



## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

That notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders:

### **Appointment**

1. A Public Works Committee be appointed.

### **Functions**

2. The committee may inquire into and report on all public works to be executed (including works that are continuations, completions, repairs, reconstructions, extensions, or new works) where the estimated cost of completing such works exceeds \$10 million.
3. In examining such works the committee is to consider:
  - (a) the stated purpose of the work and the need to carry it out,
  - (b) the current and prospective public value of such work,
  - (c) the amount of revenue the work is expected to produce, where the purpose of the work is to increase revenue,
  - (d) the timeframe for carrying out the work, and
  - (e) any other related matter.
4. The committee is to inquire into future arrangements for the ongoing scrutiny by the Legislative Council of the matters set out in paragraphs 2 and 3.

### **Referral of inquiries**

5. The committee is to inquire into and report on any matter referred to the committee by resolution of the House.
6. A committee meeting to consider a self-reference may be convened at the request of any three committee members in writing to the Committee Clerk.
7. The Committee Clerk must convene a meeting within seven days of the receipt of the request, providing that members are given at least 24 hours' notice.
8. A majority of committee members is required to adopt the self-reference. The terms of reference are to be reported to the House on the next sitting day.

## **Membership**

9. The committee is to consist of seven members comprising:
- (a) three government members,
  - (b) two opposition members, and
  - (c) two crossbench members, one of whom shall be from The Greens.

## **Chair**

10. That the Chair of the committee be the Hon Robert Brown MLC.

## **Substitute members**

11. Members may be appointed to the committee as substitute members for any matter before the committee by providing notice in writing to the Committee Clerk, with nominations made as follows:
- (a) nominations for substitute government or opposition members are to be made by the Leader of the Government, Leader of the Opposition, Government or Opposition Whip or Deputy Whip, as applicable, and
  - (b) nominations for substitute crossbench members are to be made by the substantive member or another crossbench member.

## **Electronic participation in deliberative meetings**

12. A committee member who is unable to attend a deliberative meeting in person may participate by electronic communication and may move any motion and be counted for the purpose of any quorum or division, provided that:
- (a) the Chair is present in the meeting room,
  - (b) all members are able to speak and hear each other at all times, and
  - (c) members may not participate by electronic communication in a meeting to consider a draft report.

## **Conduct of committee proceedings**

13. Unless the committee decides otherwise:
- (a) submissions to inquiries are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration,
  - (b) the Chair's proposed witness list is to be circulated to provide members with an opportunity to amend the list, with the witness list agreed to by email, unless a member requests the Chair to convene a meeting to resolve any disagreement,
  - (c) the sequence of questions to be asked at hearings is to alternate between opposition, crossbench and government members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each,

- (d) transcripts of evidence taken at public hearings are to be published,
- (e) supplementary questions are to be lodged with the Committee Clerk within two days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, following the receipt of the hearing transcript, with witnesses requested to return answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions within 21 calendar days of the date on which questions are forwarded to the witness, and
- (f) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration.