



Government of Western Australia
Department of Treasury

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Our ref : (
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Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA
Committee Chair
Public Accounts Committee
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Dear Dr Buti

**INQUIRY INTO THE MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF THE PERTH
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PROJECT**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Public Accounts Committee's inquiry into the Perth Children's Hospital project. I have attached my response to your question 1 (as emailed on 29 June 2017).

A submission addressing the Committee's terms of reference, as well as responses to your questions 2 to 14, will be provided by the Department of Finance – given responsibility for Strategic Projects transferred to the Department of Finance under the recent machinery of government changes.

Yours sincerely

Michael Barnes
UNDER TREASURER

21 JUL 2017

Enc.

cc. Hon Ben Wyatt MLA
Treasurer

Bill Sullivan
A/Director General
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INQUIRY INTO THE MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF THE PERTH CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PROJECT

Question

1. How frequently have you, as Under Treasurer, reported to the Treasurer on matters dealt with by the Taskforce?
 - a. Is the frequency and content of your reporting the same as that provided by the Director General of Health to the Minister for Health?

Answer

1. I, and the rest of the Treasury Executive, met (and continue to meet) weekly with the Treasurer on a broad range of topics – one of which was the Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) project. From November 2016 through to the recent machinery of government changes, PCH was a standing item on the agenda for the weekly meetings.

In addition to these weekly meetings, the Treasurer and Minister for Health were regularly briefed on the status of the PCH project – with 18 joint briefings conducted since August 2016. Treasury was represented at these meetings by the Executive Director, Strategic Projects and Asset Sales.

Furthermore, I reported to the Treasurer on the PCH project on an 'as required' basis, through various briefing notes on specific issues related to the project.

- a. Treasury has no line of sight on the frequency and content of the reporting arrangements between the Director General of Health and the Minister for Health. Accordingly, I cannot comment on the similarity of reporting practices between the respective agencies.