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# **PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES PROGRESS ON INVESTIGATIONS**

**To 31 August 2007**

**56<sup>th</sup> Parliament**

*Issued by Authority of the President of the Legislative Council  
and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly*

The Progress on Investigations provides a summary of the activities of Joint Investigatory Committees and Select Committees.

1. The Parliamentary Committees of the Victorian Parliament are appointed pursuant to the ***Parliamentary Committees Act 2003***.

The functions of the **Joint Investigatory Committees** are detailed in sections 7 to 17 of the Act which, by section 33, also makes the following provisions regarding their role, sources of references and priorities in considering references:

- (1) A Joint Investigatory Committee must inquire into, consider and report to the Parliament on any proposal, matter or thing that is relevant to its functions and has been referred to the Committee-
  - (a) by resolution of the Council or the Assembly; or
  - (b) by Order of the Governor in Council published in the Government Gazette.
- (2) A resolution of the Council or the Assembly referred to in sub-section (1)(a) may specify a period of time within which the Joint Investigatory Committee must make a final report to the Parliament on the proposal, matter or thing.
- (3) A Joint Investigatory Committee may inquire into, consider and report to the Parliament on any annual report or other document relevant to the functions of the Committee that is laid before either House of the Parliament in accordance with an Act.
- (4) In carrying out its functions, a Joint Investigatory Committee must –
  - (a) give priority before all other proposals, matters or things being inquired into or being considered by the Committee-
    - (i) first to those proposals, matters or things referred to it by resolution of the Council or the Assembly; and
    - (ii) second, to those proposals, matters or things referred to it by Order of the Governor in Council published in the Government Gazette; and
  - (b) comply with any limitation of time specified under sub-section (2).

2. Select Committees may be established by resolution of either House of the Parliament and operate in accordance with the Standing Orders and not the Parliamentary Committees Act 2003.

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**[www.parliament.vic.gov.au](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au)**

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# **DRUGS AND CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

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**Website:**    <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/dcpc>

## **Members:**

**(Council)**        Mr S Leane and Ms J Mikakos.

**(Assembly)**     Hon. A. Haermeyer, Mr H Delahunty, Mrs J Maddigan,  
Mr A McIntosh and Mr D Morris.

**Chair:**            Mrs Judy Maddigan MP

**Executive Officer:** Sandy Cook

## **INQUIRY INTO THE MISUSE/ABUSE OF BENZODIAZEPINES AND OTHER FORMS OF PHARMACEUTICAL DRUGS IN VICTORIA**

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Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 November 2007 on the misuse/abuse of benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs in Victoria with particular regard to:

(a) examining the nature, extent and culture of the misuse/abuse of benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs;

(b) examining the short and long term consequences/harms of the abuse/misuse of benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs;

(c) examining the relationship between benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs and other forms of licit and illicit substance use;

(d) reviewing the adequacy of existing strategies for dealing with benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs misuse/abuse;

(e) recommending best practice strategies to address the issue of benzodiazepines and other forms of pharmaceutical drugs, including regulatory, law enforcement, education and treatment responses; and

(f) examining national and international legislation, reports and materials relevant to the issue.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

- **Literature review continued to be undertaken**
- **Overseas Evidence seeking Trip July 20 – August 5, 2007**
- **Follow-up work from the Overseas Evidence seeking trip continued**
- **The Committee heard evidence from Mr Graeme Johnstone, Victorian State Coroner at a Public Hearing in Melbourne on August 20**

- **The Committee held a Forum for representatives from Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Services in Melbourne on 20 August 2007. The following people attended:**
  - **Alan Thorpe, Outreach Worker, Ngwala Willumbong**
  - **Reg Blow, CEO, Maya Healing Centre**
  - **Michael Moran, Co-ordinator, ACSO & Ngwala Willumbong**
  - **Matthew Graham, Outreach Worker, Ngwala Willumbong**
  - **Chasity Prior, Outreach Worker, Ngwala Willumbong**
  - **Tina Di Mauro**
  - **David Dryden, Koori Outreach Worker, SEADS**
- **Work commenced on drafting the Report.**

### **INQUIRY INTO JUSTICE AND CRIME STRATEGIES IN HIGH VOLUME CRIMES**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 June 2008 on justice and crime strategies in high volume crimes such as breaking and entering, which often involve young people - and the Committee is to recommend on:

- (a) strategies that will reduce high volume crimes with particular emphasis on residential burglaries being committed by young people; and
- (b) strategies that are effective because they change the environment in which these offences are likely to be committed .

#### ***Activity during August 2007***

**This inquiry has not yet commenced.**

# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

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**Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002**

**Telephone:** (03) 8682 2832    **Facsimile:** (03) 8682 2818

**Email:**            edic@parliament.vic.gov.au

**Website:**        <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/edic>

**Members:**

**(Council)**            Mr B Atkinson, Mr D Davis, Mr B Tee and Mr E Thornley

**(Assembly)**        Hon. C Campbell, Mr. P .Crisp and Ms M. Thomson

**Chair:**                Hon. Christine Campbell, MP

**Executive Officer:** Dr Vaughn Koops

## **INQUIRY INTO KEY COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES IN VICTORIA'S FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTOR**

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Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 December 2007 on the key competitive advantages underpinning the performance and growth in Victoria's financial services sector, particularly with regard to the sector's presence interstate, and recommend strategies to:

- (a) maintain this growth;
- (b) maximise employment opportunities from the sector's further expansion;
- (c) ensure the benefit of the sector's growth and operation are shared across the state; and
- (d) identify likely risks and impediments to the sector.

## **INQUIRY INTO MANDATORY ETHANOL AND BIOFUELS TARGETS IN VICTORIA**

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 March 2008 on mandatory ethanol and biofuels target in Victoria – and, in particular, the Committee is required to:

- (a) report on the merits or otherwise of a mandated target for alternative fuels including biofuels and ethanol;
- (b) report on whether a mandatory target should be 5% by 2010, 10% by 2015 or otherwise;
- (c) report on the measures required by Government to facilitate an alternative fuels industry in Victoria for transport and non-transport applications; and
- (d) report on how to maximise the regional economic development benefits of a mandatory biofuels target including jobs growth and investment potential.

**Activities during August 2007**

- The Committee held meetings on 6 August, 20 August and 27 August 2007
- The Committee convened public hearings on Monday 6 August, Monday 20 August and Monday 27 August. The following witnesses presented evidence to the Committee:

**Monday 6 August:**

<b>Witness</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Mr Ron Bowden Chief Executive Officer	Service Station Association of Australia
Mr Doug Munro Senior Consultant	Synergetics
Mr Keith Seyer – Director Technical and Regulatory	Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries
Mr Tom Bee – Leader Alternative Transport Fuels Energy Transformed Flagship Mr Peter Campbell Research Scientist Alternative Fuels Scheme	CSIRO

**Monday 20 August:**

<b>Witness</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Mr Simon Ramsay - President Mr Graeme Ford Executive Manager, Policy	Victorian Farmers Federation
Mr Wayne Turner Chief Executive Officer Mr Peter Anderton Chief Executive Officer, Agri Energy Mr Adrian Lumb, General Manager, Marketing and Corporate Services Mr Stewart Rendell, Feedstock and Agriculture	Agri Energy/Australian Biofuels Limited
Mr Martin Jones, Manager Government Relations	CSR Ethanol
Mr Reno Beltrame Technical Manager Mr Mile Soda - Managing Director	Smorgon Fuel Pty Ltd

**Monday 27 August:**

<b>Witness</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Mr Marc Middleton, Marketing Manager	Ozmotech Pty Ltd
Mr Leigh Watkins, Senior Manager, Strategic Solutions	Bendigo Bank
Mr Frank Russel, Head Biofuels	BP Australia

<b>Professor Michael Brear Senior Lecturer, Dept of Mechanical &amp; Manufacturing Engineering Mr Tony Kitchener</b>	<b>University of Melbourne Cash Engineering</b>
<b>Ms Paula Arcari</b>	<b>ICLEI Oceania</b>
<b>Mr Ernie Tamburrini, Director, Powertrain Engineering Mr Parveen Batish, Director</b>	<b>GM Holden SAAB Australia and New Zealand</b>
<b>Professor German Spangenberg</b>	<b>DPI</b>

- **56 submissions were formally received by the Committee for the Inquiry into Mandatory Ethanol and Biofuels Targets in Victoria**
- **The EDIC website was updated, with transcripts and electronic versions of submissions now provided online.**

***Future Activities***

- **Committee meeting 17 September**
- **Draft chapters of the biofuels report to be prepared.**



# EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

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Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002

Telephone: 8682 2821                      Facsimile: 8682 2818

Email:                      etc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Website:                      <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/etc>

## Members:

(Council)                      Mr Nazih Elasmr, Mr Bernie Finn and Mr Peter Hall  
(Assembly)                      Dr Alistair Harkness, Mr Steve Herbert, Mr Geoff Howard and Mr Nicholas Kotsiras.

Chair:                              Geoff Howard MP

Executive Officer:              Karen Ellingford

## DRESS CODES AND SCHOOL UNIFORMS IN VICTORIAN SCHOOLS

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Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 March 2008 on dress codes and school uniforms in Victoria, in particular:

- a) the benefits and costs of mandatory school uniforms;
- b) the views of school communities about dress codes and school uniforms;
- c) the most cost efficient and practical uniform procurement arrangements;
- d) matters which need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination legislation and health promotion policies;
- e) appropriate enforcement and sanctions;
- f) appropriate exemption criteria and processes; and
- g) national and international trends.

### *Activities during August 2007*

The Committee continued collecting responses to its online survey targeting school principals in the government, Catholic and independent school systems. A random sample of 710 schools was selected for participation in the survey

The Committee also continued planning for a public hearing with 128 primary and secondary school students in the parliamentary chambers, scheduled for Thursday 6 September. During the hearing, students will consider and discuss issues outlined in a mock Bill drafted by the Committee specifically for the hearing.

### ***Future Activity***

**The Committee will analyse results from its online survey and commence drafting a final report in September.**

## **EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 1 March 2008 on effective strategies for teacher professional learning with particular regard to:

- a. the relationship between ongoing professional learning for teachers and teaching expertise;
- b. which factors will support high quality professional learning for teachers, including learning methods and environments for the development of professional knowledge, and the pedagogy relevant to professional development of teachers;
- c. national and international trends regarding ongoing professional learning for teachers and report on innovative initiatives;
- d. determining how best practice in ongoing professional learning for teachers can be delivered into schools and learning communities;
- e. examining the potential for greater cross-sectoral links between industry, training institutions and schools in the delivery of ongoing professional learning for teachers; and
- f. examining gender issues in the delivery of ongoing professional learning for teachers.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

**The Committee heard evidence on 6 August from representatives of the following organisations:**

- **Australian Council for Educational Research**
- **Department of Education and Early Childhood Development**
- **Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority**

**The Committee held public hearings (forum style) in Ballarat on 13 August with representatives of the following organisations:**

- **Australian Catholic University**
- **Ballarat Fine Arts Gallery**
- **Ballarat Grammar**
- **Ballarat High School**
- **Ballarat Secondary College**
- **Ballarat Specialist School**
- **Buninyong Primary School**
- **Catholic Education Office (Diocese of Ballarat)**
- **City of Ballarat**
- **Creswick North Primary School**
- **Damascus College**

- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (Grampians region)
- Emmaus Catholic Primary School
- Eureka Centre
- Highlands Local Learning Education Network
- Linton Primary School
- Magpie Primary School
- Minerals Education Victoria
- Miners Rest Primary School
- Mount Blowhard Primary School
- Mount Clear Primary School
- Mount Clear Secondary College
- Pleasant Street Primary School
- Rainbow Primary School
- Sebastopol College
- Sovereign Hill
- St Patrick's College, Ballarat
- University of Ballarat

The Committee also held meetings on 20 August with representatives of the Victorian Applied Learning Association and the Group Training Association of Victoria.

#### *Future Activity*

The Committee will continue public hearings throughout September – December 2007.

### **GEOGRAPHICAL DIFFERENCES IN HIGHER EDUCATION PARTICIPATION**

Referred by the Legislative Council on 18 July 2007 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 June 2009 on geographical differences in the rate in which Victorian students participate in higher education.

#### *Activity during August 2007*

This inquiry has not yet commenced.





<b>Anne Jones (Chief Executive Officer)</b> <i>ASH – Action on Smoking and Health</i>
<b>Associate Prof. Malcolm Mackerras AO</b> <i>Psephologist and Political Commentator</i>
<b>John Mulholland (Secretary &amp; Registered Officer)</b> <i>Democratic Labor Party</i>
<b>Alice Bleby (President)</b> <i>United Nations Youth Association of Australia</i>
<b>Dr Amy McGrath (Life Member &amp; Former President)</b> <i>HS Chapman Society</i>
<b>Julie Nelson (Member of the Policy Council)</b> <i>Council on the Ageing (Victoria)</i>

Wednesday 29 August 2009

<b>Anthony van der Craats</b>
<b>Tony Keenan (Chief Executive Officer)</b> <b>Dr Andrew Hollows (R&amp;D Manager)</b> <i>Hanover Welfare Services</i>
<b>Luke O’Sullivan (State Director)</b> <i>The Nationals</i>
<b>Licia Kokocinski (Executive Director)</b> <i>Action on Disabilities within Ethnic Communities</i>
<b>Tony Clark (Manager of Technology, Training &amp; Employment)</b> <i>Vision Australia</i>
<b>Alison Clarke (Party Coordinator)</b> <i>Australian Greens (Victoria)</i>
<b>Senator Lyn Allison (Leader, Victorian Senator)</b> <i>Australian Democrats</i>
<b>Phong Nguyen (Chairperson)</b> <b>Peter van Vliet (Executive Officer)</b> <b>Jieh-Yung Lo (Policy/Project Officer)</b> <i>Ethnic Communities’ Council of Victoria</i>
<b>Cathy Basterfield (Speech Pathology Consultant)</b> <i>Communication Resource Centre, Scope Victoria Ltd</i>
<b>Steve Tully (Electoral Commissioner)</b> <b>Liz Williams (Deputy Electoral Commissioner)</b> <i>Victorian Electoral Commission</i>

### ***Future Activities***

- **Analysis and summary of evidence received from public hearings**
- **Preparation and adoption of Committee Inquiry timetable**
- **Next meeting Monday 17 September 2007.**



# ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne, 3002

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Email:            enrc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Website:        <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/enrc>

## Members:

(Council)                                Mrs D Petrovich and Mr M Viney

(Assembly)                                Ms J Duncan, Mrs C Fyffe, Mr C Ingram, Ms T Lobato, Hon  
J Pandazopoulos and Mr P Walsh

Chair:                                        Hon J Pandazopoulos, MP

Executive Officer:                        Derek Benjamin

## INQUIRY INTO THE IMPACT OF PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ON BUSHFIRES IN VICTORIA

---

Referred by the Legislative Council on 14 March 2007- to inquire into and report by 30 June 2008 upon the impact of public land management practices on the frequency, scale and intensity of bushfires in Victoria, and in particular -

- (1) the extent, timing, resourcing and effectiveness of prescribed burning on both crown and freehold land;
- (2) the manner in which prescribed burning is conducted, including how applicable codes of practice are employed;
- (3) the impact of prescribed burning and recent wildfires on Victoria's biodiversity, wildlife and other natural assets including water quality and quantity;
- (4) the reporting process applicable to prescribed burning programs;
- (5) the legislative and regulatory arrangements for prescribed burns and bushfire management;
- (6) the effectiveness of maintaining permanent, strategically placed fire breaks and containment lines throughout public land areas;
- (7) the provision and maintenance of large water points on crown land to assist with bushfire aerial taskforce operations;
- (8) the impact of traditional land uses such as timber harvesting, grazing, four-wheel-driving, hunting, camping, mining and prospecting on the scale and intensity of bushfires and the ability of relevant agencies to respond;
- (9) the provision and maintenance of serviceable access tracks and signage to assist with recreational and emergency requirements;
- (10) the impact of climate change on bushfires and public land management practices;
- (11) whether additional measures are required to provide a mechanism for the skills, knowledge and interests of local communities, and appropriate scientific expertise, to be better represented in the management of bushfire risk on public land;

- (12) the involvement of local communities in the management of fire;
- (13) any other matter that impacts on the scale and intensity of bushfires in Victoria; and
- (14) the consequent impact of bushfires on the June/July 2007 Gippsland flood.\*

\* On 18 July 2007, the inquiry terms of reference were amended to include the impact of bushfires on the June/July 2007 Gippsland flood

### ***Activities during August 2007***

- **A regional hearing was held in Bairnsdale on 31 July 2007 with evidence provided by:**
  - **Mr S. Kozlowski, Chief Executive Officer, High Country Councils Coalition**
  - **Mr G. Dear, Chief Executive Officer, East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority**
  - **Mr J. Mulligan, President, East Gippsland Wildfire Task Force**
  - **Mrs M. Stevens, Secretary, East Gippsland Wildfire Task Force**
  - **Mr G. Rothe, member, East Gippsland Wildfire Task Force**
  - **Mr N. Barraclough, Gippsland Apiarists Association**
  - **Ms H. Livingstone, President, Buchan/Gelanitpy Branch, Victorian Farmers Federation**
  - **Ms P. McPherson, President, Bairnsdale and District Field Naturalists Club**
  - **Mr J. Turner, Vice-President, Bairnsdale and District Field Naturalists Club**
  - **Mr Rohan Bilney, Gippsland Environment Group**
  - **Mr Roger Bilney, Gippsland Environment Group**
  - **Mr G. Flynn, Operations Manager Region 10, Country Fire Authority**
  - **Mr P. Schmidt, General Manager, Gippsland, Country Fire Authority**
  - **Mr B. Russell, Operations Manager Region 11, Country Fire Authority**
  - **Mr N. Penrose, Regional Director, Gippsland**
  - **Mr D. Tainsh, Fire Manager, Gippsland**
  - **Mr E. Waller, Chief Officer, Fire and Emergency Management, Department of Sustainability and Environment**

- **Mr C. Rodda, General Manager, Water Supply, Southern Rural Water**
  - **Mr A. McPherson, Acting Executive Director, Water Industry, Southern Rural Water**
  - **Mr C. Rose, Regional Manager, East, Parks Victoria, and**
  - **Mr B. Vaughan, Regional Manager, East Gippsland, VicForests.**
- **A public forum was also held in Bairnsdale on 31 July 2007 with evidence provided by:**
    - **Mr R. Grant**
    - **Mr G. Rothe**
    - **Mr K. Broome**
    - **Mr G. Connley**
    - **Mr P. Carrick**
    - **Mr R. Bilney**
    - **Mr N. Barraclough**
    - **Mr J. Mulligan**
    - **Mr K. Stuart, and**
    - **Mr K. Barling.**
- **A site visit of fire affected areas in the Gippsland region was conducted on 1 August 2007.**
- **A regional hearing was held in Heyfield on 1 August 2007 with evidence provided by:**
    - **Mr R. Barraclough**
    - **Mr A. Hooper**
    - **Mr K. Higgins**
    - **Mr M Dennis**
    - **Mr J. Missen**
    - **Mr M. Killeen, and**
    - **Mr B. Noble.**
- **A regional hearing was held in Traralgon on 2 August 2007 with evidence provided by:**
    - **Mr P. Whiteman, Planning Manager, Grand Ridge Plantations Pty Ltd**
    - **Mrs P. Coleman**

- **Mr M. Coleman**
  - **Mr J. Cribbes, Honorary Secretary, Macalister Four-Wheel Drive Club**
  - **Ms C. Wood, Wildlife Carer, Southern Ash Wildlife Shelter**
  - **Mr K. Baxter**
  - **Mr C. Rodda, General Manager, Water Supply, Southern Rural Water**
  - **Mr N. Penrose, Regional Director, Gippsland Region, Department of Sustainability and Environment**
  - **Mr J. Wilson, Director, Corporate Services, Wellington Shire Council**
  - **Cr M. Hole, President, Timber Towns Victoria**
  - **Mr J. O'Brien, Country Fire Authority volunteer, Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria**
  - **Mr G. Hocking, Chief Executive Officer, West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority**
  - **Mr I. Prentice, farmer, Moondarra, and**
  - **Mr K. Lamb, farmer, Heyfield.**
- **A regional hearing and site visit was conducted in the Macedon region on 20 August 2007. Evidence was provided by:**
    - **Mr Lachlan Milne, Environment Resource Officer, Macedon Shire Ranges Council**
    - **Mr Gavin Jamieson, apiarist**
    - **Mr Bob McDonald, apiarist**
    - **Mr Malcolm Tonkin, Stewardship and Asset Programs Manager, Hancock Victorian Plantations**
    - **Mr Frank Panter, Vice-President, Friends of the Box-Iron Bark Forest**
    - **Mr Stuart Fraser, Bendigo and District Environment Council**
    - **Mr Stauiskew Pelczynski, Bendigo and District Environment Council**
    - **Mr James Fox, Acting General Manager, Outer Metro North West Area, CFA**
    - **Mr John Deering, Operations Manager, Region 14, CFA**
    - **Mr I. Voigt, Regional Director, South-West Region, Department of Sustainability and Environment**

- **Mr E. Waller, Chief Fire Officer, Department of Sustainability and Environment, and**
- **Mr T. Miles, Regional Manager, Central, Parks Victoria.**
- **A public hearing was held in Melbourne on 27 August 2007 with evidence provided by:**
  - **Mr Stewart McArthur MP, Federal Member for Corangamite, The Stretton Group**
  - **Mr Simon Paton, The Stretton Group**
  - **Dr Dick Williams, CSIRO**
  - **Mr Jim Gould, Ensis**
  - **Dr Dick Meyer, CSIRO**
  - **Dr Peter Hairsine, CSIRO**
  - **Mr Athol Hodgson, Forest Fire Victoria**
  - **Mr Rod Incoll, Forest Fire Victoria**
  - **Mr Tony Maderson, Forest Fire Victoria, and**
  - **Mr Bill Middleton, Forest Fire Victoria.**
- **Ongoing background research and literature review.**

***Future Activity***

- **Public hearings and site visit in the Mallee area.**



# **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

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**Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002**

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**Email:**        fcdc@parliament.vic.gov.au

**Website:**    <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/fcdc>

## **Members:**

**(Council)**            Mr Johan Scheffer, Mr. Adem Somyurek  
**(Assembly)**        Ms Liz Beattie, Mr. Martin Dixon, Mr. Jude Perrera,  
                              Mrs E J Powell, Ms Mary Wooldridge

**Chair:**                Mr. Jude Perrera

**Executive Officer:** Paul Bourke

## **INQUIRY ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZE BUSINESS IN CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 1 March 2008 on the involvement of small and medium size businesses in corporate social responsibility and, in conducting the inquiry, the Committee is to:

- (a) investigate current Australian initiatives where small and medium size businesses have developed innovative ways of working with governments and community groups to support communities;
- (b) examine the international context and emerging trends with overseas initiatives relevant to corporate social responsibility amongst small and medium size businesses aimed at tackling social disadvantage;
- (c) investigate how small and medium size businesses could play a role in tackling disadvantage in local communities and making communities stronger, particularly how they can partner with government and community groups to work in the areas of most need;
- (d) determine the barriers and the drivers for small and medium sized businesses to become involved in social responsibility initiatives and options for addressing those barriers and increasing the drivers;
- (e) examine the barriers to sustainability of business and corporate social responsibility initiatives for small and medium sized businesses.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

- **Discussion of possible witnesses for public forums**
- **Public Hearings**
- **Preparation of draft report chapters.**



# LAW REFORM COMMITTEE

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Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002

Telephone: (03) 8682 2851    Facsimile: (03) 8682 2818

Email: VPLRC@parliament.vic.gov.au

Website: <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/lawreform>

## Members:

**(Council)** Mrs Jan Kronberg, Mr Edward O'Donohue, Mr Johan Scheffer (from 9 August 2007), Mr Brian Tee (member and chair until 9 August 2007)

**(Assembly)** Mr Colin Brooks, Mr Robert Clark, Mr Luke Donnellan, Mrs Judy Maddigan (member from 8 August 2007) and Mr Tony Lupton (member until 8 August 2007)

**Chair:** Mr Johan Scheffer, MLC (from 20 August 2007)

**Executive Officer:** Ms Kerry Riseley

## PROPERTY INVESTMENT

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 March 2008 on property investment and property marketeers with particular regard to:

- a) reviewing the regulatory framework for the provision of property investment advice, with the objective of establishing how best to control the exploitation of Victorians in the context of keeping the burden on business as low as possible;
- b) the Commonwealth's role in regulating financial advice, and the ongoing work of the Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs in considering regulation of this area.

### *Activities during August 2007*

- The Committee advertised a call for submissions in late June 2007. Submissions continued to be received during August
- Research in relation to the terms of reference continued.

### *Future activities*

- The closing date for submissions is 7 September 2007
- The Committee will consider the submissions received and produce a timetable for public hearings.

## **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

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Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 June 2008 on:

- a) the reach and use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms, including Government established ADR schemes and restorative justice schemes, so as to improve access to justice and outcomes in civil and criminal court jurisdictions and to reduce the need, where possible, for contact with the court system, particularly in marginalised communities;
- b) whether a form of Government regulation of alternative dispute resolution providers is appropriate or feasible so as to ensure greater consistency and accountability for Victorians wishing to access alternative dispute resolution.

### ***Activity during August***

- **The Committee finalised a discussion paper on alternative dispute resolution for release in early September 2007.**

### ***Future activity***

- **The Committee will send the discussion paper to key stakeholders and advertise for submissions to the Inquiry. Submissions will be due in early November 2002.**

## **INQUIRY INTO VEXATIOUS LITIGANTS**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 September 2008 on the effect of vexatious litigants on the justice system and the individuals and agencies who are victims of vexatious litigants — and, the Committee should:

- a) inquire into the effectiveness of current legislative provisions in dealing with vexatious litigants;
- b) make recommendations which better enable the courts to more efficiently and effectively perform their role while preserving the community's general right of access to the Victorian courts.

### ***Activity during August***

- **Background research and a literature review was commenced.**

### ***Future activity***

- **The Committee will develop a research plan and timetable for this inquiry.**

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

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- **Mr Brian Tee, MLC resigned as member and chair of the Committee on 9 August 2007. Mr Tony Lupton, MP resigned as a member of the Committee on 8 August 2007**
- **Two new members were appointed to the Committee: Mr Johan Scheffer, MLC and Mrs Judy Maddigan, MP**
- **A Committee meeting was held on 20 August 2007. Mr Johan Scheffer, MLC was appointed as Chair of the Committee at that meeting**
- **The Committee met with members of the visiting New Zealand Justice and Electoral Committee on 8 August 2007. The meeting focused on restorative justice, which is being considered by both Committees as part of current inquiries**
- **Ms Susan Brent commenced as a Research Officer with the Committee**
- **The position of Committee Administration Officer was advertised.**



# **OUTER SUBURBAN/INTERFACE SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

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**Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002**

**Telephone:** (03) 8682 2826    **Facsimile:** (03) 8682 2858

**Email:**        osisd@parliament.vic.gov.au

**Website:**     www.parliament.vic.gov.au/osisd

**Members:**

**(Council)**            Mr Nazih Elasmr, Mr Matthew Guy and Ms Colleen Hartland

**(Assembly)**        Ms Danielle Green, Mr David Hodgett, Mr Don Nardella,  
                                 Mr George Seitz and the Hon Ken Smith

**Chair:**                Mr George Seitz MP

**Executive Officer:** Mr Sean Coley

## **INQUIRY INTO LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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Terms of reference – received from the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007

To inquire, consider and report to Parliament on issues relating to strengthening communities through local economic development initiatives in outer suburban areas.

In particular, the Committee is requested to:

- 1) Examine existing local economic development programs being carried out by municipalities in outer suburban areas;
- 2) Identify the barriers to local economic development and the ways in which these can be addressed;
- 3) Investigate and recommend incentive arrangements for industry and the respective responsibilities of each tier of government;
- 4) Investigate the role of council local economic development units and the types of assistance they provide;
- 5) Examine and report on ways in which councils and government at all levels can encourage economic development, enhance and promote employment opportunities and attract new investment;
- 6) Identify export based operations and opportunities in outer suburban areas and recommend options to encourage their growth;
- 7) Identify new and emerging sectors and how they can assist economic development in outer suburban areas, including innovative examples of business incubators, home-based businesses and social enterprises.

The Committee is to make its final report to Parliament by 30 September 2008.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

**6 August 2007    Public Forum – Hume City Council**

- **Site Visits – Industry Tour in and around Hume**
- **Hume City Council**  
    **Mayor Cr. Gary Jungwirth**  
    **Mr David Keenan, Director of Sustainability**
- **Melbourne Airport**  
    **Ms Brooke Lord, External Affairs Manager, Melbourne Airport**

- **Kangan Batman TAFE Skills & Training**  
Mr Peter Harrison, General Manager, Government Liaison/Student Services Group
- **Matchworks Employment**  
Ms Sophie Gordon, Manager
- **Mickleham**  
Mr John Ower, Landowner
- **Folkestone**  
Mr Oscar Guglielmi  
Mr John Lincoln
- **Sunbury Chamber of Commerce & Industry**  
Mr Peter Curtis, President.

**20 August 2007 Public Forum – Melton Shire Council**

- **Site Visits – In and Around Melton**
- **Melton Shire Council**  
Mr Luke Shannon, General Manager Planning & Development  
Mr Dirk Dowling, Business Growth & Sustainability Manager
- **Delfin Lend Lease**  
Ms Anne Jolic, Economic Development Manager  
Mr Marshall Kelaher  
Mr Martin Gaedtke
- **Djerriwarrh Health Services**  
Mr Michael Tudball, President of the Board  
Mr Bruce Marshall, Chief Executive  
Mr David Grace, Executive Officer/Executive Director of Nursing
- **Leadwest**  
Cr Chris Papas, Director
- **Victoria University**  
Associate Professor Brenda Cherednichenko, Director, Access & Success Project, Head of Campus

**Committee representatives attended the following events relevant to the inquiry:**

- 2 August 2007 National Logistics City Strategy Workshop**  
An event presented by the Institute for Logistics & Supply Chain Management, Victoria University, and the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, Victoria. Held in Melbourne.
- 7 August 2007 Industry Policy Challenges and the 2007 Federal Election A Forum** co-ordinated by the Centre for Public Policy, University of Melbourne, held in Melbourne.
- 15 August 2007 Master Builders/IPA Housing Affordability. A Paper Launch** by the Institute of Public Affairs, held in Melbourne.
- 16 August 2007 New Ideas for Australia's Cities: 'Urban 45' Summit**  
A Summit co-ordinated by RMIT University, held in Melbourne.
- 23 August 2007 Public Transport Growth in Melbourne**  
A Conference supported by The University of Melbourne, City of Melbourne, VLGA and Future Melbourne, held in Melbourne

**23 August 2007** Five Minutes to Midnight – Climate Change. A Seminar co-ordinated by Asialink and University of Melbourne, held in Melbourne.

**27 August 2007** Privatisation of Public Passenger Transport – Insight from British Experience. A Seminar co-ordinated by the Institute of Transport Studies, Monash University.

***Future Activity***

**17 September 2007** Public Forum – Wyndham City Council.



# **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

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Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002

Telephone: (03) 8682 2862    Facsimile: (03) 8682 2898

Email:                            paec@parliament.vic.gov.au

Website:                        [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/paec](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/paec)

## **Members:**

**(Council)**                        Mr G Barber, Mr R Dalla-Riva, Mr M Pakula, Mr G Rich-Phillips,

**(Assembly)**                      Mr B Stensholt (Chair), Mr K Wells (Deputy Chair),  
Ms J Graley, Ms J Munt, Mr R Scott, Dr B Sykes

**Chair:**                            Mr B Stensholt, MP

**Executive Officer:**        Ms V Cheong

## **2007-08 BUDGET ESTIMATES**

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Source of reference: *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, section 14.

### ***Activity during August 2007***

**Report on the 2007-08 Budget Estimates – Part Three – Draft chapters of the report considered by the Committee.**

### ***Future Activities***

**Report on the 2007-08 Budget Estimates – Part Three – Draft chapters of the report to be considered by the Committee in September 2007**

**Report on the 2007-08 Budget Estimates – Part Three – to be tabled in Parliament in September 2007.**

## **2006-07 BUDGET OUTCOMES**

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### ***Activity during August 2007***

**Report planning undertaken.**

### ***Future Activities***

**Further report planning to be undertaken**

**Further development of questionnaires for Departments and relevant agencies.**

## **STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENTARY ACCOUNTABILITY IN VICTORIA**

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Source of reference: *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, section 33(14).

### ***Activities during August 2007***

The Committee received private briefings from interested parties

The Committee held public hearings on 1 August and 2 August

Supplementary submissions were tabled at the hearings

Draft report planning undertaken

The Chair presented a paper at the Australasia Study of Parliament Group 2007 Conference in Adelaide on 24 August.

### ***Future Activity***

The Committee will consider the schedule for tabling the report.

## **INQUIRY INTO TRUSTEE ARRANGEMENTS FOR GOVERNING THE PARLIAMENTARY CONTRIBUTORY SUPERANNUATION FUND**

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Source of reference: *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, section 33.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

The Committee considered the submissions received

The Committee received a private briefing and public hearings were held in August

Draft report planning and research was undertaken.

### ***Future Activity***

The Committee will consider the draft report in September.

## **AUDITOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE**

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Source of reference: *Audit Act 1994*, sections 17(1) and 19(2).

### ***Activity during August 2007***

The Subcommittee was briefed by representatives of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office and considered the scoping of a number of performance audits.

### ***Future Activities***

Scoping of follow-up reviews of Audit Reports to be further considered by the Committee

The Committee will be briefed by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office and consider the scoping of a number of performance audits

The Committee will consider the annual report of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office incorporating the independent financial audit.

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2006-07**

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### ***Activity during August 2007***

**Draft report planning and preparation undertaken.**

### ***Future Activities***

**The Committee will consider the schedule for tabling the report.**



# ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

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Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002

Telephone: (03) 8682 2846 Facsimile: (03) 8682 2818

Email: [rsc@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:rsc@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Website: <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/rsc>

## Members:

(Council) Mr David Koch and Mr Shaun Leane  
(Assembly) Mr John Eren, Mr Craig Langdon, Mr Terry Mulder,  
Mr Ian Trezise, and Mr Paul Weller

Chair: Mr John Eren, MP

Executive Officer: Ms Alexandra Douglas

## INQUIRY INTO VEHICLE SAFETY

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Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 March 2008 on vehicle safety – and the Committee should -

- (a) identify and prioritise those vehicle safety technologies that have the most potential for reducing the number of crashes and or the seriousness of injuries sustained in crashes;
- (b) compare the level of safety provided by these leading edge technologies with the minimum regulated standards (Australian Design Rules);
- (c) compare the rate of fitting of these leading edge technologies in Australia with that of other developed economies including Europe, the United States of America and Japan and identify any impediments to encourage their adoption;
- (d) review the level of manufacturers/importers de-specifying (decision not to fit) vehicle safety technologies commonly available overseas to vehicles imported and sold in Australia;
- (e) seek advice from high volume local vehicle makers and vehicle importers as to when the vehicles in their product ranges will have these high priority vehicle safety technologies; and
- (f) recommend strategies for encouraging vehicle manufacturers to fit leading edge vehicle safety technologies to vehicles sold in Australia and for increasing the public's knowledge and demand for these technologies.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

The first of the inquiry public hearings were held on 6 & 13 August. Appearing before the Committee were representatives from the: Accident Research Centre, Monash University; Transport Accident Commission; Victoria Police; VicRoads; Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV) Ltd; National Transport Commission; Australasian Fleet Managers' Association; and VicFleet.

The Committee began its overseas study tour 25 August, beginning with meetings in Tokyo and Nagoya Japan. The Committee met with the: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport; Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association; the National Organisation for Automotive Safety and Victim's Aid; the Australian Ambassador; Nissan Motor Corporation; Toyota Motor Company; and Denso Corporation.

### ***Future Activity***

The overseas study tour continues into September with meetings scheduled in Detroit, Washington, Brussels, Munich and Stuttgart

## **FEDERAL – STATE ROAD FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS INQUIRY**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 - for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 September 2008 on Federal – State road funding arrangements – and the Committee should -

- (a) review current arrangements in Australia;
- (b) assess the current arrangements in Australia in respect of economic efficiency and equity;
- (c) make recommendations for improving Federal – State road funding arrangements in Australia.

### ***Activity during August 2007***

**Work on this inquiry has not yet commenced.**

## **INQUIRY INTO LEVEL CROSSINGS**

Referred by the Legislative Council on 18 July 2007 that the Road Safety Committee undertake the following inquiry –

That this House requires the Road Safety Committee to inquire into and report by 29 February 2008 on existing, new and developing technologies for implementation to improve safety at level crossings.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

**A Research Officer has been assigned and commenced working on this inquiry.**

The Committee has begun the inquiry process by calling for submissions. Advertisements were placed in all the metropolitan, major regional newspapers and The Australian, on Saturday, 18 August, inviting submissions, and letters were sent to 99 organisations. Closing date for submissions is 5 October 2007.

# **RURAL AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

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**Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002**

**Telephone:** 1300 787 202 / 03 8682 2884

**Facsimile:** 03 8682 2858

**Website:** [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/rrc](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/rrc)

**Email:** [rrc@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:rrc@parliament.vic.gov.au)

**Members:-**

**(Council)** Ms K Darveniza, Mr D Drum, Ms Wendy Lovell, Ms G Tierney,  
Mr John Vogels

**(Assembly)** Ms Kirstie Marshall, Mr Russell Northe

**Chair:** Mr Damian Drum MLC

**Executive Officer:** Ms Lilian Topic

## **INQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO TAXATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR MANAGED INVESTMENT SCHEMES (NON-FORESTRY)**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 – to inquire, consider and report no later than 30 September 2007 on the potential economic impacts to Victoria's rural and regional businesses and communities as a result of the proposed changes to the taxation arrangements for Managed Investment Schemes (non-forestry), which have been recently announced by the Commonwealth; of particular interest are the impacts on investment, job creation, exports and resource use (water and land) —and, to this end, the Committee should consider the core issues of the:

- a) investment, job creation and exports which have occurred over the past three years in rural and regional areas as a result of Managed Investment Schemes;
- b) investment, job creation and exports, which is occurring in rural and regional areas following the planned transition period;
- c) net economic impacts on Victoria's rural and regional areas over the next five years;
- d) impacts on northern Victoria's irrigation water markets; and
- e) anticipated structural changes and the new industry opportunities in rural and regional areas —

and the Committee should make recommendations on any necessary or desirable actions that could be taken to assist Victoria's rural and regional businesses to adapt to the proposed changes in order to limit the potential negative impacts of the changes.

The Committee is required to report to Parliament by 30 September 2007.

## **INQUIRY INTO RURAL AND REGIONAL TOURISM**

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Referred by the Legislative Council on 15 March 2007 – to inquire into, consider and report to Parliament on —

- (1) the economic benefits of tourism in regional areas, including tracking the flow-on benefits through other regional businesses and industry;
- (2) potential impediments to the sustained growth of regional tourism, economic activity and jobs;
- (3) the effectiveness, at a National, State and local level, of current programs to promote and enhance tourism in regional Victoria;
- (4) initiatives to increase both international and domestic visitor nights in regional Victoria;
- (5) the efficacy of existing mechanisms at a National, State and local level to address the impact on regional tourism of natural events such as bushfires, floods and drought, and effective measures to drive long term economic recovery; and
- (6) opportunities to leverage private investment and commercial activity in regional tourism infrastructure, including ecotourism.

### ***Activities during August 2007***

#### ***Public Hearings***

- **Regional public hearings were held successfully on 1<sup>st</sup> August in Swan Hill, on the 29 August in Bright and the 30 August in Mansfield.**
- **The following witnesses appeared in Swan Hill:**
  - **Janelle Cousins, Marketing Officer and Geoffrey Gray, Director, Development & Planning, Swan Hill Rural City Council**
  - **Dennis O'Brian, Pioneer City Tourist Park**
  - **Robyn Till, Museum Director, Swan Hill Settlement Museum**
  - **Helen Ballentine, Counsellor, Shire of Yarriambiack; Member, Australian Women in Agriculture; President, Rotary Club of Hopetoun.**
  - **Terry Sanders, Manager, Economic Development, Yarriambiack Shire Council.**
- **Witnesses in Bright included:**
  - **Helen Sharpley, North East Valley Food and Wine**
  - **Wayne Phillips, Bright Chamber of Commerce, 'Save Bright' Group**
  - **Mr Geoff Scott and Ms Libby Bane, Alpine Region Tourism, Alpine Shire Council**
  - **Christine Stewart, Albury Wodonga Regional Tourism Forum**
  - **John Schryver and Helen Moran, Australian Alpine Enterprises, North East Victoria Tourism**

- **Witnesses appearing in Mansfield included:**
  - **Norm White and Cr Robyn Machin** Representing the Shire of Strathbogie
  - **Michael Watson, Mansfield Shire Tourism Advisory Committee, Watson's Mountain Trail**
  - **Sandra Duel, Howqua Caravan Park**
  - **Philip Nunn, Mount Buller and Mount Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board**
  - **Ian Geer and Deborah Shaddock, Mansfield Mount Buller Regional Tourism Association**
  - **Dean Belle, North East Victoria Tourism, Mansfield Regional Produce Store.**

#### ***Committee Secretariat***

- **The Research Officer made a presentation to the Committee summarising issues arising from the submissions to the Tourism Inquiry.**
- **Planning and organisation of regional hearings in Geelong for 12 September, and for Horsham, Dunkeld and Melbourne for October.**
- **Briefing papers prepared for Swan Hill, Bright and Mansfield public hearings**
- **Further development of the schedule of public hearings and site visits for 2007 and 2008**
- **Research on regional and rural tourism issues**
- **Ongoing background research and literature review**
- **Updating of the Committee website.**

#### ***Future activities***

- **Public Hearings to be held in Geelong, Horsham, Dunkeld and Melbourne**
- **Preparation of briefing papers for regional public hearings and Melbourne public hearing**
- **Follow up from public hearings**
- **Processing transcripts from public hearings and contacting witnesses**
- **Briefing of the Committee on Inquiry issues and procedural issues**
- **Planning for regional hearings**
- **Summary of submissions received**
- **Ongoing background research and literature review.**



# SCRUTINY OF ACTS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

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Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002

Telephone: (03) 8682 2891 Facsimile: (03) 8682 2858

Website: [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/sarc](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/sarc)

Email: [andrew.homer@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:andrew.homer@parliament.vic.gov.au) (Scrutiny of Bills)  
[helen.mason@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:helen.mason@parliament.vic.gov.au) (Scrutiny of Regulations)  
[simon.dinsbergs@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:simon.dinsbergs@parliament.vic.gov.au) (Administration)  
[sonya.caruana@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:sonya.caruana@parliament.vic.gov.au) (Administration – Regulations)

## Members:

**(Council)** Mr Khalil Eideh, Mr Edward O'Donohue, Mrs Inga Peulich, Ms Jaala Pulford.

**(Assembly)** Mr Colin Brooks, Mr Carlo Carli (Chair), Mr Ken Jasper (Deputy Chair), Mr Telmo Languiller, Mr Ryan Smith,

**Chair:** Mr Carlo Carli, MP

**Executive Officer:** Andrew Homer

## FULL COMMITTEE

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### *Activity during August 2007*

The Committee met on 6 and 20 August 2007, where it considered and adopted Alert Digests 10 and 11.

- **Alert Digest No. 10**

**Crimes (Decriminalisation of Abortion) Bill 2007**

**Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2007**

**Grain Handling and Storage Amendment Bill 2007**

**Justice and Road Legislation Amendment (Law Enforcement) Bill 2007**

**Legal Profession Amendment (Education) Bill 2007**

**Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Amendment Bill 2007**

**Royal Children's Hospital (Land) Bill 2007**

**Summary Offences Amendment (Body Piercing) Bill 2007**

- **Alert Digest No. 11**

**Confiscation Amendment Bill 2007**

**Land (Revocation of Reservations) Bill 2007**

**Road Legislation Amendment Bill 2007**

The Committee also considered and adopted:

- **Annual Review 2006**

- **Annual Review 2006, Regulations 2006.**

## **SUBCOMMITTEES**

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### **Redundant Legislation**

Mr Edward O'Donohue, MLC (Chair)  
Mr Carlo Carli, MP  
Mr Khalil Eideh, MLC  
Mrs Inga Peulich, MLC  
Ms Jaala Pulford, MLC

#### *Activity during August 2007*

The Subcommittee did not meet during August.

### **Regulation Review**

Mr Ken Jasper, MP (Chair)  
Mr Carlo Carli, MP  
Mr Colin Brooks, MP  
Mr Khalil Eideh, MLC  
Mr Ryan Smith, MP

#### *Activity during August 2007*

On 8 August 2007, Members from SARC had a briefing with the Department for Victorian Communities, Aboriginal Affairs Victoria regarding concerns about the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations – SR No. 41/2007.

The Subcommittee met on 16 August 2007, where it considered and adopted the following regulations:

- **Statutory Rules 2007**
  - SR No. 21 – Children, Youth and Families Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 22 – Audit (Public Bodies)(Amendment) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 23 – Catchment and Land Protection (Amendment) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 24 – Children, Youth and Families (Children's Court Family Division) Rules 2007
  - SR No. 25 – Domestic Building Contracts Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 26 – Health Services (Community Health Centre Elections) (Amendment) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 27 – Supreme Court (Chapter I Amendment No.8) Rules 2007
  - SR No. 28 – Coroners Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 29 – Borrowing and Investment Powers (Guarantees) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 30 – Magistrates' Court (Criminal Procedure)(Infringements Court) Rules 2007
  - SR No. 31 – Legal Profession (Amendment) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 32 – Subordinate Legislation (Amendment) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 33 – Magistrates' Court (Criminal Procedure)(Infringements Court Venue) Rules 2007
  - SR No. 34 – Subordinate Legislation (Estate Agents (General, Accounts and Audit) Regulations 1997 – Extension of Operation) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 35 – Accident Compensation (Employer Claim Report Revocation) Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 41 – Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007
  - SR No. 70 – Transport (Infringements)(Amendment) Regulations 2007

# **GAMING LICENSING SELECT COMMITTEE**

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**Legislative Council, Parliament House, Spring Street, Melbourne 3002**  
**Telephone:** (03) 9651 8696      **Facsimile:** (03) 9651 6799

**Website:** <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/council/gaminglicensing/>

**Members:**

**(Council)**                      Mr Greg Barber, Mr Damian Drum, Mr Peter Kavanagh,  
Mr Matthew Guy and Mr Martin Pakula

**Chair:**                              Mr Gordon Rich-Phillips

**Deputy Chair:**                  Mr Matt Viney

**Secretary:**                      Mr Richard Willis

## **INQUIRY INTO GAMING LICENSING**

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Terms of Reference:

To inquire into and report on —

1. the conduct, processes and circumstances (including but not limited to the probity thereof) pertaining to post-2008 public lotteries licensing in Victoria pursuant to the Gambling Regulation Act 2003 (the Act) and any related matter;
2. the conduct, processes and circumstances (including but not limited to the probity thereof) pertaining to the extension of Tattersall's public lotteries licence until 30 June 2008;
3. the conduct, processes and circumstances (including but not limited to the probity thereof) pertaining to post-2012 Electronic Gaming Machine (EGM) operator licensing in Victoria pursuant to the Act, and any related matter;
4. the adequacy or otherwise of the legislative and regulatory framework pertaining to the number, location, distribution and specification of EGMs in Victoria and any related matter;
5. the effectiveness or otherwise of current measures to minimise and address the incidence of problem gambling in Victoria, the merits of alternative measures and any related matter;
6. the financial position of the Community Support Fund (the Fund) described in the Act, including, but not limited to:
  - a. payments into the Fund under section 10.3.2 of the Act (and its predecessors);
  - b. payments from the Fund under section 10.3.3 of the Act (and its predecessors); and
  - c. the criteria, processes and methodology for the selection of projects funded by payments referred to in sub-paragraph (ii) above; and

- d. the community benefit statements prepared by those venues not required to contribute to the Fund;
7. any other associated matters dealing with gaming licensing issues.

### ***Activities during August***

**Public Hearings held in relation to parts 1 and 2 of the Terms of Reference with evidence received from the following:**

- **Ms Penny Armytage, Secretary - Department of Justice**
- **Ross Kennedy, Executive Director - Office of Gaming and Racing, Department of Justice**
- **Alan Clayton, Director - Gambling Licences Review, Department of Justice**
- **Garth Lampe, Former Director Gambling Licences Review, Department of Justice**
- **Professor Ian Dunn, Chair - Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation**
- **Mr Peter Cohen, Executive Commissioner - Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation**
- **Mr Harry Boon, Chairman - Tattersall's Limited**
- **Mr Dick McIlwain, Chief Executive - Tattersall's Limited**
- **Mr Michael Mangos, Media Liaison - Tattersall's Limited**
- **Mr Ray Gunston - Investor Relations & CFO - Tattersall's Limited**
- **Mr Peter Kerr, Former Tattersall's Trustee**
- **Mr Raymond Hornsby, Former Tattersall's Trustee**
- **Mr Anthony Sheehan, Director - Intralot**
- **Mr Geoff Walsh, Executive Director - Pitcher Partners Pty Ltd**
- **Mr Duncan Fischer, Former Tattersall's Chief Executive.**

### ***Future Activity***

**Further public hearings in relation to parts 1 and 2 of the Terms of Reference are scheduled for 17 September 2007, with evidence to be received from the following:**

- **The Hon David White, Director – Hawker Britton**
- **Mr Danny Pearson, Director – Hawker Britton.**

# **PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT SELECT COMMITTEE**

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**Legislative Council, Parliament House, Spring Street, Melbourne 3002**  
**Telephone:** (03) 9651 8696      **Facsimile:** (03) 9651 6799

**Website:** <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/council/publicland/>

**Members:**

**(Council)**                      Mr Peter Hall, Mr Peter Kavanagh, Mr Edward O'Donohue,  
Ms Sue Pennicuik and Mr Matt Viney

**Chair:**                              Mr David Davis

**Deputy Chair:**                  Mr Brian Tee

**Secretary:**                      Mr Richard Willis

## **INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT**

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Terms of Reference:

To inquire into —

1. the sale or alienation of public land for development;
2. the sale or alienation of public open space for the purposes of private development; and
3. the sale and development of public land and the relationship to the Melbourne 2030 policy and Green Wedges.

### ***Activity during August***

- **Total of 18 written submissions received by the Committee.**

### ***Future Activities***

- **Public Hearings and site visits with key stakeholders proposed for September-November, including:**
    - **26 September – dealing with Kew Residential Services**
    - **27 September – dealing with Devil Bend Reserve**
    - **1 October – key Government departments.**
  - **Ongoing research and data collection with respect to the sale and development of public land.**
- 
-