



# Select Committee on the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid

**Hearing Date: 27 February 2024**

**Questions taken on notice**

**Directed to:** Dr Alana Thomson

**Received Date:** 13 March 2024

1. **Joe McCRACKEN, page 47**

**Question Asked:**

I know a lot of the work throughout the survey was done during the preparation and cancellation of the Comm Games. Are you able to provide us with the survey, for us to all have a look at, that you have done?

**Alana THOMSON:** The survey tool that people were asked?

**Joe McCRACKEN:** I would love to see the questions but also the results that you have been able to compile.

**Alana THOMSON:** Yes. We have got some preliminary reports that we can share. Our high-level findings I presented today are available on the La Trobe website, so I can share those with you, but we do have a little bit more detailed content behind that.

**Joe McCRACKEN:** Any other documents that you are able to provide to the committee I would be fascinated to pore over and have a look at too, so if you are able to provide those –

**Alana THOMSON:** Yes

**Response:**

Please see a publicly available overview of the survey findings here:  
<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/news/articles/2023/opinion/commonwealth-games-sporting-legacies-for-bendigo>

2. **Melina BATH, page 50**

**Question Asked:**

...I am interested if I can go to you, Ms Thomson. You have come from the Gold Coast. You said you worked on the Commonwealth Games there in 2018. You know, if you look at comparison, did that run over budget on a major scale? And if so, can you remember what that was, harking back into your memory?

**Alana THOMSON:** Just to clarify, if I could, I was in that role from 2015 to 2016 and then came back to the academic space while the event was on.

**Melina BATH:** There was preparation for the games during that time?

**Alana THOMSON:** Yes. Absolutely. In terms of over budget, I would have to take that on notice and check the details for you.

**Response:**

GC2018 Budget

- Please see a link to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Post Games Report (2019) which provides a detailed analysis of the Games and related projects budgets, and concludes:
  - "With good planning, prudent financial management, solid revenue and infrastructure delivered ahead of the Games, GC2018 was delivered well within the total forecast budget" (page 6) and "The Games was projected to cost the Queensland Government \$1.507 billion. The actual total net cost to the Queensland Government from the Games budget was \$1.340 billion (89 per cent of the total budget forecast)" (page 228).
- Please see a link to the Auditor General's report from 2014 (4 years out from the event) which highlighted a lack of sophistication in Games preparation budgets and cautioned against the potential for cost overruns as a result. The report made a series of recommendations for governance, planning and budgeting and can be found here: <https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Work-of-Committees/Committees/Committee-Details?cid=186&id=3292>