



QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT

COMMITTEES

Annual Report 2023-24



Report No. 37, 57th Parliament
Committee of the Legislative Assembly

August 2024

Committee of the Legislative Assembly

Chair Hon Curtis Pitt MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Member for Mulgrave

Members Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Member for Kawana

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

Hon Mick de Brenni MP, Leader of the House, Member for Springwood

Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP, Member for Sandgate [Deputy Premier's alternate]

Mr Shane Knuth MP, Member for Hill [Crossbench nominee]

Mr Andrew Powell MP, Manager of Opposition Business, Member for Glass House

Mr Ray Stevens MP, Member for Mermaid Beach [Leader of the Opposition's alternate]

Committee Secretariat

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All web address references are current at the time of publishing.

Acknowledgements

The committee acknowledges the assistance provided by the Committee Secretariat.

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1 Committee of the Legislative Assembly

The Committee of the Legislative Assembly (CLA or the committee) is a statutory committee established under the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (POQA).

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;

(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.

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 year. The annual report must include:

(a) a list of meetings of the committee and the names of members attending or absent from each meeting; and

(b) a summary of issues considered by the committee, including a description of the more significant issues arising from the considerations; and

(c) a statement of the committee's revenue and spending for the year; and

(d) a brief description of responses by Ministers to recommendations of the committee.

Standing Order 135A Role of the Committee of the Legislative Assembly provides:

The Committee of the Legislative Assembly shall:

(a) monitor and review the business of the Legislative Assembly to aim for the effective and efficient discharge of business;

(b) monitor and review the operation of committees, particularly the referral of Bills to committees, and where appropriate vary the time for committees to report on Bills or vary the committee responsible for a Bill.

Standing Order 136 Portfolio committee reports on a Bill provides:

(1) A portfolio committee must finally report to the House on a Bill within six calendar months of the Bill being referred to it unless an alternative report date on the Bill has been set by the House or the Committee of the Legislative Assembly in accordance with (2) and (3) below.

(2) The House may by order vary a portfolio committee's report date on a Bill to a period of not less than 6 weeks.

(3) The Committee of the Legislative Assembly may vary the time for a portfolio committee to report on a Bill provided that:

(a) the House has not by order already set the time for report under (2) above or SO 137 below; and

(b) the report date is not less than 6 weeks after the Bill has been referred to the portfolio committee; and

(c) the Committee of the Legislative Assembly reports its decision to the House at the earliest opportunity.

(4) The House or the Committee of the Legislative Assembly may vary the portfolio committee responsible for a Bill (notwithstanding the nomination of the member who introduced the Bill in accordance with SO 129(3)(c)). If the Committee of the Legislative Assembly varies the committee responsible for a Bill it must report such decision to the House at the earliest opportunity.

Standing Order 194B, Consideration of Auditor-General reports by Portfolio Committees provides:

The Committee of the Legislative Assembly shall as soon as practicable after a report of the Auditor-General is tabled in the Assembly refer that report to the relevant portfolio committee(s) for consideration.

This report summarises the committee's activities from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

2 Summary of issues considered by the committee

The committee tabled the following reports during the reporting period:

- Report No. 35, 57th Parliament – Annual Report 2022-2023, tabled 11 October 2023
- Report No. 36, 57th Parliament – Report on the 2023 Budget Estimates Process, tabled 11 October 2023
- Code of Ethical Standards together with The Guide to the Code of Ethical Standards and Rules Relating to the Conduct of Members, November 2023, tabled 28 November 2023.

The committee considered numerous briefings from the Parliamentary Service with respect to its areas of responsibility under the POQA.

The committee also exercised its responsibility under Standing Orders in setting or varying the time for committees to report on a bill, or varying the committee responsible for a bill, on 50 occasions; and referred 17 Auditor-General reports to committees during the period.

The committee wrote to the portfolio committees regarding historical submissions and increased requests to remove submissions to former committees from publication on the website, and to the Queensland Police Commissioner regarding a review on Security of Members of Parliament.

The committee considered the following issue referred to it by the Speaker throughout the year:

- Finalising a review of the Legislative Assembly's *Code of Ethical Standards* and the associated *Guide to the Code of Ethical Standards and Rules Relating to the Conduct of Members*.

The committee also considered a number of operational matters, including:

- Numerous briefings and updates regarding the refurbishment of the Parliamentary Annexe and accommodation options for members during the refurbishment.
- Outcome on the installation of the CCTV roll out at Electorate Offices and protocols for managing the use of CCTV data.
- Suggested amendments to Standing Orders.
- Zero tolerance measures in Electorate Offices.
- E-Petition system and a request for its modification via a petition.
- CWP Review of Security for Parliamentarians.

2.1 Ministerial responses to committee recommendations

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.

There were no recommendations within the reporting period requiring a ministerial response.

3 Committee expenditure

The committee had no revenue during the reporting period. The committee had no specific budget allocation for 2023-2024, however funds were available from the General Committee Office budget. The committee expended \$5,762 on technology and meeting expenses during the period.

4 Meeting attendance record

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

Meeting Date	Hon C Pitt MP (Chair)	Mr J Bleijie MP	Mr D Brown MP ¹	Hon Y D'Ath MP	Hon M de Brenni MP	Hon S Hinchliffe MP ²	Mr S Knuth MP	Ms J Pease MP ³	Mr A Powell MP	Mr R Stevens MP ⁴
24 August 2023	x ⁵	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
14 September 2023	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
12 October 2023	✓	✓	✓	x ⁶			✓	✓	✓	✓
26 October 2023	✓	✓	✓	x ⁷			✓	x ⁸	✓	✓
16 November 2023	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
30 November 2023	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
15 February 2024	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
7 March 2024	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

¹ Mr Don Brown MP, Member for Capalaba, is the Deputy Premier's alternate on the CLA to 30 November 2023, and is the Premier's alternate from 12 February 2024.

² Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP, Member for Sandgate, is the Deputy Premier's alternate on the CLA from 12 February 2024.

³ Ms Joan Pease MP is the Premier's alternate on the CLA to 30 November 2023.

⁴ Mr Ray Stevens MP is the Leader of the Opposition's alternate on the CLA.

⁵ Mr Joe Kelly MP, Member for Greenslopes, was Acting Speaker.

⁶ Mr Bart Mellish MP, Member for Aspley, alternate for the Leader of the House.

⁷ Mrs Charis Mullen MP, Member for Jordan, alternate for Leader of the House.

⁸ Mr Linus Power MP, Member for Logan, alternate for the Premier.

Meeting Date	Hon C Pitt MP (Chair)	Mr J Blejje MP	Mr D Brown MP ¹	Hon Y D'Ath MP	Hon M de Brenni MP	Hon S Hinchliffe MP ²	Mr S Knuth MP	Ms J Pease MP ³	Mr A Powell MP	Mr R Stevens MP ⁴
21 March 2024	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
18 April 2024	✓	✓	✓		x ⁹	✓	✓		✓	✓
2 May 2024	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	x ¹⁰
23 May 2024	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
14 June 2024	✓	x ¹¹	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Hon Curtis Pitt MP
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Chair

August 2024

⁹ Hon Nickki Boyd MP, Member for Pine Rivers, alternate for the Leader of the House.

¹⁰ Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP, Member for Surfers Paradise, alternate for the Leader of the Opposition.

¹¹ Mr Jim McDonald MP, Member for Lockyer, alternate for the Deputy Leader of the Opposition.