



Hon Barry House MLC

15 June 2016

Hon Ken Travers
Chairman
Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations
Parliament House
Perth WA 6000

Dear Mr Chairman

2016-17 Budget Estimates Hearings – generic questions to agencies

Thank you for your letter dated 31 May 2016 posing generic questions as a part of the 2016-17 Budget Estimates hearings process.

Please find attached the answers to those questions.

Yours sincerely

HON BARRY HOUSE MLC
President of the Legislative Council

A565588

**DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS 2016-17 BUDGET ESTIMATES**

Agency Expenditure Review program

The Department has been unable to adopt any realistic savings measures without the risk of unduly impacting upon parliamentary operations. In practice, appropriate accountability and value for money is always exercised when funds are expended and efficiencies are always sought.

National partnership agreements

The Department does not have any national partnership agreements.

Commonwealth grants

The Department does not have any Commonwealth grants.

10 year Strategic Asset Investment Plans

The Department does not hold any assets. All assets of the Parliament are owned and managed by the Parliamentary Services Department.

Infrastructure requirements

The Department's infrastructure requirements are managed by the Parliamentary Services Department.

Sale of vehicles

The Department does not own any vehicles

Fulltime/contract staff

- 1.16 31 FTE staff for 2016-17
- 1.17 A contract of service (permanent staff) – 94%
 A contract for services (contractors) – 6%
- 1.18 One contract staff member is a part-time receptionist who works limited hours. The other contract staff member is an advisory officer in the second year of a contract. It is the Department's usual practice to employ staff initially on a 1-2 year contract before permanency is granted.
- 1.19 There are no additional costs to the Department in employing staff on a contract basis.
- 1.20 Staff who are employed on contracts are not paid at a different rate to those who are employed on a permanent basis, in a similar role.

Media monitoring

Media monitoring services are provided to the Department free of charge by the Parliamentary Services Department.