



# **Annual Report**

## **2014-15**

**Report No. 17, 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament**  
**Finance and Administration Committee**  
**November 2015**

## **Finance and Administration Committee**

<b>Chair</b>	Ms Di Farmer MP, Member for Bulimba
<b>Deputy Chair</b>	Mr Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera
<b>Members</b>	Miss Verity Barton MP, Member for Broadwater Mr Craig Crawford MP, Member for Barron River Mr Duncan Pegg MP, Member for Stretton Mr Pat Weir MP, Member for Condamine
<b>Secretariat</b>	Ms Deborah Jeffrey, Research Director Dr Maggie Lilith, Principal Research Officer (to 21 September 2015) Ms Megan Johns, Principal Research Officer (from 22 September 2015) Ms Carolyn Heffernan, Executive Assistant (to 13 April 2015) Ms Louise Johnson, Executive Assistant (from 22 April 2015 to 1 October 2015) Ms Julie Fidler, Executive Assistant Ms Lynette Whelan, Executive Assistant
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## Chair's Foreword

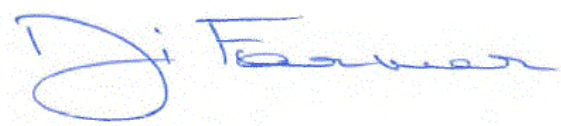
This report relates to the activities of the Finance and Administration Committee of the 55<sup>th</sup> Parliament (27 March 2013 to 30 June 2015).

During the financial year, the Committee has tabled a total of four reports – three on Bills, and one on subordinate legislation.

The Committee worked diligently and in a bipartisan manner, to try to achieve consensus agreement, wherever possible, during consideration of the inquiries.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank those that took the time to provide submissions, met with and provided information to the Committee during the course of its inquiries throughout the financial year.

Finally, I would like to thank the Members of the Committee for their hard work and dedication.



Di Farmer MP

Chair

November 2015

## 1 Finance and Administration Committee

The Finance and Administration Committee (the Committee) was established on 27 March 2015 as a portfolio committee of the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

Section 92 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* outlines the main responsibilities of a portfolio committee. In relation to its portfolio area, a committee may—

- consider Appropriation Bills;
- consider other legislation and proposed legislation; and
- perform its role in relation to public accounts and public works.

Schedule 6 of the *Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly* sets out the Committee's portfolio responsibilities as follows:

- Premier, Cabinet and the Arts; and
- Treasury, Employment, Industrial Relations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.

The Committee also has oversight responsibilities for:

- Auditor-General;
- Integrity Commissioner;
- Family Responsibilities Commission; and
- Queensland Family and Child Commission.

## 2 Annual report

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; and
- a brief description of responses by Ministers to recommendations of the Committee.

This report provides a summary of the activities of the Committee from 27 March to 30 June 2015.

## 3 Inquiries and reports

The Committee considered a number of issues and tabled four reports during the 2014-2015 financial year. The Committee's reports and inquiries are discussed below.

Copies of the Committee's publications are available from the Committee's webpage: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees/committees/FAC>

### **3.1 Bills and subordinate legislation**

The Committee examined a number of bills and pieces of subordinate legislation in accordance with its responsibility under section 93(1) of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, in particular the Committee considered:

- the policy to be given effect by the legislation;
- the application of fundamental legislative principles to the legislation, and
- for subordinate legislation - its lawfulness.

#### **3.2.1 Portfolio subordinate legislation tabled between 29 August 2014 and 26 March 2015 (Report No. 1)**

On 7 May 2015, the Committee tabled Report No. 1: Portfolio subordinate legislation tabled between 29 August 2014 and 26 March 2015.

The Committee did not identify any significant policy issues or issues relating to fundamental legislative.

#### **3.2.2 Parliament of Queensland and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2015 (Report No. 2)**

On 27 March 2015, the *Parliament of Queensland and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2015* was referred to the Committee for examination and report. The Committee's consideration of the Bill included calling for public submissions, a public departmental briefing, held on 10 April 2015 and a public hearing, held on 27 April 2015. The Committee received five submissions.

The Committee tabled its report on 8 May 2015. The Committee was unable to reach agreement on whether to recommend that the Bill be passed. The government Members accepted the Bill should pass with amendments. The non-government Members considered that additional amendments would be required before they could support the Bill. The Committee reached consensus agreement on two recommendations.

The Minister tabled the government response on 20 May 2015 accepting both recommendations. The Bill was passed, with amendments, on 20 May 2015.

#### **3.2.3 Payroll Tax Rebate, Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 (Report No. 3a)**

On 27 March 2015, the Treasurer, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships introduced the *Payroll Tax Rebate, Revenue and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015* which was referred to the Committee for examination and report. The Committee's consideration of the Bill included calling for public submissions, a public and a private departmental briefing and a public hearing. The Committee also received additional written responses from the department and stakeholders. The Committee received 18 submissions.

The Committee tabled its report on 25 May 2015. The Committee was unable to reach agreement on whether to recommend that the Bill be passed. The government Members accepted the Bill should pass with amendments. The non-government Members considered that additional amendments would be required before they could support the Bill. The Committee reached consensus agreement on five recommendations.

The Minister tabled the government response on 2 July 2015. The government accepted all recommendations. The Bill was passed, with amendments, on 2 July 2015.

### 3.2.4 Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 (Report No. 4)

On 7 May 2015, the Treasurer, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships introduced the *Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015* which was referred to the Committee for examination and report. The Committee's consideration of the Bill included calling for public submissions, a public departmental briefing, held on 20 May 2015 and five public hearings, held on 25 May 2015. The Committee received 1,040 submissions.

The Committee tabled its report on 1 June 2015. The Committee was unable to reach agreement on whether to recommend that the Bill be passed. The government Members accepted the Bill should pass with amendments. The non-government Members considered that significant amendments would be required before they could support the Bill. The Committee reached consensus agreement on two recommendations.

The government response was tabled on 4 June 2015. The government accepted one recommendation and did not accept one recommendation. The Bill was passed, with amendments, on 2 June 2015.

## 4 Committee expenditure

The Committee had no revenue during 2014-15. The Committee is funded from the appropriation made to the Legislative Assembly. The expenditure of the Committee from 27 March to 30 June 2015 is shown in the table below.

Item	\$
Staff salaries and related expenses <sup>1</sup>	77,969
Business travel	2,658
Printing and production	0
Consultants	1,813
Telecommunication costs	400
Meeting expenses, stationery, consumables and miscellaneous expenses	875
<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>86,191</b>

<sup>1</sup> These figures reflect a three person secretariat supporting the committee. The Committee's staffing might have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year.

## 5 Meeting attendance record

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

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. Under this provision, the Member for Albert, Mr Mark Boothman MP, was a substitute Committee Member for Mr Crandon for the meeting held on 30 June 2015.

Meeting Date	Ms Farmer MP	Mr Crandon MP	Miss Barton MP	Mr Crawford MP	Mr Pegg MP	Mr Weir MP
30/03/2015	✓	✓	✘	✓	✓	✓
10/04/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27/04/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15/05/15	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20/05/2015 at 8.35am	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20/05/2015 at 1:25pm	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20/05/2015 at 4:12pm	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28/05/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
01/06/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
03/06/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
04/06/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10/06/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15/06/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22/06/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25/06/2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30/06/2015	✓	✘	✓	✓	✓	✓