 August 2017*

The committee did not identify any significant policy issues or issues relating to fundamental legislative principles in the subordinate legislation examined.

### **Committee expenditure**

The following table outlines the committee's expenses during the reporting period:

Item	\$
Employee expenses <sup>39</sup>	198,730
Travel	1,363
Meeting expenses <sup>40</sup>	6,237
Communications	1,051
Miscellaneous	19
Printing and stationery	1,054
Newspapers	104
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>208,558</b>

### **Membership**

Mr Shane King MP, Member for Kallangur, Chair

Mr Rob Molhoek MP, Member for Southport, Deputy Chair

Mr Jason Costigan MP, Member for Whitsunday

Mr Matt McEachan MP, Member for Redlands

Ms Joan Pease MP, Member for Lytton

Mr Chris Whiting MP, Member for Murrumba

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<sup>39</sup> The figure for employee expenses reflects a three-person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing may have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year. Whilst the committee ceased on 29 October 2017, employee expenditure also includes staffing support costs up to 11 February 2018 when the 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament commenced.

<sup>40</sup> The figure for meeting expenses includes expenses for audio-visual broadcasting of meetings and hearings.

**Meeting attendance record**

The table below shows the attendance of committee members at committee meetings and other activities during the reporting period.

Date	S King MP	R Molhoek MP	J Costigan MP	M McEachan MP	J Pease MP	C Whiting MP
10 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17 July 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
27 July 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27 July 2017 - Estimates	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 August 2017 - Estimates	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9 August 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
23 August 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
30 August 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6 September 2017	✓	✓	✓	x <sup>42</sup>	✓	✓
11 September 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
13 September 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
20 September 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
21 September 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
26 September 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	x <sup>43</sup>	✓
3 October 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	x	✓	✓
11 October 2017	✓	✓	x <sup>41</sup>	✓	✓	✓
25 October 2017	✓	✓	✓	✓	x <sup>44</sup>	✓

Standing Order 202(1) provides that in the case of a committee members' illness or inability to attend, another member may be appointed to attend that meeting or stand in for a particular inquiry.

<sup>41</sup> Mr Costigan MP was also a member of the Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee and unable to attend.

<sup>42</sup> Mr Bennett MP substitute from 10am to 11am; Mr Powell MP substitute from 11:15am to 12pm, for Ms Pease MP.

<sup>43</sup> Mr Madden MP substitute for Ms Pease MP.

<sup>44</sup> Mr Russo MP substitute for Ms Pease MP.