



***Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for
Children and Young People***

Minutes No. 30 dated 10 March 2010
to
Minutes No. 51 dated 14 December 2010



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 51

Tuesday 14 December 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 3:35pm at Room 1, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 50 dated 24 November 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 22 November 2010 confirming the current budget of her office and proposed budget for 2011-12.

Noted.

- 3.2 Letter from Dr M.D. Nahan, MLA, Chair, Economics and Industry Standing Committee, dated 1 December 2010 advising of that Committee's new Inquiry into the Franchising Bill 2010.

Noted.

- 3.3 Email from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 2 December 2010 providing the latest Commissioner's Update quarterly newsletter.

Noted.

4 Business

- 4.1 Briefing/ meeting

His Honour Judge Denis Reynolds, President, Children's Court of Western Australia briefed the Committee from 3:55pm to 5:07pm.

- 4.2 Commissioner for Children and Young People budget for 2011-12

The Committee reviewed the draft letter supplied.

Resolved, that the letter (as drafted) be forwarded to the Treasurer.

- 4.3 Potential investigative travel in 2011

The Committee referred to the briefing paper supplied.

Resolved,

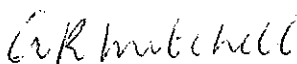
- (1) That Members review the briefing paper in detail with a view to discussing the matter further at the Committee's next meeting; and
- (2) That in the interim, Members advise the Committee Secretariat of any additional suggestions concerning potential briefings and/or travel arrangements.

- 4.4 Committee's work program

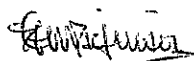
The Committee **noted** the updated work program.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm until 9:00am on Wednesday 16 February 2011.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



***Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for
Children and Young People***

MINUTES

Meeting No. 50

Wednesday 24 November 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:05am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 49 dated 17 November 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

Nil.

4 Business

4.1 Functions and Powers of the Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People - adoption of report

Resolved,

- (1) That the report be adopted with amendments as per the attached schedule;
- (2) That the Committee Secretariat may make final the report for tabling including correcting any minor spelling, grammatical, and formatting errors;
- (3) That the report be tabled in both Houses on 25 November 2010.

4.2 Commissioner for Children and Young People budget for 2011-12

The Committee **noted** the meeting summary provided.

4.3 Committee's work program

The Committee **noted** the updated work program.

5 General Business

5.1 Outgoing correspondence

The Committee **noted** the following outgoing correspondence:

Letter dated 17 November 2010 to Professor Fiona Stanley AC requesting a meeting in early 2011.

Resolved, that the template for future meeting requests be amended so as not to preclude the opportunity for closed hearings.

5.2 Acknowledgements

The Chairman thanked Committee Members and staff for their contributions this year.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am until 3:30pm on Tuesday 14 December 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

Report 5, 2010 - Schedule of adoption as per Meeting No. 50 on 24 November 2010:

| Reference ¹ | Action |
|------------------------|--|
| p1 text | Insert new words in first sentence of Chapter 1.2 to read 'and ensure the independence'. |
| p2 text | Adopted with revised wording: 'The purpose of this report is to review and refine the Committee's functions and powers in light of the time that has elapsed since the Committee was established'. |
| Executive Summary, pxi | Updated to reflect above change. |
| p4 text | Adopted with revised wording: 'The Commissioner has grown her role within the extensive functions provided in the Act since the Commissioner was appointed in late 2007. This has likewise been reflected in the development of the Committee's activities since its establishment'. |
| p4 text (Chapter 2.2) | Insert new sentence: 'That said, compared to the scope of the Commissioner's functions, the Committee has a comparatively narrow function'. |
| p6 text | Adopted with revised wording: 'Since 2001 two Legislative Council committees have conducted inquiries into matters specifically relating to children and young people...' |
| p6 footnote | Insert new footnote to explain that historical search extends back only to 2001 due to accessibility of records. |
| Finding 1, p9 | Adopted |
| Finding 2, p10 | Adopted |
| Recommendation 1, p11 | Adopted |
| Recommendation 2, p12 | Adopted |

¹ References (page number, Finding/Recommendation number) are to the Adoption Meeting copy of the report.



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 49

Wednesday 17 November 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 8:40am at Room 4, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 48 dated 10 November 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

Nil.

4 Business

4.1 Commissioner for Children and Young People budget for 2011-12

Ms Michelle Scott (Commissioner for Children and Young People) and Ms Caron Irwin (Executive Director, Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People) briefed the Committee from 8:46am to 9:30am.

4.2 Consideration of the Committee's terms of reference

The Committee considered the draft report.

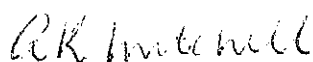
Resolved, that Members review the draft report in detail with a view to adopting the report at the next meeting and tabling in both Houses on Thursday 25 November 2010.

4.3 Committee's work program

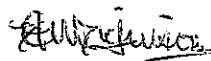
The Committee **noted** the updated work program.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52am until 9:00am on Wednesday 24 November 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 48

Wednesday 10 November 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:04am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 47 dated 20 October 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Mr Glen Clarke, Acting Auditor General, dated 15 October 2010 providing a quarterly update on the progress of current performance examinations.

Resolved, that the Principal Research Officer notifies the Committee regarding tabling of the Auditor General's report on Child Health Screening and provides details of the post-tabling briefing conducted by the Auditor General.

4 Business

4.1 Consideration of the Committee's terms of reference

The Committee reviewed the draft outline provided.

Resolved, that a list of Legislative Assembly Standing Committee reports into children and young people (since those Committees were established) and any relevant Legislative Council Committee reports be included in the draft report.

Resolved, that the draft be updated with a view to the report being discussed at the Committee's next meeting.

4.2 Committee's work program

Resolved, that the Commissioner for Children and Young People be requested to provide a detailed breakdown of the proposed 2011-12 budget prior to next week's briefing or, if this is not available, a breakdown of this financial year's budget.

Resolved, that the next quarterly consultation with the Commissioner be organised for end of February/ March 2011.

Resolved,

- (1) That Professor Fiona Stanley be invited to meet with the Committee in February/ March 2011 as part of the Committee's ongoing series of briefings with persons of interest working in the field of children and young people; and
- (2) That the Committee Secretariat investigates other persons working in the fields of education, and families for subsequent briefings.

5 General Business

5.1 Recent developments in policy and research

The Committee **noted** recent developments in policy and research in the UK, New South Wales and the Northern Territory.

Resolved,

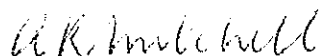
- (1) That Communities NSW be asked to confirm when the report on the review of the NSW *Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998* might be available; and
- (2) That the Committee's Research Officer circulates the link for the recent interview with the Children's Commissioner for the Northern Territory.

5.2 Investigative travel for 2011

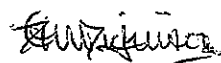
Resolved, that the Committee Secretariat prepares some background information on potential investigative travel to northern Australia in 2011.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52am until 8:30am on Wednesday 17 November 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 47

Wednesday 20 October 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:00am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 46 dated 13 October 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Email from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 12 October 2010 providing the latest Commissioner's update.

Noted.

4 Business

4.1 Consideration of the Committee's terms of reference

The Committee reviewed the table provided.

Resolved,

- (1) That the investigative functions of other bodies such as the Ombudsman and Auditor General are also considered in the review of the Committee's terms of reference; and
- (2) That the Committee Secretariat prepares a report outline reflecting the Committee's deliberations for consideration at the next meeting.

4.2 Budget briefing with the Commissioner for Children and Young People (November)

The Committee reviewed the briefing paper provided.

Resolved, that the Committee Secretariat prepares a table comparing resourcing of children's commissioners and guardians across Australian jurisdictions.

4.3 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved, that a letter be forwarded to the Commissioner for Children and Young People encouraging the Commissioner to circulate copies of the recently published wellbeing research findings to all Parliamentarians.

Resolved, that the examination of the functions of the Commissioner takes the form of an ongoing review with comment to be provided in the form of interim report(s) to Parliament with a view to ultimately informing the statutory review of the *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006* when this occurs.

5 General Business

5.1 Welcome

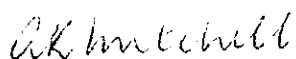
The Committee acknowledged Ms Renée Gould (Research Officer) who will be assisting the Committee until the end of November 2010.

5.2 Scheduling

Resolved, that the Committee's end of year lunch be rescheduled to 12:30pm on Tuesday 14 December 2010.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54am until 9:00am on Wednesday 10 November 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 46

Wednesday 13 October 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 8:35am at the Legislative Assembly Committee Room, Level 1, Parliament House.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 45 dated 22 September 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 4 October 2010 providing copies of the Annual Report 2009-10 and Report to the Community.

Noted.

- 3.2 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 11 October 2010 providing a response to matters raised by the Attorney General in relation to the Commissioner's Annual Report 2009-10.

Noted.

4 Business

- 4.1 Review of the 2009-10 Annual Report of the Commissioner for Children and Young People

Hearing

Commissioner for Children and Young People WA

Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People; and Ms Caron Irwin, Executive Director, Office of the CCYP appeared before the Committee at 8:39am to give evidence. At 9:44am the witnesses retired.

- 4.2 Consideration of the Committee's terms of reference

Resolved, to consider the matter further at the next meeting.

- 4.3 Committee's work program

The Committee **noted** the updated work program.

5 General Business

- 5.1 Commissioner for a Day winner - meeting with Committee

Resolved, that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman advise the Principal Research Officer of their availability to meet with the winner on Thursday 28 October 2010.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am until 9:00am on Wednesday 20 October 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



*Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for
Children and Young People*

MINUTES

Meeting No. 45

Wednesday 22 September 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:20am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 44 dated 15 September 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

N/A

4 Business

4.1 Consideration of the Committee's terms of reference

The Committee reviewed the Hansard excerpts supplied.

Resolved,

- (1) That the table comparing jurisdictions with Children's Commissioners and/or oversight committees and/or children's committees be made ready for the Committee's consideration at the next meeting; and
- (2) That the Committee prepares a short report on the matter of its terms of reference with a view to tabling in Parliament by 25 November 2010.

4.2 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the work program.

Resolved,

- (1) That the Principal Research Officer circulates copies of the Commissioner's Annual Report 2009-2010 when available;
- (2) That the Principal Research Officer circulates copies of suggested questions for the upcoming hearing with the Commissioner for Members' comment prior to the hearing; and
- (3) That suggested questions, once finalised, may be forwarded to the Commissioner for Children and Young People before the public hearing on 13 October 2010.

Resolved, that the Committee's meeting with the President of the Children's Court of WA be scheduled for Tuesday 14 December 2010 at 3:30pm.

5 General Business

5.1 Outgoing correspondence

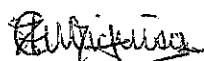
The Committee **noted** the outgoing correspondence.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:51am until 8:30am on Wednesday 13 October 2010.



MR M.P. WHITELEY, MLA
A/CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 44

Wednesday 15 September 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:00am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 43 dated 8 September 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Ms Audrey Barber, General Manager, Office of the New Zealand Children's Commissioner, dated 6 September 2010 providing information further to the meeting with the Committee in Wellington on 25 August 2010.

Resolved, that Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA may speak about the information outside of the Committee.

- 3.2 Email from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 13 September 2010 regarding nominations for advisory committees for 2011.

Noted.

4 Business

4.1 JSCCCYP Annual Report 2009-2010

The Committee reviewed the draft Annual Report.

Resolved,

- (1) That the report be adopted with minor amendments;
- (2) That the report be tabled in both Houses on 16 September 2010; and
- (3) That the Principal Research Officer may make minor corrections to formatting and grammar when finalising the report for tabling.

4.2 Investigative travel to Melbourne and Wellington - outcomes of travel

The Committee **noted** the meeting summaries provided.

4.3 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved, that copies of Hansard pertaining to the Committee's terms of reference be made available for consideration at the next meeting.

Resolved, that the Committee's meeting with the President of the Children's Court of WA be scheduled for Monday 13 December 2010 if possible.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am until 9:00am on Wednesday 22 September 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



***Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for
Children and Young People***

MINUTES

Meeting No. 43

Wednesday 8 September 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:02am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 38 dated 18 August 2010, Minutes No. 39 dated 23 August 2010, Minutes No. 40 dated 24 August 2010, Minutes No. 41 dated 25 August 2010, and Minutes No. 42 dated 26 August 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Memorandum from Hon Grant Woodhams, MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, dated 18 August 2010 regarding the new capacity to broadcast committee proceedings.

Resolved, that the Committee makes use of broadcast facilities at its next public hearing with the Children's Commissioner on 13 October 2010.

- 3.2 Email from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 18 August 2010 regarding the latest Commissioner's Update.

Noted.

4 Business

- 4.1 Investigative travel to Melbourne and Wellington - outcomes of travel

Resolved, that letters of thanks from the Chairman on behalf of the Committee be forwarded to all parties who met with the Committee in Melbourne and Wellington.

- 4.2 JSCCCYP Annual Report 2009-2010

Resolved,

- (1) That Members advise the Principal Research Officer of any amendments to the draft Annual Report before the next meeting; and
- (2) That adoption of the draft Annual Report occurs at the next meeting with a view to tabling on Thursday 16 September 2010.

- 4.3 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved,

- (1) That the Principal Research Officer prepares a flow chart showing the responsibility of various state government agencies for the wellbeing of children and young people in WA;
- (2) That the Principal Research Officer prepares a table examining jurisdictions with Children's Commissioners and/or oversight committees and/or children's committees.

5 General Business

5.1 Disclosures

Mr M.W. Whitely, MLA and Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC advised that they would be making submissions to the Commissioner's Mental Health Inquiry in a private capacity.


Noted.

5.2 Scheduling

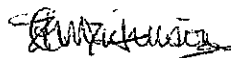
Resolved, that the Committee conducts its end of year lunch at midday on Monday 29 November 2010.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54am until 9:00am on Wednesday 15 September 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 42

Thursday 26 August 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:05am at Level 1, Charles Fergusson West Block, Bowen Street, Wellington.

2 Minutes

Deferred.

3 Correspondence

Deferred.

4 Business

4.1 Examining the exercise of the functions of the CCYP

Briefing/Meeting

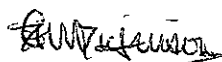
Mr Carl Crafar (General Manager, Ministry of Youth Development), Mr Holden Hohaia (General Manager, Child, Family and Community Policy, Ministry of Social Development), Ms Dianne Rogers (Older People's and International Policy, Ministry of Social Development), Ms Dorothy Adams (Manager Research and Evaluation, Centre for Social Research and Evaluation, Ministry of Social Development) and Mr Peter Carr (Policy Manager, Ministry of Youth Development) briefed the Committee from 9:05am to 10:15am.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15am until 9:00am on Wednesday 8 September 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



*Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for
Children and Young People*

MINUTES

Meeting No. 41

Wednesday 25 August 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 1:05pm at Level 5, 117-125 Lambton Quay, Wellington, New Zealand.

2 Minutes

Deferred.

3 Correspondence

Deferred.

4 Business

4.1 Examining the exercise of the functions of the CCYP

Briefing/Meeting

Dr John Angus, Children's Commissioner for New Zealand, and Ms Audrey Barber, General Manager, Office of the Children's Commissioner for New Zealand briefed the Committee from 1:05pm to 2:35pm.

[The meeting was suspended at 2:35pm]

[The meeting resumed at 3:05pm at 85-87 Ghuznee Street, Wellington]

4.2 Examining the exercise of the functions of the CCYP

Briefing/Meeting

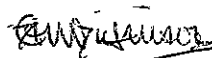
Mr Murray Edridge (Chief Executive, Barnardos NZ and Chairperson, Every Child Counts), Ms Cathy Kern (Policy Analyst, Royal NZ Plunket Society), Ms Barbara Lambourn (Advocacy Manager, UNICEF NZ), and Ms Megan Payne (Advocacy Advisor, Barnardos NZ) briefed the Committee from 3:05pm to 4:15pm.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm until 9:00am on Thursday 26 August 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



***Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for
Children and Young People***

MINUTES

Meeting No. 40

Tuesday 24 August 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 10:30am at Level 1, 2 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

2 Minutes

Deferred.

3 Correspondence

Deferred.

4 Business

4.1 Examining the exercise of the functions of the CCYP

Briefing/Meeting

Professor Peter Dawkins (Secretary), Mr Paul Linossier (A/Deputy Secretary, Office for Children and Portfolio Coordination), and Ms Joyce Cleary (Manager, Outcomes for Children and Young People), Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Victoria briefed the Committee from 10:30am to 11:56am.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm until 1:00pm on Wednesday 25 August 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 39

Monday 23 August 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 4:15pm at Level 20, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

2 Minutes

Deferred.

3 Correspondence

Deferred.

4 Business

4.1 Examining the exercise of the functions of the CCYP

Briefing/Meeting

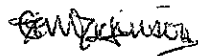
Mr Bernie Geary OAM, Child Safety Commissioner for Victoria briefed the Committee from 4:15pm to 5:30pm.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32pm until 10:30am on Tuesday 24 August 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 38

Wednesday 18 August 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:00am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 37 dated 11 August 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 21 July 2010 responding to the Committee's referral of correspondence from Mrs Kerry Doherty.

Noted.

- 3.2 Letter (received by email) from Mr Carl Crafar, General Manager, Ministry of Youth Development, dated 5 August 2010 confirming a meeting with the Committee in Wellington on 26 August 2010.

Noted.

- 3.3 Email received from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 12 August 2010 advising of an upcoming information session in relation to the Commissioner's mental health inquiry.

Resolved, that the advice be filed for later consideration as part of the Committee's examination of the Commissioner's inquiry report.

4 Business

4.1 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved,

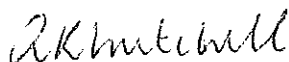
- (1) That the Committee meets with the Commissioner on 17 November 2010 to discuss the Commissioner's proposed 2011/12 budget;
- (2) That the Committee gives further consideration to hosting another briefing session for all Members on the role and functions of the Commissioner for Children and Young People in early 2011.

4.2 Investigative travel to Melbourne and Wellington

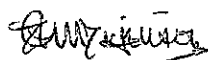
The Committee **noted** the updated itinerary and travel related documentation.

5 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am until 4:00pm on Monday 23 August 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 37

Wednesday 11 August 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:03am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 36 dated 23 June 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Hon Christian Porter, MLA, Attorney General, dated 22 June 2010 acknowledging receipt of the Committee's *Review of the 2008-2009 Annual Report of the Commissioner for Children and Young People*.

Resolved, that the response be uploaded to the Committee's website.

- 3.2 Letter from Dr John Angus, Children's Commissioner for New Zealand, dated 30 June 2010 confirming a meeting with the Committee in Wellington on 25 August 2010.

Noted.

- 3.3 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 5 July 2010 providing further information on the Australian Government's consultation on an R18+ classification for computer games.

Noted.

- 3.4 Letter from Mr Glen Clarke, Acting Auditor General, dated 6 July 2010 providing a quarterly update on the progress of current performance examinations.

Noted.

- 3.5 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 21 July 2010 responding to the Committee's referral of correspondence from Mrs Kerry Doherty.

Noted.

- 3.6 Letter from Professor Peter Dawkins, Secretary, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, dated 30 July 2010 confirming a meeting with the Committee in Melbourne on 24 August 2010.

Noted.

- 3.7 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 4 August 2010 providing further information on her recently initiated Inquiry into the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Resolved, that the Committee maintains a watching brief on the Commissioner's mental health inquiry with a view to examining and reporting to Parliament on the outcomes once the Commissioner reports in 2011.

4 Business

4.1 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved,

- (1) That a letter be sent to the Commissioner for Children and Young People to advise the outcome of the *Child Pornography and Exploitation Material and Classification Legislation Amendment Bill 2009* and thank her for her input;
- (2) That the Committee reports the outcomes of its investigative travel (in the context of examining the functions of the Commissioner) before the end of the year depending on the outcomes of travel;

- (3) That the Committee's Annual Report flags the examination of the functions of the Commissioner as one of its works in progress;
- (4) That the next hearing with the Commissioner on 13 October 2010 be used to discuss the Commissioner's 2009-2010 Annual Report in addition to a regular update; and
- (5) That the Committee writes to His Honour Judge Denis Reynolds, President of the Children's Court of WA with an invitation to brief the Committee before the end of the year if available.

4.2 Investigative travel to Melbourne and Wellington

The Committee **noted** the draft itinerary.

5 General Business

5.1 Recent developments in research and policy - selection of extracts

The Committee **noted** the extracts supplied.

5.2 Chairman's Report - overseas travel

The Chairman provided a brief verbal report of her meetings with the Children's Commissioner for England and Greater London Authority during recent overseas travel.

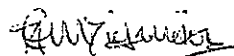
Noted.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43am until 9:00am on Wednesday 18 August 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 36

Wednesday 23 June 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 8:30am at Room 2, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 35 dated 26 May 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 4 June 2010 responding to the Committee's request for feedback on the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department's Discussion Paper regarding an R18+ classification category for video games.

Resolved, that a response be sent to the Commissioner to query whether Australian Commissioners and Guardians will provide any further input on the matter given the release of the status report.

- 3.2 Email from Ms Kate Forrester, student, Presbyterian Ladies College, dated 10 June 2010 requesting information about the Committee.

Resolved, that the Principal Research Officer responds with information about the Committee.

- 3.3 Letter from Hon Robyn McSweeney, MLC, Minister for Child Protection, dated 14 June 2010 responding to the Committee's request for information on the statutory review of the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004*.

Noted.

- 3.4 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 15 June 2010 advising of an inquiry to be initiated under Section 19(f) of the *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006* into the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.

Noted.

- 3.5 Email from Mrs Kerry Doherty, dated 16 June 2010 highlighting early intervention deficiencies in the Rockingham/Kwinana area.

Resolved, that the correspondence be forwarded to the Commissioner for Children and Young People and a response sent to Mrs Doherty to advise.

- 3.6 Letter from Mr Peter McHugh, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, dated 16 June 2010 advising that approval has been given for the Committee to undertake investigative travel to Melbourne and Wellington in August 2010.

Noted.

4 Business

- 4.1 Examining the functions of the Commissioner for Children and Young People/ Regular Quarterly Consultation with the Commissioner

Public Hearing

Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, and Ms Caron Irwin, Executive Director, Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People, appeared before the Committee at 8:33am to give evidence. At 9:30am the witnesses retired.

- 4.2 Committee's work program

The Committee **noted** the updated work program.

4.3 Investigative travel to Melbourne and Wellington

The Committee **noted** the draft itinerary.

5 General Business

5.1 Visit to Parliament by Roseworth Primary School (23 June 2010)

The Committee **noted** the visit taking place later today.

5.2 Meetings with Commissioner for Children and Young People Award Winners

The Committee **noted** the update provided on Awards sponsored by the Children's Commissioner.

5.3 Chairman's Update

The Chairman advised that she would be meeting with the new Children's Commissioner for England and the Greater London Authority during upcoming private travel to London.

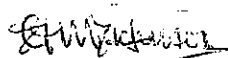
Noted.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52am until 9:00am on Wednesday 11 August 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 35

Wednesday 26 May 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:02am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 34 dated 19 May 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Email from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 21 May 2010 regarding the Commissioner's Update (May 2010).

Noted.

- 3.2 Email from Ms Linda Fuller, Executive Assistant, Office of the Children's Commissioner New Zealand, dated 25 May 2010 providing information about the Commissioner's availability and other relevant stakeholders the Committee might wish to consider.

Considered under Item of Business 4.3.

4 Business

4.1 Examining the functions of the Commissioner for Children and Young People

The Committee **noted** the briefing papers supplied and considered the sample questions.

Resolved,

- (1) That the Principal Research Officer revises the questions to reflect the Committee's deliberations for review at the next meeting; and
- (2) That following review of the questions, the Principal Research Officer may forward a copy to the Commissioner for Children and Young People prior to the hearing.

4.2 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved, that the Principal Research Officer follows up with the Commissioner for Children and Young People regarding the next quarterly consultation with September being the preferred month.

4.3 Potential investigative travel

The Committee reviewed the sample itinerary and stakeholder list.

Resolved,

- (1) That the Committee seeks funding approval from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly for the purpose of undertaking investigative travel to Melbourne and Wellington;
- (2) That subject to funding approval, arrangements for the trip be progressed by the Principal Research Officer with a view to travel occurring between Monday 23 August and Thursday 26 August 2010; and
- (3) That the Principal Research Officer circulates travel dates to Committee Members.


5 General Business

5.1 ICCWA Free Lunchtime Forum - 3 June 2010

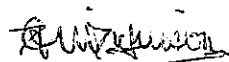
The Committee **noted** the details of the upcoming seminar.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am until 9:00am on Wednesday 16 June 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 34

Wednesday 19 May 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:02am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 33 dated 5 May 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Hon John Kobelke, MLA, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, dated 12 May 2010 advising of that Committee's new Inquiry into Government Payments to Ms Tirzah Bell.

Noted.

- 3.2 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 15 May 2010 providing a copy of recently released guidelines to assist government agencies assess draft legislation from the perspective of children and young people's wellbeing.

Resolved, that Members review the guidelines with a view to discussing further with the Commissioner at the next scheduled hearing.

4 Business

4.1 Examining the functions of the Commissioner for Children and Young People

The Committee reviewed the briefing paper supplied.

Resolved,

- (1) That the Principal Research Officer drafts questions for the hearing with the Commissioner to reflect the Committee's deliberations;
- (2) That the draft questions be reviewed by the Committee prior to the hearing on 23 June 2010; and
- (3) That the Principal Research Officer scans media statements and articles from 2010 for major issues relevant to the wellbeing of children and young people and presents these for consideration by the Committee at the next meeting.

4.2 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved, that notwithstanding advice from the Office of the Minister for Child Protection, the letter from the Committee requesting clarification about the statutory review of the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004* should proceed.

Resolved, that the next hearing in the series of regular quarterly consultations with the Children's Commissioner be organised for mid-September 2010.

Resolved, that the Principal Research Officer follows up the availability of the New Zealand Children's Commissioner and reports back to the Committee at the next meeting.

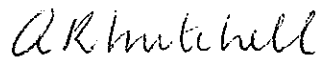
5 General Business

5.1 Hosting of Roseworth Primary School students and teachers

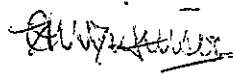
The Committee **noted** that the visit to Parliament by Roseworth Primary School students and teachers will take place on Wednesday 23 June 2010.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54am until 9:00am on Wednesday 26 May 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 33

Wednesday 5 May 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:05am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 32 dated 21 April 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Dr M.D. Nahan, MLA, Chair, Economics and Industry Standing Committee, dated 30 April 2010 regarding that Committee's new Inquiry into Domestic Gas Prices.

Noted.

4 Business

4.1 R18+ classification category for video games - referral to CCYP

The Committee considered the abovementioned matter which is subject to deliberation by Censorship Ministers.

Resolved, that the Committee writes to the Commissioner for Children and Young People in accordance with Section 19(1) of the *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006* to query whether the Commissioner has had an input in the recent nation-wide consultation on the matter.

4.2 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the updated work program.

Resolved, that the Committee writes to the Minister for Child Protection to query the timeframe of the statutory review of the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004*.

Resolved, that public hearings should be conducted with relevant persons working in the field of children and young people in order to better inform the Committee's review of the exercise of the Commissioner's functions, and where possible hearings should be scheduled monthly.

5 General Business

5.1 Hosting of Roseworth Primary School students and teachers

Resolved, that notwithstanding the Committee's resolution of 21 April 2010 to schedule a visit by Roseworth students/teachers in May 2010 that the visit be scheduled instead for either Wednesday 16 June or Wednesday 23 June 2010.

5.2 Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) Conference (Melbourne July 2010)

The Committee **noted** the conference program supplied.

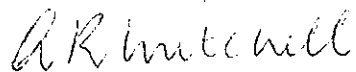
5.3 Potential investigative travel

The Committee discussed options for investigative travel in the second half of 2010.

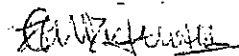
Resolved, that the Principal Research Officer conducts preliminary research into the availability of the New Zealand Children's Commissioner and other relevant/suitable persons between August and October 2010.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48am until 9:00am on Wednesday 19 May 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 32

Wednesday 21 April 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:07am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 31 dated 24 March 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 1 April 2010 providing notification of Annual Leave.

Noted.

- 3.2 Email from Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 14 April 2010 regarding release of an Issues Paper on youth justice.

Noted.

4 Business

- 4.1 Review of the 2008-2009 Annual Report of the Commissioner for Children and Young People - adoption of report

Resolved,

- (1) That all amendments to the draft made since 24 March 2010 and highlighted in track changes mode on Attachment 1 of Agenda 32 be accepted;
- (2) That the report be adopted subject to the further amendments listed in the appended Schedule;
- (3) That the Principal Research Officer makes final the report in preparation for tabling including correcting any minor spelling, grammatical, and formatting errors; and
- (4) That the adopted report be tabled in both Houses on 22 April 2010.

- 4.2 Committee's work program

Noted.

5 General Business

- 5.1 Hosting of Roseworth Primary School students and teachers

The Committee reviewed alternative dates for the student/teacher visit provided by the Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People.

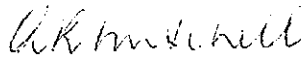
Resolved, that if possible the visit be scheduled to take place before 2pm on either Wednesday 19 May or Wednesday 26 May 2010.

- 5.2 Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) Conference (Melbourne July 2010)

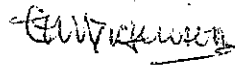
Resolved, that further consideration of the conference be deferred until a copy of the program is available.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am until 9:00am on Wednesday 5 May 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

Schedule of Amendments to Report 3, 2010 adopted by the Committee on 21 April 2010:

| Page | Amendment |
|------|---|
| 11 | Substituting 'Attorney General' for 'state government' in Recommendation 1 |
| 11 | Rewording of Recommendation 1 to read 'If the statutory review into the <i>Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004</i> recommends (as previously recommended by this Committee) that Working with Children Checks remain with the Department for Child Protection, then the Attorney General should pursue necessary amendments to the <i>Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006</i> ' |
| 23 | Replacing 'worthwhile' with 'appropriate' in Finding 2 |
| 23 | Adding the words 'to investigate and advocate' and 'access' to Finding 2 so that it now reads 'It is an appropriate exercise of the Commissioner's functions to investigate and advocate in relation to the issues alcohol restrictions, services in regional and remote communities, and access to activities for children and young people' |
| 25 | Replacing 'development' with 'application' in the first dot point on p25 |
| | |
| Page | Subsequent amendment made by the PRO with the authorisation of the Committee |
| xii | Rewording of the last sentence of the first paragraph to reflect the amended Recommendation 1 so that it now reads, '...Attorney General should pursue the necessary amendments to the <i>Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2006</i> as a priority if the statutory review concludes that the checks should remain with the Department for Child Protection.' |



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 31

Wednesday 24 March 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 9:02am at Room 3, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 30 dated 10 March 2010 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Dr Mike Nahan, MLA, Chair, Economics and Industry Standing Committee, dated 17 March 2010 regarding that Committee's new Inquiry into the Department of Environment and Conservation's Management of Former Pastoral Leases.

Noted.

- 3.2 Email from Ms Liz Wane, Media Advisor, Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 22 March 2010 providing further information on the two awards being sponsored by the Commissioner in 2010.

Resolved, that the Committee will meet with both the Celebrate WA winner and the Participate Youth Award winner in August/September 2010.

4 Business

- 4.1 Review of the 2008-2009 Annual Report of the Commissioner for Children and Young People

The Committee reviewed the draft report.

Resolved,

- (1) That the draft report be updated to include the changes discussed with a view to adopting the report at the next meeting; and
 - (2) That the Principal Research Officer circulates the updated draft to Committee Members for review prior to the adoption meeting.
- 4.2 Consideration of the Committee's work program for 2010

The Committee reviewed the work program.

Resolved,

- (1) That a priority for 2010 should be an examination of the functions of the Commissioner for Children and Young People; and
- (2) To provide some background, the Principal Research Officer should prepare a briefing paper on the functions and approaches of comparable independent commissioners in Western Australia and elsewhere (where relevant) for the Committee's consideration.

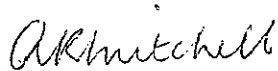
5 General Business

- 5.1 Hosting of Roseworth Primary School students and teachers

Resolved, that the Committee hosts a group of students and teachers from Roseworth Primary School at Parliament House on Monday 19 April 2010 and plans be made to this effect.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55am until 9:00am on Wednesday 21 April 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER



Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People

MINUTES

Meeting No. 30

Wednesday 10 March 2010

Present: Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA (Chairman)
Mr M.P. Whitely, MLA (Deputy Chairman)
Hon H.H. Bullock, MLC
Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC

Apologies: N/A

1 Meeting of the Committee

The Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People met at 8:30am at Room 1, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.

2 Minutes

Minutes No. 29 dated 25 November 2009 were confirmed as read.

3 Correspondence

- 3.1 Letter from Hon John Kobelke, MLA, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, dated 26 November 2009 regarding that Committee's new Inquiry into Project Planning and Funding Applications for Major Western Australian Infrastructure Projects.

Noted.

- 3.2 Letter from Hon A.J.G. MacTiernan, MLA, Chair, Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, dated 7 December 2009 regarding that Committee's new Inquiry into the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Prisoner Education, Training and Employment Strategies.

Noted.

- 3.3 Letter from Mr Colin Murphy, Auditor General, dated 16 December 2009 providing a quarterly update on the progress of current performance examinations.

Noted.

- 3.4 Letter from Hon Troy Buswell, MLA, Treasurer, dated 22 December 2009 regarding the Committee's recommendation for the 2010-11 budget of the Commissioner for Children and Young People.

Noted.

- 3.5 Letter from Hon Christian Porter, MLA, Attorney General, dated 11 January 2010 regarding responsibility for administering Working with Children Checks.

Resolved, that the Committee maintains a watching brief on the matter of Working with Children Checks and in particular the statutory review of the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004* (WA) which is to occur in 2010.

- 3.6 Email from Ms Liz Wane, Media Advisor, Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People, dated 19 February 2010 regarding opportunities for the Committee to meet with children and young people.

Resolved,

- (1) That the Committee hosts the Roseworth Primary School students and teachers at Parliament House in April 2010; and
- (2) That the Principal Research Officer requests further details from the Commissioner regarding the Youth Award given that it is unlikely the Committee will be able to host finalists at Parliament House on the dates specified.

4 Business

- 4.1 Regular quarterly consultation with the Commissioner for Children and Young People

Public Hearing

Ms Michelle Scott, Commissioner for Children and Young People, and Ms Robin Ho, Manager Policy, Legal and Research, Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People, appeared before the Committee at 8:30am to give evidence. At 9:29am the witnesses retired.

4.2 Review of the 2008-2009 Annual Report of the Commissioner for Children and Young People

Resolved,

- (1) That the Principal Research Officer updates the draft report following the Committee's latest hearing with the Commissioner for Children and Young People;
- (2) That Members review the draft and submit any further comments to the Principal Research Officer before the next meeting; and
- (3) That the Committee considers the updated draft report in detail at the next meeting with a view to ultimately tabling the report by the end of April 2010.

4.3 Chairman's Report - summary of meeting with the Commissioner for Children and Young People (January 2010)

The Committee **noted** the summary provided.

4.4 Committee's work program

The Committee reviewed the work program.

Resolved, that the Committee's work program for the coming year be considered in detail at the next meeting.

Resolved, that the Principal Research Officer arranges the next hearing with the Commissioner (as part of the Committee's regular quarterly consultation) in June 2010.

5 General Business

5.1 Recent national developments in policy and research

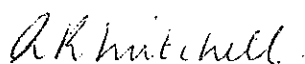
The Committee **noted** the briefing paper supplied.

5.2 Tabling of Committee Minutes

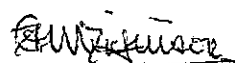
Resolved, that Minutes No. 1 dated 4 December 2008 up to and including Minutes No. 29 dated 25 November 2009 be tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am until 9:00am on Wednesday 24 March 2010.



MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIRMAN



MS DAWN DICKINSON
PRINCIPAL RESEARCH OFFICER