



COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Report No. 15

2014–2015 Annual Report

Introduction and background

1. The Committee of the Legislative Assembly (CLA or the committee) is a statutory committee established under the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (POQA).
2. Section 84 of the POQA provides that the committee's areas of responsibility are as follows:
 - (a) *the ethical conduct of Members;*

Note –

However, under section 104C(2), a complaint about a particular member not complying with the code of ethical conduct for members may be considered only by the Assembly or the Ethics Committee.

 - (b) *parliamentary powers, rights and immunities;*
 - (c) *standing rules and orders about the conduct of business by, and the practices and procedures of, the Assembly and its committees; and*
 - (d) *any other matters for which the committee is given responsibility under the standing rules and orders.*
 - (e) *any matter referred to the committee by the Speaker.*
3. Prior to the enactment of the *Parliament of Queensland and Other Acts Amendment Act 2015* on 1 June 2015, the committee had administrative functions under sections 5 and 6 of the *Parliamentary Service Act 1988* which included:
 - deciding policies about parliamentary accommodation and services; and
 - deciding major policies to guide the operation and management of the parliamentary service.
4. Section 108 of the POQA requires the chairperson of each parliamentary committee to table in the Legislative Assembly a report about that committee's activities during the financial year. The annual report must include:
 - a summary of issues considered by the committee, including a description of the more significant issues arising from the considerations: section 108(2)(b);
 - a brief description of responses by Ministers to recommendations of the committee: section 108(2)(d);
 - a statement of the committee's revenue and spending for the year: section 108(2)(c); and
 - a list of meetings of the committee and the names of members attending or absent from each meeting: section 108(2)(a).

5. This report summarises the committee's activities from 1 July 2014 until 30 June 2015.

Summary of issues considered by the committee

6. The committee tabled the following four reports during the reporting period:
- Report No. 10: *Consideration of the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2014* – tabled 25 July 2014;
 - Report No. 11: *2013-2014 Annual Report* – tabled 27 August 2014;
 - Report No. 12: *Report on the 2014 Budget Estimates Trial Process* – tabled 11 September 2014; and
 - Report No. 13: *Review of 2011 Committee System Reforms* – tabled 20 May 2015.
7. The Committee also considered numerous briefings from the Parliamentary Service throughout the year with respect to the discharge of its administrative jurisdiction (up to 1 June 2015) as a board of management for the Parliamentary Service. The committee made a number of policy decisions throughout the year, including decisions relating to the following issues:
- review of committee system reforms;
 - security on the Parliamentary precinct;
 - the Parliamentary Service Performance Questionnaire 2014;
 - major projects, including upgrading telecommunications system, stonework restoration and maintenance and refurbishment programs;
 - matters associated with the Queensland Independent Remuneration Tribunal; and
 - the Parliamentary Service Budget 2014-2015.
8. In addition the committee considered:
- amendments to Standing Orders;
 - guidelines for the use of electronic devices in the chamber; and
 - an updated Parliamentary Procedures Handbook.

Ministerial responses to committee recommendations

9. Section 107 of the POQA provides that where a committee recommends the Government or a Minister should take particular action, or not take particular action, about an issue; or a report of the CLA recommends a motion be moved by the Assembly to implement a recommendation of the committee, the Minister responsible is required to provide the Legislative Assembly with a response.
10. In the case of a report of the CLA recommending a motion be moved by the Assembly to implement a recommendation of the committee, the Premier or the Premier's nominee is to provide a response.
11. A response tabled in accordance with section 107 must set out any recommendations to be adopted, and the way and time within which they will be carried out, and any recommendations not to be adopted and the reasons for not adopting them.
12. The POQA requires the Minister to table the response within three months after the report is tabled. If the Minister cannot comply with this requirement, they are required to table an interim response within three months and a final response within six months.

13. The committee did not table a report containing recommendations requiring a ministerial response under section 107 of the POQA during the reporting period.

Committee's revenue and expenditure

14. The committee had no revenue during 2014-15. The committee had a budget of \$10,000.00 and expended \$473.00 (on hospitality) during 2014-15.

Meetings

15. During 2014-15, 12 meetings were held during the reporting period. The attendance schedule is set out below.

Attendance of the 54th Parliament

		Simpson	Seenev	Stevens	Nicholls*	Palaszczuk	D'Ath	Mulherin	Pitt
1	16.07.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓	X		✓	✓
2	16.07.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X
3	24.07.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓
4	05.08.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓
5	26.08.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
6	09.09.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	X
7	14.10.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	X	✓
8	28.10.2014	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	X	✓
9	25.11.2014	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓

Notes

*Mr Nicholls was nominated as the alternate for the Premier on 29 May 2012

16.07.14 Estimates Public Meeting

16.07.14 Mrs D'Ath MP was appointed as replacement for Leader of the Opposition but did not attend

24.07.14 Mrs D'Ath MP attended as replacement for Leader of the Opposition

05.08.14 Mrs Miller MP attended as replacement for Leader of the Opposition

26.08.14 Mrs D'ath MP was nominated as the alternate for the Leader of the Opposition for future CLA meetings

09.09.14 Mr Lynham MP attended as replacement for Leader of Opposition Business

14.10.14 Mr Lynham MP attended as replacement for the Deputy Leader of the Opposition

28.10.14 Mr Lynham MP attended as replacement for the Deputy Leader of the Opposition

25.11.14 Hon Langbroek attended as the Premier's nominee

Attendance of the 55th Parliament

		Wellington	de Brenni	Hinchliffe	Langbroek	Power	Springborg	Stevens	Knuth
10	06.05.2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	
11	19.05.2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12	02.06.2015	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓

Notes

06.05.15 Pursuant to section 81(2) the Premier nominated Mr Power as her alternate on the CLA

06.05.15 Pursuant to section 81(2) the Deputy Premier nominated Mr de Brenni as her alternate on the CLA

06.05.15 Pursuant to section 81(2) the Leader of the Opposition nominated Mr Nicholls as his alternate on the CLA

02.06.15 Mr Nicholls MP attended as replacement for the Deputy Leader of the Opposition

02.06.15 Mr Knuth MP was appointed to the CLA

Membership of the 54th Parliament

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

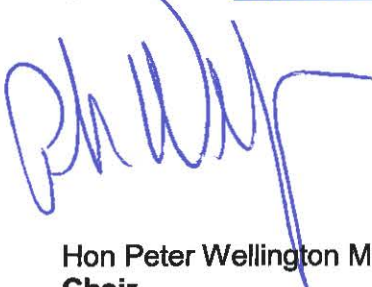
Membership of the 55th Parliament

Hon Peter Wellington MP, Chair, Member for Nicklin [Speaker of the Legislative Assembly]
Mr Mick de Brenni MP, Member for Springwood [Deputy Premier's nominee]
Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP, Member for Sandgate [Leader of the House]
Mr Shane Knuth MP, Member for Dalrymple [Crossbench member]
Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP, Member for Surfers Paradise [Deputy Opposition Leader]
Mr Linus Power MP, Member for Logan [Premier's nominee]
Mr Lawrence Springborg MP, Member for Southern Downs [Leader of the Opposition]
Mr Ray Stevens MP, Member for Mermaid Beach [Leader of Opposition Business]

Secretariat

Mr Neil Laurie, the Clerk of the Parliament
Mr Michael Ries, Deputy Clerk of Parliament
Mr Michael Hickey, Director, Corporate and House Services
Mr Karl Holden, Principal Research Officer
Ms Andrea Musch, Executive Secretary

Telephone: 07 3553 6450
Fax: 07 3553 6614
Email: CLA@parliament.qld.gov.au
Internet: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/CLA>
Subscribe: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/subscribe>



Hon Peter Wellington MP
Chair

October 2015