



Select Committee on the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid

DEPARTMENT / AGENCY QUESTIONNAIRE, SEPTEMBER 2023

The Inquiry

On 2 August 2023, the Legislative Council resolved to establish a select committee to investigate and report on the 2026 Commonwealth Games and the progress of the regional infrastructure build. An interim report is due by April 2024 and a final report is due by April 2025.

Terms of Reference

A Select Committee of nine members be appointed to inquire into, consider and report on the 2026 Commonwealth Games and the progress of the regional infrastructure build, including but not limited to —

- (a) the potential failures in governance, probity and procurement processes in the Victorian Government's bid, contract, and termination of the 2026 Commonwealth Games;
- (b) the impacts of the contract termination of the Commonwealth Games on Victoria's reputation, business community, tourism, and major events;
- (c) the Victorian Government advice received from government departments, councils, agencies, consultants, and contractors;
- (d) the potential of undue influence by the executive on the independence of the public service;
- (e) the timeline, progress and budget of the Victorian Government's regional infrastructure and housing build;
- (f) the impact on community, social, amateur, and professional sport in Victoria;
- (g) any other relevant matter.

Questionnaire to relevant departments and agencies

This questionnaire seeks information about how the terms of reference affects each department or agency including budget allocations, infrastructure projects and assets, and other key economic, financial management and emerging issues.

Please answer all questions that may be applicable to your department/agency and advise if some, or all questions are not applicable.

Timeline and format

Responses to this questionnaire are due by **5.00pm on Monday, 2 October 2023**. It is essential that the Committee receive responses by this date to allow sufficient time to consider them before public hearings which are likely to commence in early October 2023. The completed questionnaire should be sent (in the format received) to: commonwealthgames@parliament.vic.gov.au

1) What progress had been made in implementing the major initiatives/programs for the department/agency relevant to the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Please identify a minimum of ten initiatives/programs.

Major milestone/initiative	Objective	Financial Output (to date)	Allocated Budget	Activities undertaken

DPC was not responsible for major initiatives or programs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

DPC’s roles and responsibilities in relation to the 2026 Commonwealth Games were primarily oversight providing advice through Cabinet and relevant subcommittees, and engagement and policy coordination across the Whole-of-Victorian Government.

DPC also led on the cancellation and negotiations related to the termination of the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

2) Budget Paper No. 5: Statement of Finances provides a comprehensive operating statement that details each department’s revenue and expenses on an accrual basis reflecting the cost of providing its output. Please provide a line-item breakdown of departmental/agency expenditure for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Line Item	Budget (\$ million)	Expenditure (\$ million)	Description
Commonwealth Games related expenditure associated/impacted			Supplementation funding in the form of Treasurer’s Advance was provided to DPC as

<p>line item for 2022-23:</p> <p>Expenses from Transactions Employee benefits</p> <p>(Page 128 of 2023-24 Budget Paper 5 Statement of Finances)</p>	0.54	0.54	<p>Commonwealth Games resourcing.</p> <p>The primary purpose of the TA was to assist DPC with Governance, delivery planning and cost control processes.</p> <p>The TA funded staffing costs (Additional VPS4, VPS 6 and support 0.5 SES 1) for one year, including first-year centralised accommodation management and fit-out costs.</p>
<p>Commonwealth Games related expenditure associated/impacted line item for 2023-24:</p> <p>Expenses from Transactions Employee benefits</p> <p>(Page 128 of 2023-24 Budget Paper 5 Statement of Finances)</p>	0.52	0.52	<p>A further \$1.58 million was approved by the Treasurer to be released from Commonwealth Games contingency to DPC to support games related set up activities.</p> <p>Funding was released for DPC staffing requirements associated with governance and planning for the 2026 Commonwealth Games (Additional VPS4, VPS 6 and support 0.5 SES 1):</p> <p>Out of \$1.58 million, \$0.52 million was allocated to 2023-24, \$0.53 million for 2024-25 and \$0.54 million for 2025-26.</p>

3) For all programs (output initiatives, including grants) with total funding of equal to or greater than \$2.5 million that will now be cancelled, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) expenditure in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 (and where relevant, future years including any projected or actual contract termination costs)
- d) details of how the program was to be funded (i.e. through new output appropriation, Commonwealth funding, internal reprioritisation etc.)
- e) evidence of the need for the program, and Government's role in delivering it
- f) evidence of the program's progress
- g) evidence of the program being delivered within or outside of scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices
- h) information about the nature of the impact of the program ceasing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts.

DPC did not administer any direct programs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

4) For all programs (output initiatives, including grants) with total funding of equal to or greater than \$2.5 million where funding is to be continued, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) expenditure in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 (and where relevant, future years)
- d) details of how the program will be funded (i.e. through new output appropriation, Commonwealth funding, internal reprioritisation etc.)
- e) evidence of the continued need for the program, and Government's role in delivering it
- f) evidence of the program's progress toward its stated objectives and expected outcomes, including the alignment between the program, departmental objectives and any government priorities
- g) evidence of the program being delivered within its scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices
- h) extent and level of efficiencies realised in the delivery of the program
- i) information about the nature of the impact of the program continuing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts
- j) evidence that the further funding reflects the actual cost required to deliver the program

DPC did not administer any direct programs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

5) For grant programs announced as part of the 2026 Commonwealth Games expenditure, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) estimated expenditure in 2022-23 and forward estimates
- d) actual expenditure as at 1 August 2023
- e) source of funding
- f) number of applications received and number of total eligible applicants as at 1 August 2023
- g) number of successful applicants
- h) the status of the program
- i) outcomes achieved as at 1 August 2023
- j) performance measures associated with the grant programs
- k) any budget allocation for the program in the 2023-24 budget

DPC did not administer any direct programs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

6) For the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years, please identify all output(s) for which the department/agency received additional funding through the Treasurer's Advances for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, why additional funding was required and where it is reported.

2022-23: \$0.544 million

The Output for which DPC received Treasurer's Advance (TA) funding is "Economic policy advice and land coordination" (Output Costs Summary, Page 294 of 2023-24 Budget Paper 3 Service Delivery).

DPC received \$0.544 million for 1 x VPS4, 1 X VPS6 FTE, funding support for 0.5 FTE SES-1, and centralised accommodation management costs (including once off fit out cost for the 2 x VPS employees) for one year.

Why additional funding was required

The reason why additional funding was required has been provided as part of response to Question 2.

Additional funding was required for sufficient resourcing to work on 2026 Commonwealth Games and associated Cabinet, governance, delivery planning and cost control processes. This included new engagement and policy coordination with the Office of Commonwealth Games and Organising Committee, supporting the new Commonwealth Games Committee of Cabinet, and budget and delivery oversight.

DPC did not receive any previous funding for the 2026 Commonwealth Games prior to 2022-23.

Where it is reported

The additional funding received has been disclosed in Budget Paper 5 Statement of Finances- Comprehensive Operating Statement, and the actual expenditure incurred has been reported in DPC's 2022-23 annual financial statements- Comprehensive Operating Statement.

Also note, the State's Annual Financial Report incorporates a note on TA funding provided to Departments, in which this TA funding to DPC would appear.

Note: TA funding was provided for 2022-23 financial year. The funding allocated for 2023-24, 2024-25 & 2025-26 relates to release from contingency.

7) Please list the internal departmental/agency performance measures relevant to the 2026 Commonwealth Games including:

- a) description/purpose of the measure
- b) the target
- c) how it was set
- d) the latest measure outcome

DPC did not have any specific 2026 Commonwealth Games performance measures.

8) Please provide the department's/agency's (actual/expected/forecast) headcount and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff numbers and recruitment costs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games for the financial years ending 30 June 2022, 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2024:

- a) broken down into employee classification codes
- b) broken down into categories of on-going, fixed term or casual
- c) according to their gender identification

- d) employees identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or having a disability.

As noted above, staffing for financial years ending 30 June 2022, 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2024, for DPC consisted of the following:

Staff	30 June 2022	30 June 2023	30 June 2024	Comments
	FTE			
Total	0	2.5	2.5	
VPS-4 Fixed Term				
Actual	0	1	1	Started in September 2022
Expected	1	1	1	
Forecast	-	-	1	
VPS-6 Fixed Term				
Actual	0	1	1	Started in August 2022
Expected	1	1	1	
Forecast	-	-	1	
SES-1 Fixed Term				
Actual	0	0.5	0.5	Started in October 2022
Expected	0.5	0.5	0.5	
Forecast	-	-	0.5	
Staff Recruitment costs				
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	There were no separate recruitment costs other than employee benefits noted above for: - 1 x VPS-4 - 1 x VPS-6 - 0.5 x SES-1

There was no staff for financial years ending 30 June 2022.

Employee identity	No. employees
Gender identification	
- Man	3
- Woman	
- Trans	
- Non-binary	
- Gender diverse	
- Prefer not to say	
Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	0
Identify as having a Disability	0

9) Please provide the number and total value of employee termination payments as of 1 August 2023 relevant to employees working on the Commonwealth Games.

DPC has no employee termination payments as of 1 August 2023 relevant to employees working on the Commonwealth Games.

10) Please provide an organisational executive chart for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, relevant for your department/agency as of 1 June 2022, 1 January 2023 and 1 August 2023.

Organisational executive chart as of 1 June 2022

Role
Secretary, DPC
Deputy Secretary, Economic Policy and State Productivity
Executive Director, Economic Development and International

Organisational executive chart as of 1 January 2023

Role
Secretary, DPC
Deputy Secretary, Economic Policy and State Productivity
Executive Director, Economic Development and International
Director, Visitor Economy, Sport and the Commonwealth Games

Organisational executive chart as of 1 August 2023

Role
Secretary, DPC
Deputy Secretary, Economic Policy and State Productivity
Executive Director, Economic Development and International
Director, Visitor Economy, Sport and the Commonwealth Games

11) What were the main identified gaps in the department's/agency's capability and capacity to deliver the 2026 Commonwealth Games?

DPC did not identify any capability and capacity gaps in relation to its role in delivering the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

DPC was not responsible for delivery of major initiatives or programs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As above, its responsibilities primarily were on overseeing and providing advice through Cabinet and relevant subcommittees, and engagement and policy coordination across the Whole-of-Victorian Government.

12) Please provide an itemised list for the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years of the department/agency expenditure on consultants and contractors for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, including the following:

- a) Name of consultant/contractor:
- b) Project title
- c) Contract cost
- d) Start date
- e) End date
- f) Description
- g) Buying for Victoria website URL

- h) Report to Government finalised (Yes/No)
- i) URL to the finalised report (if public)

Contractor 1: Arnold Bloch Leibler

Project title: Legal Services regarding withdrawal from hosting 2026 Commonwealth Games

Total cost: Including professional services and all disbursements - \$1,265,982.18 (incl GST)

Start date: June 2023

End date: 21 September 2023

Description: Provision of professional legal services

No Buying for Victoria reporting required.

Contractor 2: Frances Gordon KC

Project title: Legal Services regarding withdrawal from hosting 2026 Commonwealth Games

Total cost: Professional services \$19,745 (incl GST)

Start date: 1 August 2023

End date: 17 August 2023

Description: Provision of professional legal services

No Buying for Victoria reporting required.

DPC did not directly engage any other consultants and contractors for the 2026 Commonwealth Games over 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24.

13) Please provide a list of 2026 Commonwealth Games advertising expenditure for the department/agency in 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24, including the following:

- a) Total expenditure
- b) Breakdown of expenditure by medium (for example, radio/TV/print/social media etc.)
- c) Campaign title and date
- d) Objectives and outcomes

DPC had no direct advertising expenditure for the 2026 Commonwealth Games over 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24.

14) Please provide a list of 2026 Commonwealth Games booked advertising for the department/agency in 2023-24 and across the forward estimates, including the following:

- a) Total expenditure
- b) Breakdown of expenditure by medium (for example, radio/TV/print/social media etc.)
- c) Campaign title and date
- d) Objectives and outcomes

DPC had no direct advertising expenditure for the 2026 Commonwealth Games over 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24.

15) What impact, if any, did funding issues from local government or the Federal Government have on the department's/agency's Commonwealth Games budget and expenditure?

There was no direct impact on DPC staffing from funding issues from local government or Federal Government.

16) Please provide a list of financial delegation powers for your department/agency including executive names or positions and value of delegation power.

Position	Financial Delegation Value
Director, Visitor Economy, Sport and the Commonwealth Games	\$50,000
Executive Director, Economic Development & International	\$150,000
Deputy Secretary, Economic Policy & State Productivity	\$1,000,000
Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet	\$10,000,000

17) Regarding the 2026 Commonwealth Games, which relevant and interested community groups and stakeholders did the department/agency consult or engage with? Please detail the budget expenditure related to and the final outcomes of consultation.

DPC notes that consultation on the 2026 Commonwealth Games was primarily led by the Organising Committee and the Office of the Commonwealth Games in DJSIR.

DPC engagement was generally limited for community and stakeholder consultation with the exception of the below:

DPC First Peoples – State Relations Group

- DPC First Peoples – State Relations, Heritage Services met with Traditional Owners regarding the preparation of cultural heritage management plans being prepared in areas appointed by Registered Aboriginal Parties. This involved conversations with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation to seek to understand how government could better support them to participate in cultural heritage assessments for the preparation of those plans.

- Registered Aboriginal Parties are corporations with statutory decision making responsibilities separate from government. As such, most government engagement was directly between relevant agencies for progressing the Commonwealth Games and the relevant Traditional Owners. As such, FPSR's involvement was limited to advisory and more general support.

DPC Economic Development and International

- The Executive Director, Economic Development and International, DPC attended the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Observer Program in 2022 (see details in Q18 below).

18) Please provide a list of all interstate and international travel for department/agency staff related to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, including:

- Name of traveller(s)
- Destination (s)
- Date of travel
- Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)
- Purpose of travel
- Benefit of travel to the State of Victoria
- Funding source (please detail the internal account code or external organisation)
- Expenses – Air fares (including taxes and fees)
- Expenses - Accommodation (including taxes and fees)
- Expenses - Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)
- Expenses - Total cost
- Expenses - Are the above costs final and complete?

International Travel – Rob Holland, Executive Director to UK for Commonwealth Games

a) Name of traveller(s)	Rob Holland Executive Director, Economic Development and International, DPC
b) Destination (s)	United Kingdom
c) Date of travel	Friday 29 July 2022 – Wednesday 10 August 2022
d) Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)	12
e) Purpose of travel	To represent DPC at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Observer Program (week 2) and supporting Governor travel, as required.
f) Benefit of travel to the State of Victoria	Access to key UK delivery officials and infrastructure experts at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Observer Program, with classroom and onsite training on benefits and legacy, compliance with games requirements and delivery of a multi-sport event
g) Funding source (please detail the internal account)	DPC, DPJR/Office of Commonwealth Games

code or external organisation)	
h) Expenses – Air fares (including taxes and fees)	\$13,156.63
i) Expenses - Accommodation (including taxes and fees)	Not separately itemised, bundled with event cost below.
j) Expenses - Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)	Expected costs approved included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Travel allowance - \$1,120 (estimated) - Ground Transportation expenses - TBA - Translator fees – Nil - Visa/Facilitation/Medical/Printing/Admin - \$500 - Events and meeting room – GBP2,650 CGF Programme Observer Fee (Approx \$4,700 AUD) including accommodation and breakfast - Contingency - \$2,921.49
k) Expenses - Total cost	\$22,398
l) Expenses - Are the above costs final and complete?	The above costs relate to the approved travel costs.

International Travel – Jeremi Moule, Secretary to UK for Commonwealth Games

a) Name of traveller(s)	Jeremi Moule
b) Destination (s)	London, United Kingdom
c) Date of travel	Saturday 15 July 2023 – Saturday 22 July 2023
d) Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)	Eight days
e) Purpose of travel	To meet with the Commonwealth Games Federation
f) Benefit of travel to the State of Victoria	Personally advise the Commonwealth Games Federation of the Victorian Government's decision to withdraw from hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games.
g) Funding source (please detail the internal account code or external organisation)	DPC, Office of the Secretary
h) Expenses – Air fares (including taxes and fees)	\$14,773.00 (excludes tax and fees)
i) Expenses - Accommodation (including taxes and fees)	\$6,204.19 (total cost)
j) Expenses - Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)	\$1,138.09 (travel allowance)
k) Expenses - Total cost	\$22,115.28
l) Expenses - Are the above costs final and complete?	Yes

19) Please detail the extent of departmental/agency interactions with the First Nations People of Victoria in preparation for the 2026 Commonwealth Games

The extent of DPC interactions with First Nations People of Victoria in preparation for the 2026 Commonwealth Games has been provided in Question 17 above.

END