Committee Members - 39th Parliament

Chair  Ms M.M. Quirk, MLA
       Member for Girrawheen

Deputy Chair  Dr A.D. Buti, MLA
              Member for Armadale

Members  Mr C.D. Hatton, MLA
         Member for Balcatta
         Ms E. Mettam, MLA
         Member for Vasse
         Mr M.P. Murray, MLA
         Member for Collie-Preston

Committee Members - 40th Parliament

Chair  Mr P.A. Katsambanis, MLA
       Member for Hillarys

Deputy Chair  Mr M.J. Folkard, MLA
              Member for Burns Beach

Members  Mr A. Krsticevic, MLA
         Member for Carine
         Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup, MLA
         Member for Dawesville
         Mr D.T. Punch, MLA
         Member for Bunbury

Committee Staff - 39th Parliament

Principal Research Officer  Dr Sarah Palmer
Research Officer  Ms Franchesca Walker

Committee Staff - 40th Parliament

Principal Research Officer  Ms Franchesca Walker
Research Officer  Ms Michele Chiasson

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Community Development and Justice
Standing Committee

Annual Report 2016–17

Report No. 1

Presented by
Mr P.A. Katsambanis, MLA

Laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 7 September 2017
Chairman’s foreword

I am pleased to table the first annual report for the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee in the 40th Parliament.

This is a slightly different annual report in that it covers two parliamentary sessions. The 2017 State General Election took place during the 2016–17 financial year; therefore, the activities of both the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee of the 39th Parliament and the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee of the 40th Parliament are contained in this report.

I would like to acknowledge the admirable work of the Committee of the previous parliament. It not only tabled a major report, *Cultivating promise—Building Resilience and Engagement for At-Risk Youth through Sport and Culture*, but conducted a number of agency review hearings during the reporting period.

To some extent, the current Committee has expanded upon the work of the Committee of the 39th Parliament. In September 2016, that Committee held a hearing with the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) to ascertain its preparedness for the 2017 election. The Committee of the 40th Parliament followed-up with the WAEC to ascertain how the election went and whether there were any areas for improvement.

As a result of these investigations, the Committee decided to initiate an inquiry into the administration and management of the 2017 election. The Committee will assess the adequacy of WAEC procedures in relation to ballot security; the participation of communities with traditionally low levels of enrolment or turnout; the levels of informality; remote polling; the operation of polling places; and the general responsiveness of the *Electoral Act 1907*. Ultimately, the Committee wants to ensure that the electoral system is as robust as possible—that eligible voters are given adequate opportunity to cast their vote and all political parties and candidates able to have their policies and voices heard.

I look forward to working with my Committee colleagues in this parliament. Their contribution to our discussions and deliberations has been invaluable and I know that we have a productive year ahead of us.

MR P.A. KATSAMBANIS, MLA
CHAIRMAN
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Chapter 1

Committee activities


Introduction

The 2016–2017 reporting period encompasses two parliamentary sessions. The 39th Parliament was prorogued and Legislative Assembly dissolved by the Governor on Monday, 30 January 2017. This dissolution terminated the Legislative Assembly of the 39th Parliament and its committees. The Community Development and Justice Standing Committee of the 40th Parliament was established on Wednesday, 17 May 2017.

A summary of the activities of the Committee during the course of this reporting period—1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017—is in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Summary of Committee activities, 1 July 2016–30 June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>39th Parliament</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports tabled</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberative meetings</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearings</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briefings</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witnesses appearing</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>40th Parliament</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports tabled</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliberative meetings</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearings</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briefings</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Witnesses appearing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Portfolios

During the 39th Parliament, the Committee had responsibility for 19 portfolio areas, as outlined below:

- Aboriginal Affairs
- Child Protection
- Attorney General
- Environment
- Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
- Community Services
During the final months of the 39th Parliament, the Committee conducted agency reviews related to the portfolio areas of the Attorney General, Electoral Affairs, Emergency Services and Culture and the Arts.

The Committee’s portfolio responsibilities have increased during the 40th Parliament and the Committee is now responsible for 21 portfolios:

- Aboriginal Affairs
- Child Protection
- Attorney General
- Environment
- Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
- Community Services
- Corrective Services
- Culture and the Arts
- Disability Services
- Electoral Affairs
- Emergency Services
- Road Safety
- Seniors and Volunteering
- Sport and Recreation
- Veterans
- Women’s Interests
- Youth
- Local Government
- Police
- Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence
- Road Safety
- Seniors and Ageing
- Sport and Recreation
- Veterans Issues
- Volunteering
- Women’s Interests
- Youth
Public hearings

Pursuant to Standing Order 264, the Committee has the power to send for persons, papers and records. During the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, the Committee conducted eight hearings and took evidence from 21 witnesses. Hearings were primarily related to agency reviews.

Table 1.2: Witnesses who provided evidence at hearings of the Committee, 1 July 2016–30 June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 September 2016</td>
<td>Mr David Kerslake</td>
<td>Electoral Commissioner</td>
<td>Western Australian Electoral Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Chris Avent</td>
<td>Deputy Electoral Commissioner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 October 2016</td>
<td>Ms Rosalinda Fogliani</td>
<td>State Coroner</td>
<td>Office of the State Coroner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 October 2016</td>
<td>Mr Ian Booth</td>
<td>Chief Executive</td>
<td>ScreenWest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Janelle Marr</td>
<td>Chair of the Board</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 November 2016</td>
<td>Mr Wayne Gregson</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Department of Fire and Emergency Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Lloyd Bailey</td>
<td>Deputy Commissioner, Operations Command</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Stephen Fewster</td>
<td>Deputy Commissioner, Capability Command</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Murray Carter</td>
<td>Director, Office of Bushfire Risk Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr James Sharp</td>
<td>Director General</td>
<td>Department of Parks and Wildlife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Peter Dans</td>
<td>Director, Regional and Fire Management Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Paul Brennan</td>
<td>Manager, Fire Management Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Briefings

No briefings were held during the reporting period in the 39th Parliament. One briefing was held during the 40th Parliament and the details of this briefing are contained in Table 1.3.

Table 1.3: Witnesses who briefed the Committee, 1 July 2016–30 June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 November 2016</td>
<td>Mr Gary Dreibergs</td>
<td>Deputy Commissioner, Specialist Services</td>
<td>Western Australia Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Craig Donaldson</td>
<td>Commander, Counter Terrorism and Emergency Response</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Horridge</td>
<td>Senior Advisor, Emergency Preparedness, Counter Terrorism and Emergency Response</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Kylie Whiteley</td>
<td>Acting Assistant Commissioner, State Crime Portfolio</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Warwick Carter</td>
<td>Executive Manager, Planning and Community Development</td>
<td>Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr John Lane</td>
<td>Emergency Management Coordinator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40th Parliament</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 June 2017</td>
<td>Mr David Kerslake</td>
<td>Electoral Commissioner</td>
<td>Western Australian Electoral Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Chris Avent</td>
<td>Deputy Electoral Commissioner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Louis Gargan</td>
<td>Senior Policy Officer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Reports tabled**

The Committee of the 39th Parliament tabled two reports during the 2016–17 financial year.

**Report 13**: On 15 August 2016, the Committee tabled its final major report, *Cultivating promise – Building Resilience and Engagement for At-Risk Youth through Sport and Culture.*

**Report 14**: The Committee’s annual report for 2015–16 was tabled on 15 September 2016.

**Work in progress**

During the 40th Parliament, the Committee has commenced its *Inquiry into the Administration and Management of the 2017 State General Election*. The Committee intends to report the outcome of this inquiry to the Legislative Assembly by 30 November 2017.
Chapter 2

Financial statement

Expenditure of the Committee during the financial year.

The Committee does not have its own formal budget and is funded out of the budget of the Legislative Assembly. Approval for major expenditure is required on a case-by-case basis and is subject to the approval of the Speaker.

The Committee is required in accordance with Standing Order 276 to detail expenditure for the financial year 1 July 2016–30 June 2017. The Legislative Assembly dissolved on Monday, 30 January 2017 prior to the state election; therefore two Committees operated during the 2016–2017 financial year. The figures tendered below cover the full reporting period and include expenditure by the Committee of the 39th Parliament.

Table 2.1: Expenditure items of the Committee, 1 July 2016 –30 June 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure Item</th>
<th>Total ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amenities</td>
<td>776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,976</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- Figures rounded to nearest dollar.
- Excluded:
  - Salaries of Committee staff;
  - Costs of shared administrative expenses, including lease costs for Committee accommodation.

MR P.A. KATSAMBARIS, MLA
CHAIRMAN
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.