



Community Development and Justice Standing Committee

Annual Report 2011-12

Report No. 11
October 2012

Legislative Assembly
Parliament of Western Australia

Committee Members

Chair	Mr A.P. O’Gorman, MLA Member for Joondalup
Deputy Chair	Hon Mr R. Johnson, MLA Member for Hillarys (from 12 September 2012)
	Mr A.P. Jacob, MLA Member for Ocean Reef (until 16 August 2012)
Members	Mr I.M. Britza, MLA Member for Morley
	Ms M.M. Quirk, MLA Member for Girrawheen
	Hon Mr T.G. Stephens, MLA Member for Pilbara

Committee Staff

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**Community Development and Justice
Standing Committee**

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Report No. 11

Presented by

MR A.P. O'GORMAN, MLA

Laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 18 October 2012

CHAIR'S FOREWORD

I N this fourth annual report I would like to acknowledge and thank the following people who have contributed to the Committee's operations in the past 12 months:

- Mr Albert Jacob, who served as the Committee's Deputy Chair for the 2011-12 financial year;
- the other members who have assisted me during the Committee's deliberations and evidence gathering for their dedication, including spending time away from their families and electorates while we travelled;
- the many people, both here in Western Australia and in other jurisdictions, who willingly gave their time and expertise to the Committee in the course of our three Inquiries; and
- the Committee's research staff Ms Jovita Hogan and Dr David Worth, who effectively managed our meetings and travel administration, as well as assisting with the preparation of three reports.

During 2011-12 the Committee has focused on two major themes of importance to West Australians: housing and natural disasters (particularly bushfires). Our two Reports on these topics had 56 recommendations, of which the State Government fully-supported only four. It gave in-principle support or partially supported another 12. The Government did not respond directly to any of the Committee's 21 unanimous recommendations on the State's readiness for the 2011 bushfire season.

Meanwhile, the State's waiting list for housing is now worse than at any time and housing affordability remains out of reach of many, particularly young people and those who are disadvantaged. Over the past three summers there has been a major bushfire every year. The mainly volunteer firefighters in the Department of Environment and Conservation and Fire and Emergency Services Authority are highly stressed with the responsibilities they carry to protect the public and their property.

I hope that the recommendations in the Committee's recent *Toll of Trauma* report will receive greater support from the State Government to protect these brave men and women in our emergency agencies.



MR A.P. O'GORMAN, MLA

CHAIR

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Chapter 1

Committee's activities

A report on the activities of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee for the 2011-12 Financial Year.

Portfolios

The 18 portfolio areas of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee as determined by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly are:

- Attorney General
- Child Protection
- Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
- Community Services
- Corrective Services
- Culture and the Arts
- Disability Services
- Electoral Affairs
- Emergency Services
- Environment
- Indigenous Affairs
- Local Government
- Police
- Road Safety
- Seniors and Volunteering
- Sport and Recreation
- Women's Interests
- Youth

Activities

During the course of the 2011-12 Financial Year the Committee:

- tabled its final report for the *Inquiry Into the Adequacy and Future Directions of Social Housing in Western Australia* on 3 November 2011 and the final report for the *Examination of the State's Preparedness for this Year's Coming Fire Season* on 24 November 2011;
- held 29 deliberative meetings;
- held 73 hearings and briefings;

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- undertook investigative travel to New Zealand, the United States, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Margaret River in Western Australia;
- attended three conferences; and
- commenced a new *Inquiry Into the Recognition and Adequacy of the Responses by State Government Agencies to Experiences of Trauma by Workers and Volunteers Arising from Disasters*.

Table 1.1- Activities of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2011- 30 June 2012

Activity	Number
Briefings	38
Deliberative meetings	29
Hearings	35

Public hearings

Pursuant to Standing Order 264, the Committee has power to send for persons, papers and records. During the period 1 July 2011 - 30 June 2012 the Committee conducted 35 public hearings and took evidence from 64 witnesses to assist with its Inquiries. These witnesses are listed in Table 1.2.

Table 1.2- Witnesses who Provided Evidence at Hearings of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2011- 30 June 2012

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
10 August 2011	Mr Doug Tyler	Director, Infrastructure Policy and Planning, Chair, Property Asset Clearing House	Department of Treasury
	Mr Anthony Kannis	Executive Director, Infrastructure and Finance	
	Mr Gilbert Tyack	Manager, Property Asset Clearing House	Department of Regional Development and Lands
	Mr Shane Hamilton	State Manager	Community Housing Limited
17 August 2011	Ms Debra Goostrey	Chief Executive Officer	Urban Development Institute of Australia (WA)
22 August 2011	Mr Anthony Kannis	Executive Director, Infrastructure and Finance	Department of Treasury

	Mr Rod Whithear	Executive Director, Strategic Policy and Evaluation	
19 September 2011	Mr Keiran McNamara	Director General	Department of Environment and Conservation
	Mr Peter Dans	Director, Regional Services	
	Mr Murray Carter	Manager, Fire Management Services	
28 September 2011	Dr Karl O'Callaghan	Commissioner of Police	Western Australia Police
	Mr Duane Bell	Assistant Commissioner	
	Mr Mark Ryan	Strategic Policy Advisor	
30 September 2011	Mr Wayne Gregson	Chief Executive Officer	Fire and Emergency Services Authority
	Mr Frank Pasquale	Executive Director, Corporate Services	
	Mr Christopher Arnol	Assistant Chief Operations Officer for Country	
	Mr Lloyd Bailey	Assistant Chief Operations Officer for Metropolitan Fire	
17 October 2011	Mr Noel Plowman	Captain	Roleystone Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade
	Mr Glen Bush		
	Ms Ricky Burges	Chief Executive Officer	Western Australian Local Government Association
	Mr John Lane	Emergency Management Coordinator	
21 October 2011	Mr Kevin Jolly	President	United Firefighters' Union of Australia (West Australian Branch)
	Mr Graeme Geer	Secretary	
	Ms Lea Anderson	Industrial Officer	
17 November 2011 Sydney, NSW	Professor Richard Bryant	Professor of Psychology	University of New South Wales
	Ms Wendy Graham	Director, Disaster Welfare Services	Ministry for Police & Emergency Services, NSW
	Mr Paul Scott	Manager Counselling and Support Unit	Rural Fire Service, NSW

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	Ms Gina Mammone	Manager, Critical Incident and Counselling Services	State Emergency Service, NSW
	Acting Chief Superintendent Susan Webster	Acting Director, Special Operations Unit	Ambulance Service of New South Wales
	Ms Rosemary Hegner	Director, Emergency Management	Department of Health, NSW
22 February 2012	Mr Gregory Italiano	Executive Director	Western Australia Police
	Inspector Gordon Fairman	A/Divisional Superintendent Forensic Division	
	Ms Angela Martinovich	Clinical Psychologist	
	Mr Darian Ferguson	Director, Human Resources	WA Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services Association
	Mr Max Osborn	Executive Officer	
29 February 2012	Dr Andrew Robertson	Director Disaster Management, Regulation and Planning	Department of Health
21 March 2012	Ms Ruth Lane	Senior Manager, Emergency Services	Australian Red Cross
28 March 2012	Ms Karen Roberts	Director Human Resources	Fire and Emergency Services Authority
	Mr Chris Arnol	A/Chief Operations Officer	
	Mr Graham Swift	Assistant Chief Operations Officer	
	Mr Keiran McNamara	Director General	Department of Environment and Conservation
	Mr Peter Dans	Director Regional Services	
	Mr Alan Walker	Director Regional Policy and Projects	
2 May 2012	Mr Phillip Petersen		SES Volunteers Association (Inc)
16 May 2012	Professor Ian Jacobs	Clinical Services Director	St John Ambulance (WA)
	Mr David Bentley		Retired Police Officers
	Mr David Mathews		
	Mr David Nelson		
23 May 2012	Mr Frank Martinelli	President	United Firefighters' Union (WA Branch)
	Mr Kevin Jolly	Secretary	

	Ms Lea Anderson	Assistant Secretary	
	Mr Terry Murphy	Director General	Department for Child Protection
13 June 2012	Mr Gary Cooper	Acting Principal Registrar	State Coroner's Office
	Ms Rose Zaffino	National Head of Clinical Services	PPC Worldwide
	Mr Brett Butler	Manager, Client Services	
18 June 2012	Mr Ron Wingate	Chaplain	Fire and Emergency Services Authority
	Mr Justin Ingrey	United Voice	Ambulance paramedic and Committee member
	Mr David Axworth	Deputy Director General, Schools	Department of Education
	Ms Maura O'Connell	Senior School Psychologist	
20 June 2012	Mr Roger Howell	President	Metro Volunteer Sea Rescue
	Mr George Tilbury	President Elect/Director	WA Police Union
	Mr Brandon Shortland	Vice President Elect/Director	
	Mr Jon Groves	Deputy Vice President	
	Mr Tom Barratt	Research Officer	

Briefings

In addition to gathering evidence during formal hearings, the Committee received briefings from 81 people during 38 sessions and Table 1.3 lists them. These briefings were used to gather information in relation to the Committee's inquiries, as well as other matters.

Table 1.3- People who Briefed the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2011-30 June 2012

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
14 November 2011 Christchurch, NZ	Mr Brenden Winder	CBD Red Zone Cordon and Access Manager	Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
15 November 2011 Christchurch, NZ	Mr David Thomas	General Manager, South Island	St John

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	Ms Jocelyn Rhodes	Human Resources Advisor, South Island	
	Ms Mary Gordon	Executive Director of Nursing	Canterbury District Health Board
	Mr Wayne Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive	Environment Canterbury
	Mr Neville Gurr	Human Resources Manager	
	Mr James Thompson	Operations and Training Coordinator	Canterbury Civil Defence Emergency Management
	Mr Julian Hughes	National Manager Safety and Wellbeing	New Zealand Fire Service
	Inspector John Price	Acting District Commander	New Zealand Police
	Mr Chris Shield	Human Resources Manager	
	Mr Philip Manhire	Staff Welfare Officer	
	Mr Murray Sinclair	Manager, Civil Defence and Emergency Management	Christchurch City Council
	Mr Chris Till	General Manager, Human Resources	
	Mrs Melissa Haskell	Health and Safety Auditor	
	Ms Sharon McFarlane	Health and Safety Advisor	
16 November 2011 Christchurch, NZ	Hon Ms Lianne Dalziel	Member for Christchurch East	New Zealand Parliament
17 November 2011 Sydney, NSW	Chief Superintendent Mal Connellan	Chief of Staff	Fire and Rescue NSW
	Chief Superintendent Gary Picken	Team Leader TF1 (Christchurch)	
	Superintendent Kim Reeson	Planning Officer (Japan)	
	Station Officer Greg Williams	Acting Critical Incident Support Officer	
16 January 2012 New Orleans, USA	Dr Sally Sleeper	Director, Gulf States Policy Institute	RAND
19 January 2012 New Orleans, USA	Associate Professor Frederick Weil	Department of Sociology	Louisiana State University

20 January 2012 New Orleans, USA	Ms Alexandra Miller	Director of Program Development, EnviRenew	The Salvation Army
	Mr Joe Threat	Acting Executive Director	FEMA, US Department of Homeland Security
	Mr Andre Cadogan	Deputy Director	
	Ms Andrea Davis	External Affairs Director	
	Ms Katherine Zeringue	Environmental and Historic Preservation Officer	
	Mr Michael Hunnicutt	Deputy Section Chief, Hazard Mitigation NFIP/Compliance	
	Mr Eddie Williams	Public Assistance Infrastructure Branch Director	
	Ms Nora Huete	Individual Assistance Section Chief	
	Chief Terry Hardy	District Chief	
	Mr Larry Carbo	Crisis Counsellor	Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of New Orleans
	Mr Garry Carbo	Crisis Counsellor	
	Ms Kay W. Wilkins	Chief Executive Officer	American Red Cross, Southeast Louisiana Chapter
	Mr Bruce Cuber	Director, Community Outreach Department	
	Captain Tom Kaye		United States Coast Guard
	Commander Joseph Honea		
	Ms Kellie Bentz	Director of Disaster Services	HandsOn Network
	Ms Shaula Lovera	Director, Spirit of Hope and Latino Health Access Network	Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of New Orleans
	Ms Christi Julian	Spirit of Hope Program Coordinator	
	Mr Tom Costanza	Executive Director, Office of Justice and Peace	

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	Ms Sofia Curdumi	Program Manager, Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy	Tulane University
	Ms Jessica Vermilyea	Acting Director	Greater New Orleans Disaster Recovery Partnership
23 January 2012 New York, USA	Dr Fatih Ozbay, MD	Director, World Trade Center Worker and Volunteer Medical Screening Program	Mount Sinai School of Medicine
	Ms Kathryn Marrone	Clinical Director	
	Ms Diane Ryan	Director, Mental Health & Service Programs, Disaster Planning & Response	American Red Cross in Greater New York
	Dr Georgine Gorra	Clinical Social Worker & Disaster Mental Health Volunteer	
	Mr Dario Diaz	Regional Director Mass Care and Logistics & International Delegate	
	Mr Luis Avila	Emergency Services Officer	
	Mr James A. Keane	General Manager, Operations Safety	
	Ms Robin Martin	Medical Director	The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
	Dr Howard Fisher, MD	Chief Medical Examiner	
	Ms Cristina Lado	Director, Government and Community Relations	
	Ms Lillian D. Valenti	Director, Procurement	
24 January 2012 New York, USA	Professor Gerard A. Jacobs	Director, Disaster Mental Health Institute	The University of South Dakota
	Dr Craig L. Katz, MD	Psychiatrist	Mount Sinai School of Medicine
25 January 2012 New York, USA	Ms Barbara Butcher	Chief of Staff, Director Forensic Training Program	City of New York, Office of Chief Medical Examiner

	Ms Elissia Conlon	Coordinator, Special Operations Division	
26 January 2012 New York, USA	Dr Kerry Kelly, MD	Chief Medical Officer	Fire Department- City of New York
	Ms Suzanne Sebert	Assistant Commissioner	
	Ms Dianne Kane	Assistant Director, Counselling Support Unit	
8 June 2012 Margaret River, WA	Mrs Annie Riordan	Acting CEO	Shire of Augusta- Margaret River
	Mr Nigel Anderson	Manager Human Resources	
	Mr Paul Gravett	Manager Community Development and Safety and Recovery Coordinator	
	Mr Brendan Jordan	Community Emergency Services Manager	
	Superintendent Lawrence Panaia		West Australian Police
	Senior Sergeant Peter Jenal		
	Mr John Tillman	Regional Director Lower South West Region	Fire and Emergency Services Authority
	Mr Danny Mosconi	District Manager Lower South West Region	
	Mr Rob Bootsma	Chief Bushfire Control Officer	Volunteer Bush Fire Service
	Mr Kevin Cartright	Captain	Margaret River Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service
	Mr Robert Lewis	Deputy Local Manager	Augusta Margaret River State Emergency Services
	Mr Leon Gardiner	District Manager	State Emergency Services
	Mr Chris Boag	General Manager Country Ambulance Service	St John Ambulance
	Mr Darren Ginnane	Operations Manager Country Ambulance	
	Ms Dianne Langford-Fisher	Assistant Regional Manager	

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	Mr Brad Commins	Operations Manager Blackwood	Department of Environment and Conservation
	Mr John Carter	Nature Conservation Program Leader	
	Mr Greg Mair	District Manager	
	Mr Murry Mitchell	Fire Manager	
	Mr David Meehan	District Parks and Visitor Services Coordinator	
	Mr John Ireland	Manager Risk	

Investigative travel

For its *Inquiry into the Recognition and Adequacy of the Responses by State Government Agencies to Experience of Trauma by Workers and Volunteers Arising from Disasters* the Committee travelled to collect evidence from witnesses in the following locations:

- Christchurch New Zealand: 13-16 November 2011;
- Sydney, NSW: 16-18 November 2011;
- New Orleans, USA: 15-21 January 2012;
- New York, USA: 21-28 January 2012; and
- Margaret River, WA: 8 June 2012.

Conferences and forums

The Committee attended the Fire and Emergency Services Authority's *WA Seasonal Outlook 2011/2012* on 4 November 2011 in Perth as part of its evidence gathering activities for its *Examination of the State's Preparedness for this Year's Coming Fire Season*.

For its *Inquiry into the Recognition and Adequacy of the Responses by State Government Agencies to Experience of Trauma by Workers and Volunteers Arising from Disasters* the Committee attended the first *International Disaster Conference and Expo* held in New Orleans between 17–19 January 2012.¹ It also attended the *Identifying the*

¹ International Disaster Conference and Expo, About IDCE, 2011. Available at: www.idce2012.com/about.html. Accessed on 7 August 2012.

Hidden Disaster: The First Australian Conference on Natural Disasters and Family Violence Conference in Melbourne on 9 March 2012.²

Reports tabled

The following Reports were tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Committee during the period 1 July 2011- 30 June 2012:

- 1 September 2011– Report 7: Annual Report 2010-11;
- 3 November 2011– Report 8: *A Fading Dream - Affordable Housing in Western Australia*; and
- 24 November 2011– Report 9: *Western Australia's Readiness for the 2011-12 Bushfire Season*.

Work in progress

The Speaker has approved the Committee's proposal to travel in July 2012 to Melbourne and Brisbane and conduct hearings with agencies that responded to the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires and the 2011 floods resulting from Cyclone Yasi, respectively.

2 Women's Health Goulburn North East, *Identifying the Hidden Disaster*, 2012. Available at: www.whealth.com.au/history_events_hiddendisasterconference_2012.html. Accessed on 7 August 2012.

Chapter 2

Financial statement

The Committee's expenditure during the Financial Year.

Committee expenditure

The Community Development and Justice Standing Committee has a nominal administrative budget of \$15,000 which is funded out of the budget of the Legislative Assembly. Approval for major expenditure occurs on a case-by-case basis and is subject to the approval of the Speaker.

The Committee's expenditure for the Financial Year 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 (in accordance with Standing Order 276) is detailed below:

Table 2.1- Expenditure Items of the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, 1 July 2011-30 June 2012

Expenditure Item	Total (\$)
Advertising	1,210
Travel	164,780
Miscellaneous	3,160
TOTAL	169,150

Notes:

- Figures rounded off to nearest \$10;
- Salaries of Committee staff are not included; and
- Costs of shared administrative expenses, including lease costs for Committee accommodation, is not included.

Appendix One

Committee's functions and powers

The functions of the Committee are to review and report to the Assembly on:

- (a) the outcomes and administration of the departments within the Committee's portfolio responsibilities;
- (b) annual reports of government departments laid on the Table of the House;
- (c) the adequacy of legislation and regulations within its jurisdiction; and
- (d) any matters referred to it by the Assembly including a bill, motion, petition, vote or expenditure, other financial matter, report or paper.

At the commencement of each Parliament, and as often thereafter as the Speaker considers necessary, the Speaker will determine and table a schedule showing the portfolio responsibilities for each Committee. Annual reports of government departments and authorities tabled in the Assembly will stand referred to the relevant Committee for any inquiry the Committee may make.

Whenever a Committee receives or determines for itself fresh or amended terms of reference, the Committee will forward them to each standing and select Committee of the Assembly and Joint Committee of the Assembly and Council. The Speaker will announce them to the Assembly at the next opportunity and arrange for them to be placed on the notice boards of the Assembly.