



---

# **PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES PROGRESS ON INVESTIGATIONS**

**To 31 March 2009**

**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 with investigatory functions.

1. The Joint Investigatory 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 and Standing 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***.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## JOINT INVESTIGATORY COMMITTEES

Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee	5
Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee	7
Education and Training Committee	9
Electoral Matters Committee	13
Environment and Natural Resources Committee	15
Family and Community Development Committee	17
Law Reform Committee	19
Outer Suburban/Interface Services and Development Committee	23
Public Accounts and Estimates Committee	25
Road Safety Committee	29
Rural and Regional Committee	31
Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee	35

## SELECT AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee	39
Train Services Select Committee	41



# **DRUGS AND CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

---

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

**Telephone:** (03) 8682 2815    **Facsimile:** (03) 8682 2838

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

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

**Members:**

**(Council)**            *Mr S Leane, Ms J Mikakos and Mrs A Coote*

**(Assembly)**        *Mr H Delahunty, Mrs J Maddigan, Ms L Beattie and  
Mr D Morris.*

**Chair:**                Mrs Judy Maddigan

**Executive Officer:** Ms Sandy Cook

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

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007\* – to inquire into and report upon justice and crime strategies in high volume crimes such as theft and property related offences, which often involve young people, with the Committee to provide recommendations on:

- (a) causal factors that may influence patterns of high volume crime; with particular emphasis on repeat offences committed by young people; and
- (b) strategies that may be effective in addressing the underlying causal factors or recidivist patterns of offending.

\*extended to 30 November 2009 by the Legislative Assembly on 30 July 2008

### ***Activities during March 2009***

- Review of literature continued
- Mail out of the Discussion Paper continued
- Members of the Committee attended the Australian Institute of Criminology Conference, 'Making a difference: Responding to need in developing, implementing and evaluating correctional programs', held in Melbourne 5 – 6 March 2009
- The Committee received evidence in Melbourne on 30 March 2009  
Appearing before the Committee was:  
Judge Paul Grant, President, Children's Court Victoria
- Analysis of information received via submissions and public hearings
- Work commenced on drafting of the Final Report.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

---

---

Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002

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

Email:            edic@parliament.vic.gov.au

Website:        www.parliament.vic.gov.au/edic

## Members:

**(Council)**            *Mr B Atkinson, Mr D Davis, Mr B Tee and vacant, (Mr E Thornley resigned effective 9 January 2009)*

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

**Chair:**                Hon Christine Campbell

**Executive Officer:** Dr Vaughn Koops

## INQUIRY INTO IMPROVING ACCESS TO VICTORIAN PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION AND DATA

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 27 February 2008 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 June 2009 on the potential application of open source licensing to Victorian Government information – and, in particular, the Committee is required to:

- (a) report on the potential economic benefits and costs to Victoria of maximising access to and use of Government information for commercial and/or non-commercial purposes, including consideration of:
  - (i) public policy developments elsewhere in Australia and internationally; and
  - (ii) the types of information that will provide the greatest potential benefit;
- (b) consider whether use of open source licensing models, including Creative Commons, would enhance the discovery, access and use of Government information;
- (c) report on the use of information and communication technology to support discovery, access and use of Government information; and
- (d) identify likely risks, impediments and restrictions to open source licensing of Government information, including impacts on and implications for any existing cost recovery arrangements.

### ***Activity during March 2009***

- Drafting of final report continued.

### ***Future Activity***

- Drafting of final report continues.



# EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

---

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

**Telephone:** (03) 8682 2821    **Facsimile:** (03) 8682 2818

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

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

**Members:**

**(Council)**                    *Mr N Elasmir and Mr P Hall*

**(Assembly)**                *Mr M Dixon, Dr A Harkness, Mr S Herbert, Mr G Howard and Mr N Kotsiras*

**Chair:**                      Mr Geoff Howard

**Executive Officer:** Ms Karen Ellingford

## **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.

The Committee will be exploring the reasons for and impact of such differences and would be interested in receiving comment on:

- a) variations in the number and type of university applications, offers, acceptances and completions in different metropolitan, rural and regional areas;
- b) influences of school retention rates, including enrolments and completions for VCE, VCAL and VET in schools on participation in higher education;
- c) influences of participation in other post-school pathways, including TAFE enrolments and take-up of apprenticeships or other employment opportunities, on participation in higher education;
- d) potential geographic, economic, social, cultural and other influences on university applications, offers, acceptances and completions across Victorian communities;
- e) advantages and disadvantages of participation and non-participation in higher education for school leavers and their families and communities in different metropolitan, rural and regional areas;
- f) potential effects of geographical differences in participation in higher education on skills shortages and the Victorian economy; and
- g) strategies to address any barriers contributing to geographic differences in participation in higher education.

### **Activities during March 2009**

The Committee conducted a site visit to the Telstra Executive Briefing Centre on Monday 23 March 2009. During the visit, the Committee conducted public hearings via videoconferencing facilities

The Committee was represented at the Australian Higher Education Congress in Sydney on 24 and 25 March 2009

The Committee conducted the final public hearing for the inquiry at Parliament House on Monday 30 March 2009.

### ***Future Activity***

The Committee will visit the Geraldton Universities Centre in April 2009 and then commence formal deliberations for the final inquiry report.

## **SKILLS SHORTAGES IN THE RAIL INDUSTRY**

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 4 December 2008 — for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 December 2009 on skills shortages in the rail industry — and the Committee is to explore possible solutions and, in particular, is asked to consider:

- a) factors influencing recruitment and retention;
- b) demographic profile of the workforce and the outlook for future retirements and loss of skills;
- c) implications of the Victorian Industry and Manufacturing Statement commitment in relation to local content; and
- d) whether there is any need for increased training opportunities at university and trade levels and, if so, how industry can stimulate student/user demand.

### ***Activity during March 2009***

The Committee has called for written submissions, due by Thursday 23 April 2009.

### ***Future Activity***

The Committee will commence public hearings in June 2009.

## **POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOLS TO BECOME A FOCUS FOR PROMOTING HEALTHY COMMUNITY LIVING**

---

To the Education and Training Committee — for inquiry consideration and report no later than 1 July 2010 on the potential for developing opportunities for schools to become a focus for promoting healthy community living, in particular:

- a) existing activities carried out by schools to promote holistic healthy living within their school communities involving healthy eating, active lifestyles, sun smart awareness and appreciation of the effects of harmful substances;
- b) successful programs which have been instituted in schools in other states or internationally;
- c) identify whether it is appropriate for the State to encourage schools to extend health programs to be directed at the broader school community and, if so, what the most effective and efficient approaches are;

- d) opportunities for linking with community leaders and forming partnerships with business and community organisations;
- e) existing broader health promotion policies and activities; and
- f) how school-based activities could relate and coordinate with these to maximise impact and efficiency.

### ***Activity during March 2009***

This inquiry is yet to commence.

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

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 December 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.

### ***Future Activity***

The Government response is due in August 2009.



# ELECTORAL MATTERS COMMITTEE

---

Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne 3002

Telephone: (03) 8682 2885    Facsimile: (03) 8682 2858

Email: emc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Website: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/emc

## Members:

**(Council)**                    *Ms C Broad, Mr P Davis and Mr A Somyurek*

**(Assembly)**                *Hon C Campbell, Mr M O'Brien, Mr R Scott and  
Mr M Thompson*

**Chair:**                      Mr Adem Somyurek

**Executive Officer:**    Mr Mark Roberts

## INQUIRY INTO POLITICAL DONATIONS AND DISCLOSURE

---

Referred by the Legislative Council on 16 April 2008 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 April 2009 on —

- (1) whether the **Electoral Act 2002** should be amended to create a system of political donations disclosure and/or restrictions on political donations; and
- (2) the outcome resulting from similar legislative reforms introduced in Canada, the United Kingdom and other relevant jurisdictions.

### ***Activities during March 2009***

- Committee considered draft chapters three and four of report on 30 March 2009 – amendments made and revised chapters to be provided to members at next meeting
- Briefing papers prepared for Committee members on a range of topics relating to inquiry.

### ***Future Activities***

- Secretariat to continue research and writing chapters of inquiry report
- Chapters five, six and seven to be considered and adopted by Committee on 6 and 20 April 2009
- Report scheduled to be tabled, subject to adoption, on 7 May 2009.

## INQUIRY INTO VOTER PARTICIPATION AND INFORMAL VOTING

---

Committee self-generated new terms of reference on 5 May 2008, as follows -

Pursuant to Section 33(3) of the **Parliamentary Committees Act 2003**, the Electoral Matters Committee inquire into and report to Parliament upon issues relating to – (i) voter participation; and (ii) informal voting.

The Committee is required to report to Parliament by 30 June 2009.

***Activities during March 2009***

- Secretariat continuing to summarise key points from public hearings, submissions, international investigations and other relevant material for Committee consideration
- Briefing papers prepared for Committee members on a range of topics relating to inquiry
- Supplementary submission received from VEC; and other inquiry participants.

***Future Activities***

- Secretariat to continue research and writing chapters of inquiry report
- Committee meeting with Electoral Commissioner and Deputy Electoral Commissioner, Victorian Electoral Commission on 4 May 2009
- Committee to consider draft chapters of report in June 2009.

# ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

---

---

Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne, 3002

Telephone: (03) 8682 2803    Facsimile: (03) 8682 2818

Email:            enrc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Website:        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

Executive Officer:        Ms Caroline Williams

## INQUIRY INTO MELBOURNE'S FUTURE WATER SUPPLY

---

Referred by the Legislative Council on 19 September 2007 - to inquire, consider and report no later than 31 December 2008 on the relative merits of supplementing Melbourne's water supply by some or all of the following means:

- 1) further water savings that can be achieved by increased conservation and efficiency efforts;
- 2) the collection of stormwater;
- 3) the re-use of treated waste water;
- 4) the use of groundwater;
- 5) small locally based desalination plants; and
- 6) any other optional water source which appears to the Committee to be appropriate.

On the 9 October 2008 the Legislative Council resolved that the reporting date for the *Inquiry into Melbourne's Future Water Supply* be amended so as to require the Committee to present its report by 30 April 2009.

## INQUIRY INTO THE APPROVALS PROCESS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 3 December 2008 - to inquire, consider and report no later than 31 December 2009 on opportunities to reduce red tape associated with the approvals process for renewable energy projects in Victoria — in particular the Committee is asked to consider:

- (a) the major obstacles facing investors in large-scale renewable energy projects in Victoria, including environmental, planning and other regulations;

- (b) how Victoria compares to other Australian jurisdictions with regard to relevant approvals for renewable energy projects - in particular wind farms as they are the most common form;
- (c) opportunities to reduce risk and delays for investors, whether that be through streamlining regulatory processes, appeals processes or other costs/risks;
- (d) the likely future drivers of renewable energy in Victoria, particularly in the context of the carbon pollution reduction scheme and the expanded federal renewable energy target;
- (e) other reviews and inquiries covering similar issues — this would include the Australian Energy Market Commission's review of energy market frameworks in light of climate change policies and the Environment Protection and Heritage Council's report on impediments to environmentally and socially responsible wind farm development.

### ***Activities during March 2009***

- As part of the *Inquiry into Melbourne's Future Water Supply* the Committee held a public hearing on Monday 16 March. Witnesses invited to attend include:
  - Mr Peter Coombes, Director, Bonacci Water Pty Ltd
- Continued literature review and ongoing research.

### ***Future Activities***

- Call for submissions for the Inquiry into Approvals Processes and Renewable Energy Projects due 15 June 2009
- Continued literature review and ongoing research for Water Inquiry.

# **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

---

---

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

**Telephone:** (03) 8682 2843    **Facsimile:** (03) 8682 2808

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

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

**Members:**

**(Council)**            *Mr B Finn, Mr J Scheffer, Mr A Somyurek*

**(Assembly)**        *Mr W Noonan, Mr. J Perera, Mrs E J Powell, Ms M Wooldridge*

**Chair:**                Mr Jude Perera

**Executive Officer:** Dr Janine Bush

## **INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT ACCOMMODATION FOR VICTORIANS WITH A DISABILITY OR MENTAL ILLNESS**

---

To the Family and Community Development Committee — for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 30 June 2009 on the provision of supported accommodation for Victorians with a disability and/or mental illness and, in particular, the Committee is asked to report on the current situation in Victoria and compare it to best practice in other jurisdictions regarding:

- (a) the standard and range of accommodation currently available;
- (b) the extent of accommodation and services currently available, including the different models for service delivery and funding;
- (c) the methods for measuring unmet demand for accommodation and how these can be improved;
- (d) the process for managing service quality;
- (e) availability of sufficient accommodation to meet future demand with an appropriate range of services;
- (f) access and service issues for particular groups, including rural communities, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and indigenous Australians; and
- (g) the impact on families of the current service provision of accommodation; and for the purpose of this inquiry 'supported accommodation' means public and private accommodation provided for people with a disability or mental illness who need additional support services but excludes mental health treatment services (SEC, PARC) and the disability forensic program (SFS).

## **INQUIRY ON THE STATE GOVERNMENT'S PROVISION OF SUPPORT ACCOMMODATION FOR VICTORIANS WITH A DISABILITY OR MENTAL ILLNESS**

---

That this house requires the Family and Community Development Committee to inquire, consider and report, no later than 30 June 2009, on the state government's provision of supported accommodation for Victorians with a disability and/or mental illness with regard to the following:

- (1) description of current government funded supported accommodation, including the number and location of places, occupancy, staffing, demand management, methods of funding and oversight;
- (2) the adequacy of the current number of places and care provided in community residential units, residential institutions, community care units, secure extended care units, prevention and recovery care facilities and other forms of supported accommodation;
- (3) the adequacy and appropriateness of care and accommodation provided in various government, private and community facilities that accommodate clients with a disability or mental illness because of insufficient places in the specialist system, and in particular including supported residential services, boarding houses, public hospitals, nursing homes and SAAP funded services;
- (4) the impact on Victorian families of insufficient supported accommodation;
- (5) estimates of future supported accommodation needs and the appropriateness and transparency of the Government's management of demand and placement;
- (6) the government's response to unmet accommodation needs, including sources of funding, planning and delivery;
- (7) the ability of country Victorians to access supported accommodation and the appropriateness and quality of care they receive;
- (8) the ability of members of culturally and linguistically diverse communities to access supported accommodation and the appropriateness and quality of care they receive;
- (9) the appropriateness of the current mix of service providers, including government, private and community; and
- (10) alternate approaches addressing unmet needs in supported accommodation in Victoria.

### ***Activities during March 2009***

- Analysis of evidence
- Identifying themes
- Preparation for additional public hearing in April 09.

### ***Future Activity***

- Ongoing thematic review of recommendations provided in evidence.

# LAW REFORM COMMITTEE

---

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

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

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

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

## **Members:**

**(Council)**                    *Mrs J Kronberg, Mr E O'Donohue, Mr J Scheffer (from 9 August 2007), Mr B Tee (member and chair until 9 August 2007)*

**(Assembly)**                *Mr C Brooks, Mr R Clark, Mr L Donnellan, Mr M Foley (from 30 October 2007), Mrs J Maddigan (member from 8 August 2007 until 30 October 2007) and Mr T Lupton (member until 8 August 2007)*

**Chair:**                      Mr Johan Scheffer (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**

- The Committee tabled its final report on 10 April 2008.
- The Government response is due to be tabled by 10 October 2008.

## **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 March 2009\* 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.

\* The reporting date was extended to 31 May 2009 by resolution of the Legislative Assembly on 31 March 2009.

### ***Activity during March***

- The Committee commenced report deliberations.

### ***Future activity***

- The Committee will adopt and table the report.

## **VEXATIOUS LITIGANTS**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 1 March 2007 – for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 4 December 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.

### ***Activities***

- The Committee tabled its final report on 4 December 2008.
- The Government response is due to be tabled by 4 June 2009.

## **REVIEW OF THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (REGISTER OF INTERESTS) ACT 1978**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 4 December 2008 – that the Law Reform Committee:

1. be required to undertake a review of the Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act 1978 to consider and make recommendations on amending the Act; and
2. present the report on its review six months from the date of this resolution.\*

\* The reporting date was extended to 31 December 2009 by resolution of the Legislative Assembly on 31 March 2009.

### ***Activities during March***

- Literature review, research and study of systems in comparative parliaments commenced
- Preliminary meetings with parliamentary officials

### ***Future activity***

- The Committee will call for submissions.

## **POWERS OF ATTORNEY**

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 4 December 2008 — for inquiry, consideration and report no later than 31 December 2009 on law reforms aimed at streamlining and simplifying powers of attorney documents to enable more Victorians to plan for their future financial, lifestyle and healthcare needs — specifically the Committee is asked to:

- a. consider the differing formality requirements and terminology, and coverage of the power of attorney documents, governed by the Instruments Act 1958 and the Guardianship and Administration Act 1986;
- b. establish whether the donor of a power of attorney has capacity to create a legally enforceable document and differing execution requirements and the different tests that apply;
- c. clarify the powers granted by the donor when making a power of attorney;
- d. examine ways of minimising abuse in relation to the execution of and exercise of powers under powers of attorney documents;
- e. consider the issue of legal capacity in the context of when an enduring power of attorney is executed and activated; and
- f. advise on the need for adopting potential safeguards such as the registration of documents (voluntary or mandatory).

### ***Future activity***

- This Inquiry has not yet commenced.
- The Committee plans to advertise the Inquiry in the second half of 2009.



# OUTER SUBURBAN/INTERFACE SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

---

---

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

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

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

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

**Members:**

**(Council)**            *Mr N Elasmr, Mr M Guy and Ms C Hartland*

**(Assembly)**        *Ms D Green, Mr D Hodgett, Mr D Nardella, Mr G Seitz and Hon K Smith*

**Chair:**              Mr George Seitz

**Executive Officer:** Mr Sean Coley

## INQUIRY INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRIBUSINESS IN OUTER SUBURBAN MELBOURNE

---

Received from the Legislative Assembly on 9 October 2008

To inquire, consider and report to Parliament on the major issues relating to the production, processing and distribution of agricultural products in the interface municipalities and peri-urban areas of Melbourne. In particular, the Committee is requested to:

- 1) Identify the types of agricultural sectors operating in interface municipalities and peri-urban areas;
- 2) Examine the role of agribusiness in enhancing economic growth, increasing jobs and the sector's contribution towards promoting healthy, sustainable and prosperous outer suburban areas;
- 3) Investigate the role of planning in encouraging the development of agribusiness;
- 4) Analyse the options for sustainable food production, including environmental stewardship and local food production;
- 5) Investigate impediments faced by the industry to its long term growth and sustainability and recommend options to resolve these barriers;
- 6) Highlight niche and well performing sectors operating in the interface of Melbourne, with particular reference to viticulture, horticulture and sustainable agriculture;
- 7) Examine exemplary programs supported by governments (at all levels), the private sector and non-government organisations, which assist the sustainability of the agribusiness sector; and
- 8) Investigate national and international initiatives relevant to these issues.

The Committee is to make its final report to Parliament no later than 31 March 2010.

### **Activities during March 2009**

- 3-4 March 2009
  - The Committee Research Officer attended the Outlook 2009: a Changing Climate for Agriculture, a Federal Government Conference, Canberra.
- 5 March 2009
  - Public Hearing presentations in Melbourne were heard from:
    - Mr Peter Marshall, Chief Executive Officer, Wyndham City Council
    - Cr David Gibb, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
    - Mr Ian Morgans, Regional Catchment Strategy Manager and Ms Emmaline Froggatt, Land Programs Coordinator, Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority
    - Mr John Roach, Chief Executive, Melbourne Market Authority
    - Mr Trevor Budge, Senior lecturer, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, La Trobe University
- 26 March 2009
  - The Committee Research Officer attended *A Role for Agribusiness in the Carbon Offset Market*, Melbourne, a seminar sponsored held through Agribusiness Association of Australia.
- 26 March 2009
  - Public Hearing presentations in Melbourne were heard from:
    - Victorian Farmers Federation  
Graeme Ford, Executive Manager Policy  
Madeleine Wilson, Policy Adviser Land Management
    - Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab  
Kirsten Larsen, Policy Research Manager
    - Organic Agricultural Association  
Stephen Cross, President
    - Green Wedges Coalition  
Louis Delacretaz, Vice-President, Green Wedges Coalition  
Rosemary West, Joint Coordinator, Green Wedges Coalition  
Arnie Azaris, Joint Coordinator, Green Wedges Coalition  
Francis Overmars, Co-ordinator, Western Plains North Green Wedge Coalition Group  
Rosalie Counsell, Delegate, Southern Ranges Green Wedge  
Kelly Brooks-MacMillan, Secretary, Cardinia Environment Coalition
    - Apple and Pear Australia  
Tony Russell, General Manager

### **Future Activity**

The Committee is undertaking background research for future public hearings in outer suburban and peri urban areas of Melbourne.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT TABLED AND AWAITING GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:**

Inquiry into Local Economic Development in Outer Suburban Melbourne – Response due April 2009.

# **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

---

**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

**Members:**

**(Council)**                    *Mr G Barber, Mr R Dalla-Riva, Mr M Pakula (until December 2008), Mr G Rich-Phillips,*

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

**Chair:** Mr Bob Stensholt

**Executive Officer:** Ms Valerie Cheong

---

## **THE VICTORIAN AUDITOR–GENERAL’S OFFICE**

---

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

***Activities during March 2009:***

*Review of the findings and recommendations of the Auditor-General’s reports tabled March 2007-August 2007 (Round Two)*

Progressing draft reports and review of witnesses’ responses to questionnaires, questions on notice, clarification questions and transcripts of evidence and other relevant literature in relation to:

*Priority One audits:*

- State investment in Major Events;
- Maintaining Victoria’s Rail Infrastructure Assets; and
- Promoting Better Health through Healthy Eating and Physical Activity.

The Committee has considered and approved a draft report on *State investment in Major Events*. An update on decisions pending at the time of the public hearing has been sought from DIIRD.

*Priority Two audits:*

- Raising and Collection of Fees and Charges by Departments;
- Administration of Non-judicial Functions of the Magistrates Court of Victoria;
- Contracting and Tendering Practices in Selected Agencies; and
- Managing Emergency demand in Public Hospitals.

*Review of the findings and recommendations of the Auditor-General’s reports tabled September 2007-February 2008 (Round Three)*

### *Priority One*

- Improving Our Schools: Monitoring and Support; and
- Funding and Delivery of Two Freeway Upgrade Projects.

### *Priority Two*

- Program for Students with Disabilities: Program Accountability; and
- Agricultural Research and Investment, Monitoring and Support.

Public hearings for *Priority One* audits will be held on 29 April. The following activities have been undertaken:

- Letters sent to the Auditor-General, Departmental Secretaries and CEO of VicRoads informing them of hearing time and dates;
- Questionnaires developed and sent to witnesses; and
- Advertisement calling for public submissions inserted in *The Age*, Saturday 14 March 2009.

### *Draft Performance Audit Specifications*

- No audit specifications were received in March

### ***Future Activities***

Public hearings to be conducted with the Auditor-General, Departmental Secretaries and the CEO, VicRoads on 29 April 2009 in relation to:

- Improving Our Schools: Monitoring and Support; and
- Funding and Delivery of Two Freeway Upgrade Projects.

Questionnaires will be drafted and sent to witnesses for Round 3 priority two audits listed above

The Auditor-General is expected to provide the Committee with:

- A final copy of his 2009-10 Draft Annual Plan; and
- Approximately 3-4 audit specifications.

Committee consideration of:

- draft reports in relation to Round Two priority one and priority two audit subject matters (outlined above), for expected tabling May 2009;
- 2009-10 final Budget and Draft Annual Plan for the Victorian Auditor-General's Office;
- Draft specifications for proposed performance audits to be conducted by the Auditor-General; and
- Response from the Auditor-General and the Government's Response on the Committee's recommendations Report on the *Review of the findings and recommendations of the Auditor-General's reports tabled July 2006-February 2007*, due 13 May 2009.

## **INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC FINANCE PRACTICES AND LEGISLATION**

---

Source of reference: *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, section 33(3).

Terms of reference are available via:

[www.parliament.vic.gov.au/paec/inquiries/finance\\_practices\\_legislation/terms.html](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/paec/inquiries/finance_practices_legislation/terms.html)

### ***Activities during March 2009:***

Copies of submissions to government were received in response to the Committee's Preliminary Report from the Institute of Chartered Practising Accountants and the Australian Accounting Standards Board

Draft Final Report further developed including changes to a proposed government reporting structure and submitted for Committee consideration.

### ***Future Activity***

Committee consideration and adoption of the final Report *on New Directions in Accountability, Inquiry into Victoria's Public Finance Practices and Legislation* for tabling in May 2009.

## **INQUIRY INTO THE 2007-08 FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES**

---

Source of reference: *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, section 33(3).

### ***Activities during March 2009***

Final responses from departments and selected agencies to Questionnaires Part One and Part Two reviewed and considered

Additional clarification sought from departments over key issues

Research and drafting of Report content progressed

Committee considered five draft chapters.

### ***Future Activities***

Further research and drafting of the Report content

Review of clarification of responses to Questionnaires

Committee consideration of further chapters

Committee adoption of the draft Report for tabling in May 2009.

## **INQUIRY INTO THE 2009-10 BUDGET ESTIMATES**

---

### ***Activities during March 2009***

Planning for the 2009-10 Budget Estimates Inquiry including organising a budget briefing seminar for Parliamentarians and public hearings with Ministers progressed

Final schedule of public hearings to be held in May 2009 approved by Committee

Invitations to the Premier, Treasurer and Ministers to attend public hearings developed and sent

Questionnaires developed and sent to Ministers and Department Secretaries for completion and return prior to the estimates hearings.

### ***Future Activities***

Preparation for the budget briefing seminar including finalisation of guest list, venue liaison and preparation of materials for the seminar

Analysis of questionnaire responses in preparation for the budget estimates hearings

Consideration of the Budget

Budget estimates hearings (41 portfolios in total) to be conducted by the Committee with the Presiding Officers, Premier, Treasurer and Ministers from Friday 8 May to Friday 22 May. Final hearings schedule to be posted on the Committee's website

Review and validation of estimates hearings transcripts and preparation of report the Report on the 2009-10 Budget Estimates Part One.

## **INQUIRY INTO THE 2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES**

---

Source of reference: *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, section 33(3).

### ***Future Activities***

Response from the Government on the Committee's recommendations due 15 April 2009.

## **2006-07 FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES**

---

### ***Future Activities***

Response from the Government received 19 November 2008 on the Committee's recommendations are to be considered within the *2007-08 Financial and Performance Outcomes Report*.

# ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

---

---

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

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

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

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

**Members:**

**(Council)**                     *Mr D Koch and Mr S Leane*

**(Assembly)**                  *Mr J Eren, Mr C Langdon, Mr T Mulder, Mr I Trezise and  
Mr P Weller*

**Chair:**                         Mr John Eren

**Executive Officer:**         Ms Alexandra Douglas

## **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.

\*Report date extended to 30 September 2009 by resolution of the Legislative Assembly on 4 December 2007.

### ***Activity during March 2009***

- Work on this inquiry has not yet commenced.

## **INQUIRY INTO THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AUSTRALIAN DESIGN RULES**

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 9 September 2008 –

That, under s33 of the *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, the Road Safety Committee be required to inquire into, consider and report no later than 30 November 2009 on the process of development, adoption and implementation of Australian design rules and to consider other worldwide practices with a focus on improving vehicle safety.

### ***Activities during March 2009***

- 28 submissions were received and uploaded on to the Committee’s website
- Organising of public hearings has commenced.

### ***Future Activity***

- First public hearing will be 20 April.

## **INQUIRY INTO THE SAFETY OF PEDESTRIANS IN CAR PARKS**

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 4 December 2008 –

That under s33 of the Parliamentary Committees Act 2003 the following matters be referred to the Road Safety Committee for inquiry consideration and report, no later than 31 May 2010, on the current rules and standards that apply to pedestrian safety in car parks and the Committee is to recommend potential measures that relevant authorities should consider to improve safety for pedestrians.

### ***Activity during March 2009***

- The Committee determined to begin this inquiry.
- Recruitment of a Research Officer for twelve months has begun.

### ***Future Activity***

- Call for submissions via advertisements and targeted correspondence.

## **INQUIRY INTO VEHICLE SAFETY**

The Government Response to the report was tabled 3 February 2008.

# RURAL AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE

---

---

**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 W Lovell, Ms G Tierney and Mr J Vogels*

**(Assembly)** *Ms K Marshall and Mr R Northe*

**Chair:** Mr Damian Drum

**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 REGIONAL CENTRES OF THE FUTURE**

---

Referred by the Legislative Assembly on 27 May 2008 – to inquire into, consider and report no later than 30 September 2009 on measures to build on the current Government's investment in regional Victoria, through further development and

enhancement of regional centres, focusing on the development of regional centres as places of economic, environmental, social and cultural innovation that enable regional Victoria to meet the challenge of predicted future population growth in this state, and, in particular, the Committee is required to report on:

- (1) measures that could be taken to encourage new and existing businesses, industries and government authorities to establish operations in regional centres;
- (2) the development of industrial land to support the economic base of regional centres;
- (3) the most effective investments in infrastructure to encourage business and industry development in regional centres, and to support and encourage further population growth in regional centres;
- (4) measures to promote strong social capital and high quality-of-life outcomes in growing regional centres; and
- (5) examples from other jurisdictions where promotion of population growth in regional centres has successfully occurred.

The Committee is required to report to the Parliament by 30 September 2009.

### ***Activities during March 2009***

- Committee conducted a regional public hearing in Mildura, with the following witnesses appearing:
  - Mildura Rural City Council; Latrobe University; Sunraysia Institute of TAFE; Mildura Development Corporation; Golsworthy Consulting; Mallee Family Care; TASC Inland; Arts Mildura Board; and interested members of the local population
- Committee consulted with Commonwealth colleagues in Canberra, including the following:
  - Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
  - House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government
  - Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development and Northern Australia
  - Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
  - Australian Rural Leadership Foundation
  - Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation
- Committee Members participated in a Regional Business Convention Roundtable, organised by VECCI
- Committee Members attended a workshop conducted by SGS Economics and Planning Pty Ltd specifically for the Committee
- Preparation for regional public hearings to be held in April 2009 in Wodonga and Wangaratta
- Preparation for public hearing scheduled for 04 May in Melbourne
- Preparation for international investigations scheduled for May 2009, as approved by the Presiding Officers
- Ongoing discussion and review of a proposed 2009 timetable
- Research and literature review continued.

***Future activities***

- Organisation and coordination of public consultation program
- Research and writing of briefing material for regional hearings
- Processing of submissions received
- Summary of submissions and transcripts of evidence
- Ongoing research and drafting
- Preparation of a timetable for drafting of the report
- Preparation of draft recommendations and chapter outlines for the report
- Finalisation of the proposal to visit international jurisdictions, and planning and organisation of meetings and travel.



# SCRUTINY OF ACTS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

---

---

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

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

**Email:** andrew.homer@parliament.vic.gov.au (Scrutiny of Bills)  
helen.mason@parliament.vic.gov.au (Scrutiny of Regulations)  
simon.dinsbergs@parliament.vic.gov.au (Administration)  
victoria.kalapac@parliament.vic.gov.au (Administration – Regulations)

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

## **Members**

**(Council)**                    *Mr K Eideh, Mr E O'Donohue, Mrs I Peulich and Ms J Pulford*

**(Assembly)**                *Mr C Brooks, Mr C Carli (Chair), Mr K Jasper (Deputy Chair),  
Mr T Languiller and Mr R Smith*

**Chair:**                      Mr Carlo Carli

**Executive Officer:**    Mr Andrew Homer

## **FULL COMMITTEE**

---

### **Inquiry into the Exceptions and Exemptions in the Equal Opportunity Act 1995**

On the 16 December the Governor in Council referred Terms of Reference requiring the Committee to inquire into, consider and report to Parliament by 30 April 2009 on whether any amendments should be made to the exceptions and exemptions in the Equal Opportunity Act 1995.

### **Activities during March 2009**

Following external advertising for the role of Consultant for the Inquiry, SARC received an expression of interest from University of Melbourne Associate Professor Elizabeth Gaze.

The Committee met and resolved to engage Associate Professor Elizabeth Gaze as the consultant for the inquiry

The Full Committee met on 10 March 2009, where it considered and approved:

- Alert Digest No. 3 of 2009  
Criminal Procedure Bill 2008  
Major Crime Legislation Amendment Bill 2008  
Major Sporting Events Bill 2009  
Melbourne University Amendment Bill 2009
- Annual Review 2008

The Committee also met on the 30 March 2009, where it considered and approved:

- Alert Digest No. 4 of 2009  
Bushfires Royal Commission (Report) Bill 2009  
Crimes Amendment (Identity Crime) Bill 2009  
Electricity Industry Amendment (Premium Solar Feed-in Tariff) Bill 2009  
Human Services (Complex Needs) Bill 2009

Legislation Reform (Repeals No. 4) Bill 2009  
Primary Industries Legislation Amendment Bill 2008  
Statute Law Amendment (Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities) Bill  
2009

- Report on the Legislation Reform (Repeals No. 4) Bill 2009

## **SUBCOMMITTEES**

---

### 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 March 2009***

The Subcommittee did not meet during March.

### 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 March 2009***

The Subcommittee met on 18 March 2009, where it considered and approved the following Regulations:

- Statutory Rules 2008
  - SR No. 132 – Guardianship and Administration (Fees) Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 133 – Co-Operatives Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 136 – Plumbing Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 138 – Magistrates' Court (Committals) Further Amendment Rules 2008
  - SR No. 139 – Magistrates' Court Civil Procedure (Amendment No.24) Rules 2008
  - SR No. 140 – Second-Hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 141 – Second-Hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers (Exemption) Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 142 – Trade Measurement Amendment (Standard Wine Package Marking) Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 143 – Liquor Control Reform Amendment (Fees) Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 144 – Motor Car Traders Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 145 – Cemeteries and Crematoria Amendment Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 146 – Police Integrity (Legal Assistance for Witnesses) Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 147 – County Court (Chapter 1 Amendment No.25) Rules 2008
  - SR No. 148 – County Court Civil Procedure Rules 2008
  - SR No. 149 – Supreme Court (Chapter 1 Amendment No.12) Rules 2008
  - SR No. 150 – Supreme Court (Chapter VI Amendment No.2) Rules 2008
  - SR No. 151 – Supreme Court (Chapter 1 Amendment No.13) Rules 2008
  - SR No. 152 – Stalking Intervention Orders Regulations 2008
  - SR No. 153 – Family Violence Protection Regulations 2008

- SR No. 154 – Victorian Workers’ Wages Protection (Exceptions) Regulations 2008
- SR No. 155 – Metropolitan Fire Brigades (General)(Charges Amendment) Regulations 2008
- SR No. 156 – Children’s Court (Family Violence Protection) Rules 2008
- SR No. 157 – Magistrates’ Court (Family Violence Protection) Rules 2008
- SR No. 159 – Health (Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity) Amendment Regulations 2008
- SR No. 161 – Road Safety (Road Rules)(Seatbelts) Amendment Regulations 2008
- SR No. 163 – Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities (Public Authorities) Interim Regulations 2008
- SR No. 164 – Gas Safety (Safety Case) Regulations 2008
- SR No. 166 – Dangerous Goods (Transport by Road or Rail) Regulations 2008
- SR No. 167– Radiation Amendment (Tanning Units and Fees) Regulations 2008
- SR No. 168 – Road Safety (Drivers) and Road Safety (General) Amendment (Fatigue Management and Other Matters) Regulations 2008
- SR No. 170 – Road Safety (Road Rules) Amendment (Traffic Control Items) Regulations 2008



# FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

---

---

Legislative Council, Parliament House, Spring Street, Melbourne 3002

Telephone: (03) 9651 8696 Facsimile: (03) 9651 6799

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

## Members:

(Council) *Mr G Barber, Ms C Broad, Mr M Guy, Mr P Hall and Mr P Kavanagh.*

Chair: Mr Gordon Rich-Phillips

Deputy Chair: Mr Matt Viney

Secretary: Mr Richard Willis

## INQUIRY INTO DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY PERFORMANCE AND OPERATIONS

---

### Terms of Reference:

To inquire into and report on Victorian departmental and agency performance and operations for the previous financial year.

### ***Activity during March 2009***

- Public hearings with Goulburn-Murray Water on 25 March 2009

### ***Future Activities***

- Public hearings with Victorian Skills Commission and Growth Areas Authority proposed for Thursday 23 April 2009
- Public hearings with Victorian Funds Management Corporation proposed for Monday 27 April 2009

## INQUIRY INTO BUSINESS CASE FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

---

### Terms of Reference:

To inquire into and report on the estimated benefits and costs arising from the north-south pipeline, the Wonthaggi desalination plant, and the modernisation of irrigation infrastructure.

### Substituted Members:

Mr Damian Drum for Mr Peter Hall

### ***Activity during March 2009***

- Consideration of public submissions (31 received in total).

### ***Future Activity***

- Public hearings proposed for 2009.

## **INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC HOSPITAL PERFORMANCE DATA**

---

### **Terms of Reference:**

To inquire into and report on the capacity of hospitals to meet demand, standards and quality of care, resourcing and access levels, and the accuracy and completeness of performance data for Victorian public hospitals.

### **Substituted Members:**

Ms Colleen Hartland for Mr Greg Barber

### ***Activity during March 2009***

- Consideration of public submissions (46 received in total).

### ***Future Activity***

- Public hearings proposed for 2009
- 
-

# **TRAIN SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE**

---

---

**Legislative Council, Parliament House, Spring Street, Melbourne 3002**

**Telephone:** (03) 9651 8696    **Facsimile:** (03) 9651 6799

**Website:** [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/council/trainservices/SCTS.html](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/council/trainservices/SCTS.html)

**Members:**

**(Council)**            *Mr G Barber, Mr D Drum, Ms J Huppert, Mr E O'Donohue,  
Mr M Viney*

**Chair:**                Mr Bruce Atkinson

**Deputy Chair:**      Mr Shaun Leane

**Secretary:**         Mr Richard Willis

## **INQUIRY INTO TRAIN SERVICES**

---

Terms of Reference:

To inquire into the factors leading to and causes of failures in the provision of metropolitan and V/Line train services.

***Activity during March 2009***

- First meeting held.

***Future Activities***

- Written submissions to be invited
- Public hearings proposed 2009.