



20 September 2012

COMMITTEE RELEASES ITS REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF NSW AGENCIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Public Accounts Committee of the 55th Parliament is pleased to release its latest report on the examination of Auditor-General performance audit reports, the Committee's Chair, Mr Jonathan O'Dea MP, announced today.

The Committee exercises the Parliament's review powers to hold the NSW Government to account for its use of public resources by following up on recommendations in the NSW Auditor-General's reports to Parliament.

This report examines eight audits and makes 10 recommendations, which are designed to improve the performance of government agencies. Recommendations made relate to a wide range of policy and operational issues such as:

- improving electronic information security to prevent identity theft,
- enhancing operational systems to improve the delivery of mental health services in NSW,
- improving reporting mechanisms for pollution incidents in NSW.

"The Committee has made a number of specific recommendations about what needs to be done. For example, the Committee wants to ensure that the Government's new Information Technology Strategy includes proper standards to ensure that electronic information is secure and mechanisms to make agencies accountable for security," said Mr O'Dea.

"The Committee has also recommended that Corrective Services NSW conduct a review of the effectiveness of the monitoring anklets worn by home detainees."

"The NSW public sector plays a crucial role in delivering services to the people of our state. Therefore, it is imperative to ensure that the NSW public service is efficient, effective and accountable, and provides what the people of NSW deserve – the best. The PAC is a vital tool to achieve this aim," Mr O'Dea concluded.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the Committee website at <http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/publicaccounts> or by contacting Mr Jonathan O'Dea, Chairman, on 0418 241 500.

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