

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



# Public Accounts Committee

ANNUAL REVIEW 2008-09

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## Membership & Staff

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<b>Members</b>	Mr Peter Draper MP, Member for Tamworth (from September 2008)
	Mr Ninos Khoshaba MP, Member for Smithfield
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## Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present to Parliament the Public Accounts Committee's Annual Review for 2008-09. This year has seen the Committee's system for examining the Auditor-General's performance audits mature and achieve tangible results; the conclusion of the inquiry into State Plan Reporting; and the commencement of an inquiry into Environmentally Sustainable Procurement. The Annual Review also includes the Committee's work plan for the coming year.

The Committee initiated a process of systematically examining agency responses to all performance audits in late 2007. There is now a well established practice of obtaining written explanations from the responsible agencies of how they have addressed the Auditor-General's recommendations and of proceeding to hearings where the Committee requires further information.

It has been pleasing to see that this has focussed agencies' attention on how best to respond to issues identified by the audit. Examination by the Committee has led agencies to explicitly rethink their responses to recommendations, or to update or implement responses in time for hearings. The Committee's systematic follow up process has sent a clear message that Parliament is interested in ensuring that the recommendations of the Auditor-General are adequately considered and addressed. The Committee's recommendations from this process have also resulted in further Government action, with acceptance of half the recommendations made by the Committee in its first report.

By providing an effective system for following-up agency responses to audits, the Committee has also freed the resources of the Audit Office from the need for follow-up audits. From 2005 to 2007 the Audit Office produced 12 follow-up audits at a cost of nearly \$500,000 a year. In the last year the Auditor-General has not tabled any follow-up audits.

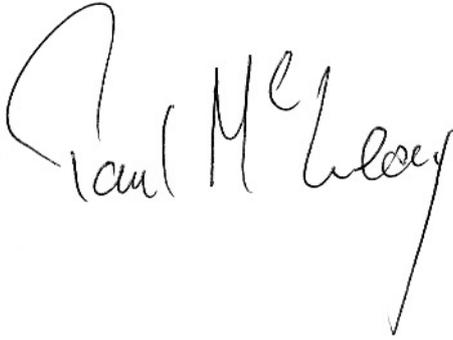
In November 2008, the Committee tabled its report on State Plan Reporting, making a range of recommendations regarding improving community engagement, providing for parliamentary accountability and ensuring robust auditing. At the end of the reporting period, the Government had indicated that it would formally respond to the Committee shortly.

The Committee subsequently commenced an inquiry into the Government's performance in implementing its policies regarding environmentally sustainable procurement. During the reporting period the Committee received submissions and has since held hearings.

This Annual Review includes the Committee's work plan for 2009-10, together with a statement of the Committee's objective and functions. This work plan will provide a framework for reporting the Committee's achievements in subsequent Annual Reviews and reflects its commitment to the continual improvement of its own efficiency and effectiveness.

I note that the Committee's objective of promoting the economy, efficiency, effectiveness and probity of public expenditure can only be achieved through the work of government agencies themselves. I thank those agencies that have responded to the Committee's requests for submissions and have appeared before it. Their willingness to accept our

examination of their activities in the spirit of a joint enterprise to improve public administration is greatly appreciated. I also greatly appreciate the ongoing assistance of the Auditor-General and his staff, the commitment and bi-partisan approach of the members of the Committee and the support of the secretariat.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul McLeay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, thin tail on the letter 'y'.

Paul McLeay MP  
Chair

## Chapter One – Functions of the Committee

- 1.1 The Public Accounts Committee has responsibilities under Part 4 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* (the Act) to inquire into and report on the activities of Government included in the Total State Sector Accounts and the accounts of the State's authorities.
- 1.2 The Committee recommends improvements to the efficiency and effectiveness of government activities. A key part of the Committee's work is following up aspects of the Auditor-General's reports to Parliament. The Committee may also receive referrals from the Legislative Assembly, Ministers, or the Auditor-General to undertake inquiries. Evidence is gathered primarily through submissions and public hearings.
- 1.3 The Committee consists of six members appointed from the Legislative Assembly. At present, the Committee comprises Mr Paul McLeay MP (Chair), The Hon Grant McBride MP (Deputy Chair), Mr Ninos Koshaba MP, Mr Anthony Roberts MP, Mr John Turner MP and Mr Peter Draper MP. Mr McBride and Mr Draper joined the Committee following the departure of Ms Jodi McKay MP and Mr Robert Oakeshott MP.

### General Functions

- 1.4 Section 57(1) of the Act sets out the Committee's general functions. These functions are replicated for State owned corporations under section 28 of the *State Owned Corporations Act 1989*. The Committee's main functions are:
  - (1) to examine the Total State Sector Accounts transmitted to the Legislative Assembly by the Treasurer;
  - (2) to examine the accounts of authorities of the State, being accounts that have been audited by the Auditor-General or an auditor appointed under section 47(1) of the Act, or laid before the Legislative Assembly by a Minister of the Crown;
  - (3) to examine the opinion or any report of the Auditor-General transmitted with the Total State Sector Accounts or laid before the Legislative Assembly with the accounts of an authority of the State (including any documents annexed or appended to any such opinion or report);
  - (4) to examine any report of the Auditor-General laid before the Legislative Assembly; and
  - (5) to inquire into expenditure by a Minister of the Crown made without Parliamentary sanction which the Committee considers ought to be brought to the notice of the Legislative Assembly.
- 1.5 The Committee is able to report to the Legislative Assembly from time to time upon any of these issues as well as on any alteration which the Committee thinks desirable in the form of accounts or in the method of keeping them or in the method of receipt, expenditure or control of money relating to those accounts.
- 1.6 The Act enables the Committee to investigate any question in connection with those accounts that is referred to it by the Legislative Assembly, a Minister of the Crown or the Auditor-General.

## **Statutory Bodies**

- 1.7 The Act also makes specific provisions in relation to statutory bodies. These largely relate to the Treasurer making references to the Committee and requiring the Committee's comment on amendments to provisions relating to statutory bodies and the form of their financial statements.

## **Limits on Committee powers**

- 1.8 The Act prevents the Committee from examining any matter of government policy unless the Legislative Assembly or a Minister of the Crown specifically refers an issue to the Committee.
- 1.9 The functions of the Committee do not extend to an examination of, inquiry into or report upon the estimates of any proposed expenditure by the State or by an authority of the State.

## **Appointment of the Auditor-General**

- 1.10 The Committee can veto any proposed appointment to the position of Auditor-General. It is not involved in selecting potential appointees, unlike equivalent Committees in some jurisdictions. The Treasurer is required to refer a proposal to appoint a person as Auditor-General to the Committee for its consideration. The Committee has 14 days in which to exercise this power of veto or up to a further 30 days if it provides notice that it requires more time to consider the matter.

## **Annual Reports**

- 1.11 In recognition of the Committee's role in promoting accountability, the legislation confers upon the Committee formal responsibility regarding annual reports for departments and statutory bodies. The Treasurer can refer to the Committee any matter relating to annual reports for examination. Any proposal to amend the relevant legislation and regulations must be referred to the Committee for investigation and report.

## **Review of the Auditor-General's Office**

- 1.12 The Committee has statutory responsibility for managing reviews of the Audit Office of New South Wales, which are conducted at least once every three years. The Act provides that the review examines the Audit Office's level of compliance with its auditing practices and standards.
- 1.13 The Committee appoints the reviewer and determines the terms and conditions under which the review will be conducted. While the reviewer is independent of the Committee and reports to the Auditor-General about the outcome of the review, the reviewer must comply with the Committee's directions. The reviewer's report is not public until tabled by the Chair of the Committee in the Legislative Assembly.

## Chapter Two – Highlights 2008-09

### REPORTS TABLED

- 2.1 In 2008-09, the Committee tabled five reports. One was on the Committee's self-referred inquiry into State Plan Reporting and three contained the Committee's findings on performance audit follow-up inquiries into State Roads, Students with Disabilities, Residential Aged Care, Legal Aid, Infectious Diseases, Young Offenders, Homelessness, Public Transport, Household Burglaries, Government Advertising, Farm Irrigation, Police Rostering and Departmental Amalgamations. The Committee also tabled its *Annual Review 2007-08*.
- 2.2 Appendix One lists these reports and their tabling dates. The reports are available at <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/publicaccounts>.

### INQUIRIES COMMENCED

#### Examination of Performance Audits

- 2.3 The Committee commenced eight performance audit follow-up inquiries in the reporting period. These were on Signal Failures, Government Advertising, Farm Irrigation, Police Rostering, Ageing Teaching Workforce, Departmental Amalgamations, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and Alcohol-related Crime. The Committee chose not to conduct a follow-up inquiry into the Amalgamation of the Greyhound and Harnessing Racing Authority because the Parliament passed legislation de-amalgamating the two authorities.
- 2.4 The Committee was satisfied with the Departments' written submissions in relation to Government Advertising, Farm Irrigation, Police Rostering and Departmental Amalgamations, and reports containing the Committee's findings on these issues have been tabled. At the end of June 2009, the Committee was arranging hearings on Signal Failures and the Ageing Workforce – Teachers and was still considering the submissions concerning the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution and Alcohol-related Crime.
- 2.5 Appendix Two shows the progress of the Committee's inquiries over the reporting period.

#### Inquiry into Sustainable Procurement

- 2.6 In December, the Committee began an inquiry into environmentally sustainable procurement within the public sector. In accordance with the terms of reference, the Committee is seeking to determine the extent to which the procurement practices of government agencies comply with policies and guidelines relating to environmental management.
- 2.7 The Committee had received 16 submissions as of 30 June 2009.

### MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

- 2.8 Fifteen deliberative meetings were held in 2008-09. Appendix Three lists these meetings and identifies the members in attendance.

- 2.9 The Committee held one day of public hearings as part of its inquiries into State Plan Reporting, Connecting with Public Transport and Dealing with Household Burglaries. Nine witnesses appeared before the Committee.

## **GOVERNMENT RESPONSES TO REPORTS**

- 2.10 The Committee received a response from the Director General of the Department of Premier and Cabinet to its Report on State Roads, Students with Disabilities, Infectious Diseases, Residential Aged Care, Nurses, Legal Aid and Young Offenders. The Government accepted three of the Committee's six recommendations.
- 2.11 The Director General of the Department of Premier and Cabinet informed the Committee that the Government's response to the Committee's Report on State Plan Reporting would be sent to the Committee once it had been finalised.
- 2.12 A table of Government Responses appears in Appendix Four.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

### **Review of the Audit Office**

- 2.13 In December 2008, the Committee appointed Oakton Service Pty Ltd to conduct the triennial independent review of the Audit Office following a competitive selection process. The final report was due to be tabled in Parliament in August 2009.

### **Briefing Sessions for Members of Parliament**

- 2.14 The Committee convenes briefings by the Auditor-General following the tabling of Audit Office reports in the Legislative Assembly when tabling occurs on a sitting day. Briefings are attended by interested Members of Parliament and their staff, and they allow those in attendance to discuss the details of the reports and seek clarification on issues.
- 2.15 Five Audit Office briefing sessions were held in 2008-09 on Delivering Health Care Out of Hospitals; Improving Literacy and Numeracy in Schools; Volumes Three, Four, Five and Six of the Auditor-General's Report to Parliament for 2008, and Volume One of the Auditor-General's Report to Parliament for 2009; Administration of Grants; Sustaining Native Forest Operations; Managing Injured Police; and Improving Road Safety – Heavy Vehicles.

### **Discussions with the Auditor-General**

- 2.16 As one of the functions of the Public Accounts Committee is to examine the reports of the Auditor-General, the Committee has an ongoing interest in the Auditor-General's work. Conversely, as the Parliament is the Auditor-General's principal client, the Auditor-General seeks input from the Committee on potential topics for audit and related matters. Consequently, in addition to the briefings the Auditor-General provides on his reports, the Committee meets with the Auditor-General and his officers to discuss future audits and related issues. Five such meetings were held during 2008-09.

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## Annual Reporting Awards

- 2.17 The Public Accounts Committee and the Public Bodies Review Committee jointly run the Public Sector Annual Reporting Awards. The Awards are held to recognise excellence in agency reporting.
- 2.18 In 2009, the Legal Aid Commission of NSW won the gold award, Health NSW won the silver award, and the NSW Fire Brigades won the bronze award.

## Australasian Council of Public Accounts Committees

- 2.19 The Australasian Council of Public Accounts Committees (ACPAC) is made up of all of the public accounts committees of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Fiji. It meets annually, with a biennial conference and a mid-term meeting in alternate years. ACPAC conferences provide opportunities for members to learn about committees in other jurisdictions and discuss important developments in public accountability.
- 2.20 From 15 – 17 April 2009, Mr McLeay, Mr Turner and Mr Khoshaba attended ACPAC's Tenth Biennial Conference in Wellington, New Zealand. Mr McLeay presented a paper on enhancing government reporting and public accountability, which was based on the Committee's report on State Plan Reporting. Among the other topics explored at the Conference were fostering executive accountability, accountability issues raised by public-private partnerships, and freedom of information issues.

## Increasing Awareness of the Work of the Committee

- 2.21 Members of the Committee meet visiting delegations to explain the Committee's operations and exchange information about parliamentary practices
- 2.22 In addition, Mr McLeay gave a presentation on Financial Scrutiny of the Executive to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Associations 2009 Seminar on Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy.

## Chapter Three – Reports, Inquiries and Responses

### REPORTS

#### State Plan Reporting

- 3.1 The Report on **State Plan Reporting** sets out the Committee's findings on its self-referred inquiry into the State Plan reporting regime and the Plan's 2009 review. The State Plan is the Government's 10-year plan for delivering services across NSW. As the foundation of the Government's new performance management and budgeting system, it aims to improve value for money by linking agency funding to clear outcomes. The Committee examined whether the measures used were the right ones for the goals, whether the progress reports provided a reasonable interpretation of the data, and whether the Plan's goals adequately reflected the goals of the community. The Committee found that the Government had addressed a number of the risks associated with performance management, but that it could do more to strengthen its local and regional reporting systems. Ensuring that the Auditor-General and the Parliament are given ample opportunity to thoroughly review the performance information would also enhance the quality of the data and promote transparency. The Committee made several recommendations in relation to the 2009 review, including that the Government undertake a range of deliberative consultations to capture the views of a broad cross-section of society and that it engage an independent community engagement expert to assist in the planning and implementation of the review.

#### Examination of the Auditor-General's Performance Audits Tabled July 2006 to March 2007

- 3.2 In 2007, the Committee undertook to conduct an inquiry into agency responses one year after the tabling of every performance audit, starting with reports tabled in July 2006.
- 3.3 As an initial step, for the first four audits examined the Committee only considered submissions from the responsible agency and the Auditor-General. These audits were **Condition of State Roads**, **Educating Primary School Students with Disabilities**, **Major Infectious Disease Outbreaks: Readiness to Respond** and **Helping Older People Access a Residential Aged Care Facility**. The Committee held public hearings and gave more detailed consideration to the three audits set out below.

#### Attracting, Retaining and Managing Nurses in Hospitals

- 3.4 With respect to nurses, the Committee found that the Department of Health had made progress in addressing the chronic nursing shortage facing NSW, however it remained concerned about the impact of nurse numbers on patient care and recommended that this information be compiled.

#### Distributing Legal Aid in New South Wales

- 3.5 After examining whether legal aid was properly distributed among those who were entitled to it, the Committee found that the Legal Aid Commission was performing

well in delivering its services but would benefit from the development of targets against which its performance could be measured.

### Addressing the Needs of Young Offenders

- 3.6 The Department of Juvenile Justice and the NSW Police Force are responsible for addressing the needs of young offenders, and the Committee determined that both could enhance their good work by including more detailed data on young offenders in their annual reports.

## **Examination of the Auditor-General's Performance Audits Tabled March to August 2007**

### Responding to Homelessness,

- 3.7 The Committee was pleased to see that the NSW Government had developed a Draft Homelessness Strategic Framework that had clearly been built upon the findings of the Auditor-General, and that it was engaging with Australia's governments in an attempt to develop a national homelessness strategy. However, while the Legal Aid Commission had taken action to ensure that homeless people could better access its services, the Area Health Services and Local Courts seemingly had not.

### Connecting with Public Transport

- 3.8 With respect to public transport interchanges, the Committee noted that this inquiry was made difficult by a lack of clear communication between the Ministry of Transport and the Committee. Although the Ministry had accepted "the policy intent of the [Auditor-General's] 22 recommendations," the substantive information they provided suggested otherwise. As such, the Committee made 12 recommendations concerning the need to assign clear responsibility for interchanges, establish a strategic approach to interchange developments, properly implement an adequate emergency response strategy, systematically evaluate performance, and address the need for long term funding.

### Dealing with Household Burglaries,

- 3.9 The efforts of the NSW Police Force in reducing household burglaries were highly commendable, however, the Committee recommended that the Police Force provide additional guidance to commanders on when to establish a specialist break and enter team.

### Government Advertising

- 3.10 In relation to government advertising, the Committee determined that the Departments of Commerce and of Premier and Cabinet had substantially addressed all of the Auditor-General's recommendations on improving the transparency of government expenditure on advertising, and further strengthening its mechanisms for ensuring that advertisements do not inappropriately serve party-political interests. Nonetheless, the Committee recommended that the Minister for Commerce only approve advertising campaigns out of session when

the Guideline's requirements had been met, as the evidence before the Committee suggested that this may not always be the case.

## **Examination of the Auditor-General's Performance Audits Tabled November 2007 to March 2008**

### **Improving Efficiency of Irrigation Water Use on Farms**

- 3.11 The Committee found that the Department of Primary Industries had performed well in developing and promoting improved on-farm irrigation methods, and that it had satisfactorily implemented the Auditor-General's recommendations.

### **Police Rostering**

- 3.12 The NSW Police Force had implemented all but one of the Auditor-General's recommendations on police rostering. The rejected recommendation urged the Police Force to adopt best practice rosters across NSW by July 2008, and the Committee recommended that the Police Force implement such rosters by January 2010. The Committee was impressed with the steps the Police Force had taken to improve its rostering practices to ensure that the supply of officers was consistent with demand and officer safety was enhanced, and resolved to inquire into how these, and other police policies and practices, affect police customer service and the health and safety of officers within the next 12 months.

### **Managing Departmental Amalgamations**

- 3.13 On the issue of whether Departmental Amalgamations were being managed to achieve their intended outcomes, the Committee was concerned that the Government did not intend to publicly report on the achievement of outcomes following an amalgamation. The Committee recommended that formal evaluations be carried out as a matter of routine, and that the findings be tabled in Parliament.

## **INQUIRIES**

### **Examination of Performance Audits**

- 3.14 The Committee commenced eight performance audit follow up inquiries in 2008-09. Four of these were tabled and have been discussed above. The following four were still under consideration by the Committee at the end of the reporting period:
- Signal Failures on the Metropolitan Rail Network;
  - Ageing Teaching – Workforce;
  - Efficiency of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions; and
  - Working with Hotels and Clubs to Reduce Alcohol-related Crime.

### **Inquiry into Sustainable Procurement**

- 3.15 In December 2008, the Committee commenced its inquiry into environmentally sustainable government procurement. As the NSW Government spends approximately \$13 billion per year on procurement, the Committee wanted to

ensure that the Government was adhering to its policies on environmental management and thereby mitigating the hidden longer-term costs associated with environmentally unfriendly practices.

- 3.16 Upon examining the submissions, the Committee identified the following issues as potential topics for its August hearings on sustainable procurement:
- How agencies assess “value for money”;
  - The extent to which environmental concerns are incorporated into the tendering process;
  - The extent to which environmental concerns are incorporated into the buying practices of purchasing officers;
  - Training for purchasing officers so they know how to balance environmental considerations with other important considerations such as price, safety, etc.;
  - Engaging with suppliers; and
  - Monitoring and evaluation.

## RESPONSES TO REPORTS

- 3.17 The Government has undertaken to respond to the Committee’s reports within six months of tabling (see Premier’s Memoranda 96-9 and 98-11).
- 3.18 The first report that required a response in 2008-09 was the Report on Examination of the Auditor-General’s Performance Audits of the Condition of State Roads; Educating Primary School Students with Disabilities; Major Infectious Disease Outbreaks; Helping Older People Access a Residential Aged Care Facility; Attracting, Retaining and Managing Nurses in hospitals; Distributing Legal Aid in NSW; and Addressing the Needs of Young Offenders. Upon receiving the response, the Committee was pleased that the Government had accepted its recommendations to:
- extend the Legal Aid Commission’s reporting to include the number of services delivered against targets;
  - include in the Department of Juvenile Justice’s annual reports trends in re-offending for each young offender group, both against the State Plan target and using the one and two year follow up periods; and
  - include in the NSW Police Force’s annual report trends in the number and proportion of young offenders diverted from the Children’s Court and trends in re-offending for young offenders receiving cautions.
- 3.19 The Government did not accept another three of the Committee’s recommendations that arose out of its inquiries into nurses and legal aid.
- 3.20 The second report that required a response was the Committee’s report on State Plan Reporting. The Committee received a letter from the Department of Premier and Cabinet on 5 June 2009 stating that it was in the process of finalising its response and that it would be forwarded upon completion. The Committee had not received a response at the end of the reporting period.

## Chapter Four – 2009-10 Work Plan

4.1 The Committee has outlined below its objective, functions and planned activities for the coming year.

### Objective

The objective of the Public Accounts Committee is to ensure accountability for public expenditure and thereby promote economy, efficiency, effectiveness and probity.

### Functions

The primary functions of the Public Accounts Committee are set out in s 57 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*. These may be summarised as being to:

- Examine State accounts;
- Examine Auditor-General's reports;
- Recommend improvements to financial reporting and the control of money; and
- Inquire into any expenditure not authorised by Parliament.

### 2009-10 Work Plan

The planned activities of the Public Accounts Committee to fulfil its functions for 2009-10 are set out in the table below.

Actions	Targets 2009-10	Outcomes
Inquire into significant issues identified through the examination of State accounts or audit reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete its Inquiry into Environmentally Sustainable Procurement.</li> <li>• Commence an inquiry into police customer service and OH&amp;S in 2010 (arising from Police Rostering audit).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased accountability, and incentives and recommendations for change.</li> </ul>
Follow-up all performance audits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examine and report on the response to all performance audits 12 months after tabling.</li> <li>• Examine and report on further progress in response to Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions audit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased accountability to elected representatives for agencies' response to the Auditor-General's recommendations.</li> <li>• Improved responses to Auditor-General's recommendations that stand up to public scrutiny.</li> <li>• Test the Auditor-General's recommendations and agency responses in a public forum.</li> </ul>
Monitor financial and compliance audits for issues requiring follow-up or full inquiry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host briefings with Auditor-General for MPs on all audits tabled while the House is sitting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing issues of significant concern in audit reports are examined and brought to the attention of Parliament.</li> <li>• MPs feed their concerns back to the Auditor-General.</li> </ul>

Actions	Targets 2009-10	Outcomes
Monitor, and where needed, report on the form of financial and annual reports <sup>1</sup> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold an annual briefing with the Auditor-General and Treasury on the effectiveness of the form of financial reporting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parliament's attention is brought to any significant issues regarding financial reporting.</li> </ul>
Promote the activities and findings of the PAC and issues of financial accountability generally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Debate reports in the House.</li> <li>• Publicise activities through website, media releases and advertisements.</li> <li>• Contribute to seminars and conferences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved awareness of the Committee's work and findings and issues of financial accountability.</li> </ul>
Strengthen the Parliament's relationship with the Auditor-General and fulfil related statutory functions (commission triennial review and consider proposed appointments).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss audit program with Auditor-General.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased awareness of and communication between the Auditor-General and Members of Parliament.</li> </ul>
With the Public Bodies Review Committee, run the Public Sector Annual Reporting Awards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award winners selected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased awareness of annual reporting best practices.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> The Treasurer must refer any proposed changes to annual reporting legislation to the Public Accounts Committee (s 19, *Annual Report (Departments) Act 1985*)

## Appendix One – Committee Reports

No	Title	Date
2/54	<i>Report on Examination of the Auditor-General's Performance Audits Tabled July 2006 to March 2007</i> <i>Condition of State Roads; Educating Primary School Students with Disabilities; Major Infectious Disease Outbreaks: Readiness to Respond; Attracting, Retaining and Managing Nurses in Hospitals; Distributing Legal Aid in NSW; and Addressing the Needs of Young Offenders.</i>	11 Nov 08
3/54	<i>Annual Review 2007-08</i>	12 Nov 08
4/54	<i>Report on State Plan Reporting</i>	27 Nov 08
5/54	<i>Report on Examination of the Auditor-General's Performance Audits Tabled March to August 2007</i> <i>Responding to Homelessness; Connecting with Public Transport; Dealing with Household Burglaries; and Government Advertising.</i>	25 Mar 09
6/54	<i>Report on Examination of the Auditor-General's Performance Audits Tabled November 2007 to March 2008</i> <i>Improving Efficiency of Irrigation Water Use on Farms; Police Rostering; and Managing Departmental Amalgamations.</i>	24 Jun 09

## Appendix Two – Inquiry Progress

INQUIRY	COMMENCED	SUBMISSION DUE	SUBMISSION RECEIVED	A-G's RESPONSE	HEARING	REPORT TABLED	GOV'T RESPONSE
State Roads	26 Sep 07	26 Oct 07	6 Nov 07	21 Nov 07	N/A	11 Nov 08	18 May 09
Students with Disabilities	26 Sept 07	26 Oct 07	6 Nov 07	21 Nov 07	N/A	11 Nov 08	18 May 09
State Plan Reporting	10 Oct 07	14 Dec 07	Various	N/A	11 Jun 08 27 Oct 08	27 Nov 08	
Residential Aged Care	28 Nov 07	1 Feb 08	5 Mar 08	2 Apr 08	N/A	11 Nov 08	18 May 09
Legal Aid	28 Nov 07	1 Feb 08	1 Feb 08	27 Mar 08	11 Jun 08	11 Nov 08	18 May 09
Infectious Diseases	4 Dec 07	4 Feb 08	11 Feb 08	27 Mar 08	N/A	11 Nov 08	18 May 09
Nurses	4 Dec 07	4 Feb 08	11 Feb 08	27 Mar 08	11 Jun 08	11 Nov 08	18 May 09
Young Offenders	3 Apr 08	9 May 08	14 May 08 14 May 08	3 Jun 08	11 Jun 08	11 Nov 08	18 May 09
Homelessness	11 Jun 08	11 Jul 08	03 Jul 08 11 Jul 08 11 Jul 08 16 Jul 08	11 Aug 08	N/A	25 Mar 09	
Public Transport	11 Jun 08	11 Jul 08	21 Jul 08 28 Nov 08	04 Aug 08	27 Oct 08	25 Mar 09	
Household Burglaries	25 Jun 08	28 Jul 08	30 Jul 08	19 Aug 08	27 Oct 08	25 Mar 09	
Signal Failures	20 Aug 08	29 Sep 08	29 Sep 08 5 Feb 09 7 May 09	23 Oct 08	12 Aug 09		
Government Advertising	20 Aug 08	29 Sep 08	14 Oct 08	23 Oct 08	N/A	25 Mar 09	
Farm Irrigation	12 Nov 08	19 Dec 08	06 Feb 09	26 Feb 09	N/A	24 Jun 09	
Police Rostering	26 Nov 08	27 Jan 09	13 Feb 09 23 Apr 09	26 Feb 09	N/A	24 Jun 09	
Sustainable Procurement	9 Dec 08	13 Mar 09	Various	N/A	12 Aug 09 13 Aug 09		
Ageing Workforce – Teachers	9 Dec 08	13 Mar 09	20 Mar 09	2 Apr 09	12 Aug 09		
Departmental Amalgamations	12 Feb 09	6 Apr 09	11 Mar 09	27 Mar 09	N/A	24 Jun 09	
Office of DPP	11 Mar 09	27 Apr 09	30 Apr 09	14 May 09			
Alcohol-related Crime	6 May 09	9 Jun 09	12 Jun 09 24 Jun 09	10 Jul 09			

Bold dates indicate activities undertaken in the 2008-09 financial year.

## Appendix Three – Meeting Attendance

<b>DATE</b>	<b>McLEAY (Chair)</b>	<b>McKAY (Deputy Chair)</b>	<b>KHOSHABA</b>	<b>OAKESHOTT</b>	<b>ROBERTS</b>	<b>TURNER</b>
21/07/08	✓	✓	✓	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓
20/08/08	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
24/09/08	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓	✓
<b>DATE</b>	<b>McLEAY (Chair)</b>	<b>McBride (Deputy Chair)</b>	<b>KHOSHABA</b>	<b>DRAPER</b>	<b>ROBERTS</b>	<b>TURNER</b>
22/10/08	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27/10/08	✓	✓	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓	✓
12/11/08	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26/11/08	✓	✓	✓	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓
09/12/08	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓	✓
12/02/09	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
11/03/09	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25/03/09	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
06/05/09	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13/05/09	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17/06/09	✓	✓	<i>Apology</i>	✓	✓	✓
24/06/09	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Appendix Four – Government Responses

NO	TITLE	TABLED	RESPONSE DUE	RESPONSE RECEIVED	REC'S	REC'S ACCEPTED
2/54	Report on Examination of The Auditor-General's Performance Audits of State Roads; Students with Disabilities; Infectious Diseases; Residential Aged Care; Nurses; Legal Aid; and Young Offenders.	11 Nov 08	11 May 09	18 May 09	6	3
4/54	State Plan Reporting Report	27 Nov 08	27 May 09		15	

## **Appendix Five – Committee Expenses**

Members of the Committee receive an allowance for their service directly from the Legislature. The amount is determined by the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal under the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1989*.

The Chair of the Committee is entitled to an annual salary of office that is equivalent to seven per cent of his/her annual salary as a Member of Parliament, and an expense allowance of a further seven per cent in recognition of the responsibilities of the position. In 2008-09, the Committee Members, other than the Chair, received an allowance of \$3,910 per annum in recognition of their responsibilities.