Management profiles

Committee of the Legislative Assembly

The Members of the Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the 53rd Parliament were:

- Hon Judy Spence MP, Chair, Member for Sunnybank, Leader of the House
- Mrs Rosemary Menkens MP, Deputy Chair, Member for Burdekin, Leader of Opposition Business
- Mr Robert Schwarten MP, Member for Rockhampton (Premier’s nominee).
- Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP, Member for Stafford (Deputy Premier’s nominee).
- Mr Mike Horan MP, Member for Toowoomba South (Leader of the Opposition’s nominee)
- Mr Tim Nicholls MP, Member for Clayfield, Deputy Leader of the Opposition

The Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the 53rd Parliament ceased on 23 March 2012 and the Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the 54th Parliament commenced on 17 May 2012.

Hon. John Mickel MP was the Speaker until the eve of the swearing in of the 54th Parliament on 15 May 2012.

The Members of the Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the 54th Parliament are:

- Hon Fiona Simpson MP, Chair, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Member for Maroochydore
- Mr Ray Stevens MP, Member for Mermaid Beach, Manager of Government Business
- Hon Tim Nicholls MP, Member for Clayfield, Treasurer (Premier’s nominee)
- Hon Jeff Seeney MP, Member for Callide, Deputy Premier
- Mr Curtis Pitt MP, Member for Mulgrave, Manager of Opposition Business
- Ms Annastacia Palaszczuk MP, Member for Inala, Leader of the Opposition
- Mr Tim Mulherin MP, Member for Mackay, Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Profiles of each of the Members of the Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the 54th Parliament are below:

Hon Fiona Simpson MP
BA, MA, GAICD
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Chair

Fiona Simpson has been the Member for the Sunshine Coast seat of Maroochydore since 1992, and in May 2012, she became the first female Speaker of Queensland Parliament. Formerly the Deputy Leader of the Nationals, and Deputy Opposition Leader, she has held shadow portfolios in Health, Transport, Main Roads, Tourism, Small Business, Communities, Housing and Women, among others. Ms Simpson also served more than 10 years on the Parliament’s Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee.

Mr Ray Stevens MP
BA
Manager of Government Business

Ray Stevens has been the Member for the seat of Mermaid Beach since 2006 and in May 2012 became the Manager of Government Business. Mr Stevens formerly held the shadow portfolios of Tourism, Racing, Fair Trading, Housing Accessibility and Public Works and has also served on the Parliament’s Finance and Administration Committee.
Hon Tim Nicholls MP
LLB
Premier’s nominee

Tim Nicholls has been the Member for the seat of Clayfield since 2006 and in April 2012 became the Treasurer and Minister for Trade. Mr Nicholls formerly served as the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and has held the shadow portfolios of Treasurer, Finance, Trade, Racing, Employment and Economic Development and Future Growth. Mr Nicholls has also served on the Parliament’s Finance and Administration Committee and was Deputy Chair of Parliament’s Integrity, Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee.

Hon Jeff Seeney MP
Deputy Premier

Jeff Seeney has been the Member for the seat of Callide since 1998 and in April 2012 became the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning. Mr Seeney formerly served as the Leader of the Opposition, Leader of The Nationals, Leader of Opposition Business, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Leader of the National Party. Mr Seeney has held the shadow portfolios of State Development, Infrastructure, Planning, Reconstruction, Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, Trade, Water, Small Business, Information Technology and Innovation, Industrial Relations, Treasurer, Decentralisation, Fair Trading and Police and Corrective Services.

Mr Seeney has also served on the Parliament’s Industry, Education, Training and Industrial Relations Committee, the Environment and Resources Committee, the Members’ Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee, the Standing Orders Committee and the Scrutiny of Legislation Committee.

Mr Curtis Pitt MP
Manager of Opposition Business

Curtis Pitt has been the Member for the seat of Mulgrave in Far North Queensland since 2009 and in May 2012 became the Manager of Opposition Business and the Shadow Minister for Treasury and Trade, Energy and Water Supply, Main Roads, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Sport and Recreation. Mr Pitt is also a Member of the Parliament’s Finance and Administration Committee. Mr Pitt formerly served as the Minister for Disability Services, Mental Health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and as a member of the Parliament’s Members’ Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee.

Ms Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
BA MA(Hons) LLB GDLP
Leader of the Opposition

Annastacia Palaszczuk has been the Member for the seat of Inala since 2006 and in May 2012 became the Leader of the Opposition and the Shadow Minister for Justice and Attorney-General, Industrial Relations, Education, Training and Employment, Tourism, Major Events and Commonwealth Games. Ms Palaszczuk is also a Member of the Parliament’s Education and Innovation Committee. Ms Palaszczuk formerly served as the Minister for Transport, Multicultural Affairs and Disability Services and as a member of the Parliament’s Members’ Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee and Public Works Committee.

Mr Tim Mulherin MP
Deputy Leader of the Opposition

Tim Mulherin has been the Member for the seat of Mackay since 1995 and in May 2012 became the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the Shadow Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Planning and Racing, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Local Government, Science, IT and Innovation. Mr Mulherin is also a Member of the Parliament’s Finance and Administration Committee, State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee and the Education and Innovation Committee. Mr Mulherin formerly served as the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Regional Economies, Primary Industries and Fisheries, Minister for Rural and Regional Queensland and as a member of the Parliament’s Scrutiny of Legislation Committee and Public Accounts Committee.
Executive Management Group

Mr Neil Laurie  
LLB LLM(Hons) MBA  
Clerk of the Parliament

Neil has been the Principal Officer of the Legislative Assembly, the Chief Executive Officer of, and the Accountable Officer for, the Parliamentary Service since February 2003. Neil has 20 years experience with the Parliamentary Service, including six years as Deputy Clerk and Clerk of Committees and over nine years as Clerk.

Mr Michael Ries  
BAdmin LLB GradDipBus  
Deputy Clerk

Michael was appointed to the role of Deputy Clerk of Queensland’s Parliament in June 2008. Michael is responsible for the Legislative and Information Services Division and is also the Research Director of the Ethics Committee. Previously he held senior roles in the Department of Premier and Cabinet including Clerk of the Executive Council.

Mr Michael Hickey  
BBus  
Director of Corporate and House Services

Michael leads the Corporate and House Services Division of the Parliamentary Service. He is also responsible for developing and monitoring corporate governance strategies. Michael was appointed Director in June 2003 and has over 23 years experience with the Parliamentary Service.

Service Area Managers

Mr Craig Atkinson  
BBus  
Manager, Financial and Administrative Services

Craig is the Manager of Financial and Administrative Services. His duties include establishing systems of financial management, asset and logistics management, preparing annual financial statements and ensuring compliance with relevant financial management legislation and standards as well as promoting best practice in financial management across the Parliamentary Service. Craig has over 20 years experience in financial management.

Ms Katherine Brennan  
BAppSc BA GradDipLibMan GradDipMan  
Parliamentary Librarian

Katherine was appointed as Parliamentary Librarian in February 2012 and manages the Parliamentary Library, which provides research and information services for Members of Parliament and their staff, as well as managing the heritage O’Donovan Library. Katherine has extensive library and management experience delivering information and advisory services to business, industry, government and community.

Ms Leanne Clare  
BCom CPA GradCertLegStud  
First Clerk Assistant (Procedure)

Leanne is First Clerk Assistant (Procedure) and leads the team that provides administrative and procedural support to the Legislative Assembly Chamber. Leanne has over 25 years public sector experience in investigative research and management roles.
Mr Mike Coburn  
Manager, Information Technology Services  
Mike manages Information Technology Services, which provides and maintains computer networks and services throughout the parliamentary precinct and Members’ electorate offices. Mike has over 30 years experience in the information technology industry.

Ms Glenda Emmerson  
BAgSc(1stClassHons) MJ  
Manager, Community Engagement Services  
Glenda was appointed Manager of Community Engagement Services in August 2007, following its creation. This area assists the Parliament, its Members and Committees to engage with Queenslanders. Glenda is responsible for coordinating and refocusing existing community engagement, education, Indigenous liaison and community liaison, as well as communication and events services. Glenda has over 20 years experience in the Parliamentary Service.

Mr Stephen Finnimore  
Manager, Committee Office  
Stephen leads the team that provides professional advice and research, administrative and procedural support to the various committees of the Parliament in fulfilling their roles and engaging with the community. He has over 30 years experience in the Parliament and in the private sector.

Mr Kevin Jones  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
Manager, Security and Attendant Services  
Kevin is the Sergeant-at-Arms and is also responsible for the delivery of Security and Attendant Services throughout the parliamentary precinct. Kevin has over 20 years experience in the Parliamentary Service.

Mr Darryl McCarthy  
Manager, Property Services  
Darryl and the Property Services team are responsible for managing the buildings within the parliamentary precinct as well as 94 electorate offices located throughout Queensland. Darryl has over 20 years experience in the construction and maintenance fields, graduating from Senior Project Officer to Manager Property Services in 2011.

Mr Evan McDonald  
Speaker’s Executive Officer  
Evan has extensive experience and qualifications in business, agribusiness with proven expertise in governance, financial management, business analysis and government relations. He has provided portfolio advice to various members of parliament in state and federal jurisdictions over a range of disciplines. As the Speaker’s senior adviser, Evan leads a team that provides executive support to the Speaker in her parliamentary, legal, and constitutional responsibilities.

Mr Peter Morris  
BBus Cert III(Adult Literacy)  
Manager, Human Resource Services  
Peter is responsible for ensuring the delivery of human resources and industrial relations services to Parliamentary Service staff and Members of Parliament. Peter has experience in both human resource management and industrial relations at an operational and managerial level. Peter has 20 years experience in Human Resource Management.

Ms Lucinda Osmond  
LLB  
Chief Hansard Reporter  
Lucinda manages the Parliamentary Reporting Service, which is responsible for the accurate, timely and efficient reporting of the proceedings of Parliament and its Committees. Previously, Lucinda worked in the New Zealand and Northern Territory parliaments and as a court reporter.

Mr Jaakko Ponsi  
Manager, Catering Services  
Jaakko is responsible for managing Catering Services which provides a range of dining services throughout the parliamentary precinct, such as fine dining, bar amenities, functions and cafeteria style dining. Jaakko has managed Catering Services for 15 years.