



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Legal and Social Issues Committee

MEDIA RELEASE

More transparency needed on government restructuring

The Victorian Parliament's Legal and Social Issues Committee has today presented to Parliament its final report on the process, cost and effectiveness of the Victorian Government's departmental restructure following the 2014 November state election.

The Committee has made five recommendations to improve the monitoring and reporting of such Machinery of Government changes.

"A key recommendation is for a clear framework to be established for monitoring and recording expenditure and outcomes from such changes," Committee Chair Edward O'Donohue said.

"The Committee has also recommended the implementation of an objective reporting process to ensure transparency and allow for greater scrutiny and evaluation of the merit or otherwise of the Machinery of Government changes."

Mr O'Donohue said the Committee discovered there is very little guidance for departments in Victoria in relation to tracking of Machinery of Government costs.

"This has resulted in inconsistent and incomplete reporting of associated expenditure and outcomes," he said.

Machinery of Government changes can be expensive, the Committee noted in its report.

"By the end of January 2016, the direct Machinery of Government costs following the 2014 election had already exceeded \$5 million," Mr O'Donohue said.

"The Committee uncovered significant inconsistencies in the reporting of costs between departments. Furthermore the indirect costs were neither recorded nor accounted for."

The report is available from the Committee's [website](#).

Issued: 5 May 2016