

WORKING PARTIES, TERMS OF REFERENCE, BUDGETS, MEMBERSHIP AND REPORTS

1562. Mr Graham to the Minister for Community Development, Women's Interests, Seniors and Youth; Disability Services; Culture and the Arts

Since 10 Feb 2001 -

- (a) how many working parties chaired by Members of Parliament have been instigated in the Minister's areas of portfolio responsibility;
- (b) what are the terms of reference of each working party;
- (c) does each working party have its own budget;
- (d) if the answer to (c) is yes, how much is the budget for each working party;
- (e) if the answer to (c) is no, how are the costs of each working party being met, and what is the cost of each working party;
- (f) on what date is each working party required to report;
- (g) who is the chair of each working party;
- (h) are any other Members of Parliament involved with the working party;
- (i) if the answer to (h) is yes which particular members are involved;
- (j) will the reports of each working party be made public;
- (k) if the answer to (j) is yes, how will each inquiry report be released to the public; and
- (l) if the answer to (j) is no, what are the reasons for not releasing the reports of each working party?

Ms McHALE replied:

Disability Services Commission:

- (a) One
- (b) TERMS OF REFERENCE: REVIEW STEERING COMMITTEE
 1. To develop and agree a minimum framework for consultation for the review. This framework will apply to the three working groups.
 2. In as far as it is possible, to co-ordinate the consultation processes for the three working groups.
 3. To oversee the three working groups, and receive their reports.
 4. To compile a final report to the Minister, ensuring that the recommendations for the three areas under review are consistent.
 5. To brief the field.
 6. To co-ordinate the review of the Disability Services Act 1993 in line with outcomes from the Machinery of Government review.
 7. To review Part 1 (Preliminary – sections 1 – 5) of the Disability Services Act 1993.
 8. To determine how governance issues, reporting relationships and advisory mechanisms can best be addressed (consistent with Machinery of Government outcomes) while optimising opportunities for input from consumers.
 9. To ensure that the existing opportunities in the current legislation for the disability community's involvement in the directions of the Disability Services Commission are strengthened.
- (c) No
- (d) N/A
- (e) Costs are being met through a single Disability Service Commission cost centre. The final costs are likely to be known at the completion of the review in July. Commission staff are providing support to the Steering Committee as part of normal duties. The major portion of the budget is being expended to ensure a full and inclusive consultation with stakeholders.

- (f) The Steering Committee will report to the Minister by July 2002.
- (g) Hon. Sue Ellery, MLC
- (h) No
- (i) N/A
- (j) Yes
- (k) To be determined
- (l) N/A

Culture and the Arts:

- (a) None
- (b)-(l) N/A

Community Development, Women's Interests, Seniors and Youth:

- (a) Two;
- (b) The terms of reference for the Western Australian Volunteering Reference Group, are provided below.

Develop a compact/agreement that will provide a framework for effective cooperation between the Western Australian Government and the voluntary sector. It will support the value of volunteers and encourage volunteering in Western Australia now and into the future.

In developing the compact/agreement, the Reference Group will:

1. Examine other existing compacts/agreements between governments and voluntary sectors in Australia and overseas to identify key success factors that may be suitable for Western Australia.
2. Identify appropriate elements/issues/key stakeholder input for inclusion in the compact/agreement.
3. Develop a compact/agreement, including the key issues to be addressed. Present this to the Minister for Volunteering.
4. Disseminate for public comment.
5. Present the final compact/agreement to the Minister for Volunteering for endorsement before December 2002.

The terms of reference for the Carers Act working party are:

develop a broad policy framework to underpin government's response and commitment to carers;

review existing State legislation and how it impacts upon carers;

review national and international legislation that impacts upon carers;

identify and recommend the scope of the proposed Carers Act; and

provide drafting instructions to Parliamentary Counsel and oversee development of a draft bill.

- (c) No for both working groups
- (d) N/A
- (e) The costs associated with the working groups are to be met from within the Department for Community Development budget allocation. There has been no expenditure to date.
- (f) N/A
- (g) Mr David Templeman MLA is chairing the Volunteering Reference Group and the Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich MLC is chairing the Carers Act working party.
- (h) No for both working groups.
- (i) N/A
- (j) Yes

- (k) The Volunteer Compact will be publicly launched and copies will be available from the Department for Community Development. The proposed Carers Act will be made public when the Bill is tabled in Parliament. Both documents will be preceded by draft documents being made available for public discussion and input.
- (l) N/A