



ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF QUEENSLAND

**Department of Justice and Attorney-General and the Arts
Department of Police and the Corrective Services Commission
Queensland Emergency Services and the Office of Consumer Affairs**

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THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT



ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF QUEENSLAND

June 1995

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Darryl Briskey MLA
(Member for Cleveland)

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON: Mrs Lorraine Bird MLA
(Member for Whitsunday)

MEMBERS:

Mr Denver Beanland MLA
(Member for Indooroopilly)

Mr Russell Cooper MLA
(Member for Crows Nest)

Mr Pat Purcell MLA
(Member for Bulimba)

Mr Marc Rowell MLA
(Member for Hinchinbrook)

Mr Terry Sullivan MLA
(Member for Chermside)

RESEARCH DIRECTOR: Mr Neil Laurie

SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER: Mr Graeme Kinnear

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REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Introduction

On 31 March 1995, the Legislative Assembly referred to the Committee, for examination and report, the proposed expenditure contained in the *Appropriation Bill 1995* for the organisational units within the portfolios of the following Ministers:

- Deputy Premier, Minister for Emergency Services and Consumer Affairs and Minister assisting the Premier on Rural Affairs
- Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services
- Minister for Justice and Attorney-General and Minister for the Arts.

The Committee has considered the proposed expenditure as listed in the Portfolio Program Statements for each portfolio area and has received evidence from the Minister for Police and Corrective Services, the Hon. Paul Braddy MLA, the Deputy Premier, Minister for Emergency Services and Consumer Affairs and the Minister assisting the Premier on Rural Affairs, the Hon. Tom Burns MLA, Minister for Justice and Attorney-General and Minister for the Arts, the Hon. Dean Wells MLA, officers of the departments concerned and the Acting Chairman of the Criminal Justice Commission. Copies of Hansard and the Answers to Questions on Notice are tabled for the information of the Legislative Assembly.

The Committee met at 11.30am, on 31 May 1995, in the Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House in accordance with the sessional order of the Legislative Assembly and the Chair declared the meeting open.

The Committee draws the attention of the Legislative Assembly to the following matters which arose during consideration of the Estimates.

Department of Police

The total estimated allocation for the Queensland Police Service in 1995-96 is \$541,231,000. This is an increase of 7.5 per cent from the 1994-95 budget allocation.

The total staff numbers for the Service is projected to increase by 269 from 8,117 in 1994-95 to 8,386 in 1995-96.

The Minister, in his opening remarks, stated that operational police numbers will grow by 500 over the next three years. This program will be achieved by a mix of 300 additional sworn police officers and 200 more civilians to release more police to return to operational duties.

Flexible Rostering System

During the hearing, questioning was made of the new flexible rostering system which commenced on 27 May 1995. The Minister indicated that in excess of 4,500 police at any one time are eligible for the resulting 19 per cent salary payment. Further details were provided in response to questions on notice.

New Recruits

The Committee was informed by the Minister that there will be a total of 327 recruits sworn in 1994-95. In 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 there are 330, 315 and 330 recruits planned respectively. The Committee was further informed that, based on numbers trained during 1994-95, it is estimated that the average costs of training recruits is:

- standard recruit - \$27,350
- prior experienced recruit - \$15,930.

Separations

The Committee was informed that the number of police separations for 1994-95 was 188 as of 31 May 1995. Separations as at 31 May 1995 were:

- medical retirements - 79
 - voluntary retirements - 14
 - aged retirements - nil
 - resignations - 83
 - dismissals - 8
 - deaths - 4.
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Operational Police

At the hearing the Minister took issue with the fact that the Criminal Justice Commission in its reports does not use the term "operational police" which is used by the Queensland Police Service. Rather, the CJC has a definition called "direct service delivery". The Minister stated that the CJC's definition causes confusion because people translate its figures into "operational police". The Minister noted that the CJC's definition does not count any commissioned officers as "operational officers".

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Liaison Officer

The Committee asked the Minister to clarify what appears to be no additional funding in the 1995-96 budget for the development of a training program for the 94 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Liaison Officers employed throughout the State. The Minister stated that the number of officers employed by the Department had doubled from 47 to 94 in the last 12 months. Furthermore the Minister stated that the existing training program was being upgraded with the focus not only on Aboriginal Liaison Officers but also on operational police who interact with the liaison officers. The Minister emphasised that the development of effective training to expand the role of the liaison officers is a major objective before the number of liaison officers is expanded. However, there was no indication by the Minister as to the source of funding for this form of training.

Corrective Services Commission

Funding for the Corrective Services Commission in 1995-96 is estimated at \$205,544,000 an increase of over 10 per cent on the Estimated Expenditure of \$186,930,000 for 1994-95.

The increase in expenditure of approximately \$10,000,000 in the 1995-96 Estimates above the 1994-95 Estimated Actual Expenditure of \$195,444 is due to:

- the full year costs of doubling up additional prisoners;
- funds for the expansion of various centres and the commissioning of a new correctional centre; and
- funding for the new initiatives of community based prison alternatives.

Major new initiatives for 1995-96 include:

- the allocation of \$4,800,000 in 1995-96 for the commissioning of the Westbrook Correctional Centre;
- an amount of \$1,500,000 allocated for a new Drug Strategy to be trialled at three correctional centres in 1995-96;
- \$2,000,000 being budgeted in 1995-96 to extend the concept of community based schemes to include young offenders and women as well as further development of out-stations close to Aboriginal communities in Far North Queensland;
- the provision of \$10,500,000 over the next three years for the refurbishment of older correctional centres throughout the state. Those centres identified as most in need include Rockhampton, Moreton, Wacol, Numinbah and Palen Creek; and
- the allocation of \$28,500,000 to commence the construction of a new correctional centre at Woodford with the total estimated cost being \$52,600,000.

Correctional Centres

Capital Works

The Committee sought information on approved capital works for 1994-95, and what funds were carried over from 1994-95 with reasons for the carry over. The Minister responded that expenditure in 1994-95 on capital works was \$29,500,000 with a carry over of \$23,100,000. The Minister stated that carry overs were due to extended consultations in developing tendering processes, extended community consultations and additional time required for design.

Prison Capacity

Detailed information was requested by the Committee on a facility by facility basis listing the number of single cells and double cells. In reply the Minister supplied statistical data, showing the total single cell prisoners for all institutions to be 2,488 with an additional 343 prisoners doubling up. Furthermore, the Minister stated in the period from late 1994 to the end of 1996, 1024 new cells will be constructed including 400 single cells at Woodford. This will reduce prisoner doubling up to 14 per cent of prisoners.

Drug Detection Strategy

An explanation of the funding of \$1,500,000 for the Drug Detection Strategy was required by the Committee. The Minister stated that funding for 1995-96, the first year of a three year program, is \$550,000. The centres involved will be Longland, Borallon and Numinbah.

Prison Escapes

The Committee requested details of the effect, if any, on the escape rate at various institutions of the upgrading of secure perimeters at those facilities. In reply the Minister stated that upgrade of security perimeters had contributed to a significant reduction in the escapes from secure custody, from 45 escapes in 1990-91 to four escapes for the first nine months of 1994-95.

Several questions on notice were asked by the Committee relating to supervisor/offender ratios, staff numbers for each correctional centre, the estimated overtime budget for 1995-96, outlays for plant and equipment and expenditure for the upgrade of security perimeters.

Queensland Emergency Services

Funding for the Queensland Emergency Services is estimated at \$441,372,000 an increase of 10.7 percent on 1994-95 estimates.

The substantial increase (in excess of \$36,000,000) in expenditure is due to purchase of new plant and equipment, capital works expenditure and increased outlays for salaries, wages and related payments.

Major initiatives for 1995-96 include:

- the allocation of \$5,000,000 for a common computer aided dispatch system for ambulance and fire services in Brisbane;
- funding of \$1,000,000 for the establishment of twenty two new SES units and six ambulance facilities based on an intergraded mode in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities;
- provision of \$250,000 in 1995-96 for workers' compensation claims payments for volunteer surf lifesavers;
- the provision of \$17,000,000 for the purchase of 54 new urban fire appliances together with \$4,234,000 to spend on QFS capital works for upgrade of existing facilities and the construction of seven new urban fire stations and two joint facilities, and purchase of land;
- the purchase of almost fifty new ambulance vehicles together with the construction of eight new or replacement ambulance stations;
- the provision of \$4,198,000 in 1995-96 for aviation lifesaving services for regional and rural Queensland; and
- expansion of the SES cadet scheme for young Queenslanders.

It should be noted that the Office of Rural Communities program located within QES for 1994-95 Estimates was transferred to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning in December 1994.

Ambulance Services

Capital Works

The Committee sought information on the capital works program in relation to actual capital allocated for works in 1995-96, other than carry over funds. The Minister referred the Committee to page 20 of the Portfolio Program Statement where projects with carry over funds were listed and suitably identified. Furthermore he stated that funding of a number of work projects would extend over several financial years.

In response to further questions on the availability of funds to guarantee essential improvements in housing and conditions for ambulance staff in some rural and remote areas, departmental officers stated that \$600,000 was earmarked from the minor works allocation of \$1,279,000 for 1995-96.

Ambulance Vehicles

Details were sought by the Committee regarding the type and age of ambulance vehicles available for service in the QAS. The Minister replied that the aim of the QAS was to continue the current policy of reducing the age of the vehicles and achieve a mix of one third of vehicles being two stretcher with the remaining vehicles being single stretcher.

Fire Services

Staffing

The Committee sought details on the overall increase of staffing levels by 28 full-time equivalent's (FTE) for the Fire Service as detailed in program estimates 1995-96 compared to recent ministerial statements of an additional 150 (FTE's) staff for the service.

A senior departmental officer explained that as a result of normal recruitment processes an extra 152 recruits would be sought to fill 94 current unfilled positions and 58 positions were expected to be lost due to attrition. During 1995-96 there will be an additional 30 permanent fire fighters required for the new fire station at Gaven.

At the hearing the Minister noted that the documentation for the Estimates was prepared after the Southport Coroner's report and before the Fire Service negotiated with the United Firefighters Union.

Variations in Capital Outlays

Information was sought by the Committee on variations in the order of \$6,000,000 in capital outlays between 1994-95 estimates and 1994-95 estimates actual. The Minister explained that the spending of \$600,000 on a joint facility at Caboolture and delays in the ordering and processing of plant and equipment due to the implementation of a five year capital replacement program resulted in significant variations to expenditure in capital outlays.

Enterprise Bargaining

The Committee inquired about the status of enterprise bargaining agreements in the Fire Service. A senior departmental officer explained the firefighters were not negotiating an enterprise agreement at this stage. The firefighters have received the \$8.00 per week safety net payment and enterprise agreements are being negotiated with some of the Fire Services support areas.

Office of Consumer Affairs

Funding for the Fair Trading program in 1995-96 is estimated at \$37,080,000 an increase of over \$7,000,000 from the estimated expenditure of \$29,439,000 in 1994-95.

Major initiatives for 1995-96 include:

- enhancement of the delivery of core services offered by the Office of Consumer Affairs (Fair Trading Program) to residents of rural and regional Queensland through a regional network of offices;
- the provision of \$581,000 for the monitoring of payments by financial institutions to the Auctioneers and Agents Fidelity Guarantee Fund, aiming to generate gross additional receipts of \$1,000,000 into the fund; and
- amendments to the Births, Deaths and Marriages Regulations to allow for the recording of additional information, for example Aboriginality and mothers' occupation.

Auctioneer and Agents Fidelity Trust Fund

The Committee sought information on shortfalls in the bank remittance of the trust fund to the Auctioneer and Agents Fidelity Trust Fund, relating to how much money is involved and when is it anticipated that full retrieval will occur. The Minister responded, stating due to a reconciliation process monthly interests payments have increased dramatically since April 1994, when approximately \$491,000 was received from banks, to \$821,000 in January 1995. Furthermore in 1995-96 \$581,000 has been allocated to develop a database to improve collection of interest payments from banks and to fund a legal position to recover from banks past interest shortfalls.

Other information on the Auctioneers and Agents Fidelity Trust Fund was requested by the Committee via questions on notice.

The Register of Encumbered Vehicles (REVS)

In response to questions from the Committee on the value of the REVS system, the Minister responded that of the first 30,000 enquires 6,215 people were notified that the vehicle they were trying to buy was encumbered.

Further details were sought on the costs relating to linking REVS to the national register and expected revenue returns. The Minister responded that the office received \$717,000 for establishment costs in 1994-95. For 1995-96 expenditure is estimated to be about \$800,000. Projected revenue for 1994-95 is about \$3,000,000.

Department of Justice and Attorney-General

The Committee examined proposed expenditure of \$331,248,000. The Departments Budget represents a 12.6 per cent increase on the 1994-95 Estimated Actual of \$300,611,000 and an 10.2 per cent increase on the 1994-95 Budget of \$294,073,000.

Pilot Committals Project

A major new policy initiative for the Department in 1995-96 is the Pilot Committals project in Brisbane and Ipswich for which funding of \$1,433,000 and \$444,000 respectively has been allocated. At the Committee's hearing the Attorney-General emphasised the benefits of the Committals project included identifying early pleas of guilty and early nolle prosequis. This in turn will result in less resources being spent on these cases.

Information and Technology Replacement and Upgrade

The allocation of \$3,900,000 in 1995-96 for Information and Technology Replacement and Upgrade was the subject of examination at the hearing. The Committee was informed that there were two features to this project. The first relates to infrastructure that requires replacement. Currently there are a number of systems which run separately and the first purpose is to replace those now aged systems. Secondly, attempts are being made to integrate all of the systems which are operated by the Department. It is anticipated that the integration of these systems will result in significant savings. The Committee was informed that there will be long term cost savings from the exercise. As an example, the Committee's attention was drawn to the processing of fines within the Magistrates Courts where currently approximately 40 per cent of fines are processed on a manual card system. It was emphasised to the Committee that this is a five year project.

Land, Planning and Environment Division

The merger of the Land Court, the Planning and Environment Court and part of the Building Tribunal to form the new Land, Planning and Environment Division of the District Court was also the subject of examination at the hearing. The Attorney-General informed the Committee that the estimated cost savings from the merger are significant. The one-off establishment costs of the new Court are estimated to be \$225,000 and recurrent costs are estimated to be \$1,960,000. In addition to the funds provided by Treasury, an amount of \$1,570,000 will be transferred to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General from the Department of Housing and Local Government. It is anticipated that efficiencies will occur from rationalising the three jurisdictions into one.

CJC Media Relations

The Acting Chairman of the Criminal Justice Commission, Mr Lew Wyvill QC, was asked about the funds budgeted by the Commission for public relations, marketing and media relations. The question was taken on notice. A response to the question was received by the Committee on 2 June 1995. The Commission advised that it employs a

full-time media liaison officer who has an assistant who spends approximately half her time on media related activities. In addition, the Senior Corruption Prevention Officer (Education and Communications), Corruption Prevention Division, spends approximately 50 per cent of her time liaising with external bodies in relation to the role and functions of the Criminal Justice Commission. The total salary and related on-costs of these three people in respect of the duties that they perform which are associated with public information activities is \$93,862.

Arts

The Committee examined proposed expenditure of \$99,906,000.

Stage 5 Queensland Performing Arts Centre

The major capital works project being undertaken in relation to the Arts is Stage 5 of the Queensland Performing Arts Centre. The total estimated cost of this project is \$56,000,000. Expenditure of \$9,662,000 has been budgeted for 1995-96.

Another initiative for 1995-96 is the spending of \$2,500,000 to fund the refurbishing of certain aspects of the South Bank Cultural Centre.

Australian Indigenous Performing Arts

At the hearing the Minister was questioned in relation to the Commonwealth's statement on the Arts, *Creative Nation* and the proposal that with the assistance of the Queensland Government, the Commonwealth will establish a national centre of training excellence for Australian indigenous performing arts. The Minister confirmed that there was no budget allocation for this program for 1995-96 and that the Government was still in the process of discussions with the Commonwealth about the location of the program.

The Estimates Committee Procedure

The Committee notes the statement made by Estimates Committee B report last year:

The Committee believes that Estimates process requires further examination and evaluation by the Parliament to ensure that the process achieves maximum effectiveness.

The Committee supports the above statement.

The Committee believes that the change from Departmental Estimates Statements to Portfolio Program Statements is a progressive step as it enables all relevant information of a statistical and policy nature at the program level to be consolidated into one document.

However, it is the view of the Committee that more detailed budget data in tabular form in the Portfolio Program Statements is essential for proper scrutiny of the estimates. Moreover the presentation of budget estimates at a sub-program level would be of great benefit to Committee Members.

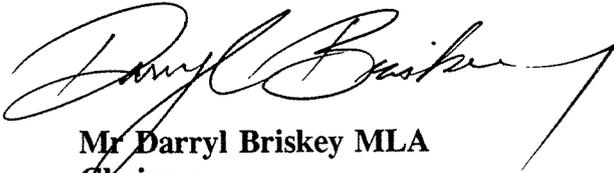
The Committee also believes that all budgetary information relating to the Department should be contained within the Portfolio Program Statement.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends that the proposed expenditure, in accordance with the estimates referred to the Committee, be agreed to by the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Acknowledgments

The Committee takes this opportunity to express its appreciation for the level of co-operation and assistance afforded to it by the various Ministers and members of their staff. The Committee wishes to acknowledge the staff of the Committee Secretariat, Mr Neil Laurie, Research Director, Mr Graeme Kinnear, Senior Research Officer, Ms Sandy Rowse and Ms Andrea Musch for their valuable support and assistance during the Estimates process.



Mr Darryl Briskey MLA
Chairperson



ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B - RESERVATIONS

Whilst the non-Government Members of the Committee endorse the recommendation contained within the body of the majority report, we feel it is important to note our reservations in regard to some aspects of the budget estimates.

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES COMMISSION

In respect of the Department of Police and Corrective Services Commission, the non-Government Members note:

- dissatisfaction with the total lack of increased police and associated facilities at Woodford, which is the site of a new 400 high security prison. It is imperative that any location in which a prison of this size and security classification is to be established also have an increased police presence;
- dissatisfaction with the large number of police vacancies, lack of police numbers and lack of police relieving staff;
- the continuation of unspent capital works from previous budgets. This cannot be condoned or approved and we find the reasons given for the delay of these works as unacceptable;
- dissatisfaction with the lack of increase in staff to cater for the increased number of prisoners by way of "doubling up";
- the insufficient and inadequate explanation by the Minister of the 500 overall police increase over the next three years;
- dissatisfaction with the Minister's argument in relation to the definition of "operational police" as defined by the Service and the Criminal Justice Commission. It needs to be determined what police are "operational police" and what police are not "operational police"; and
- dissatisfaction with unnecessarily long and irrelevant answers to some of the questions by the Minister in an obvious attempt to filibuster and thus limit the number of questions asked. This demonstrated a lack of confidence and competence in his ability to deal with the issues and is not in the true spirit of providing budget related information.

OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The non-Government Members believe that insufficient time was allowed to fully explore the Department of Consumer Affairs. To have the time allotted of 20 minutes for the Opposition was totally inadequate.

Over the last year there has been numerous pieces of legislation that relates to activities within the Department of Consumer Affairs. A time allocation of 20 minutes was insufficient to explore the ramifications of this legislation on the estimates for 1995-96.

During the preparation for the Committee hearing, Mr Rowell MLA sought information in relation to the Department from the Parliamentary library. Upon contacting the Department the library was informed that all requests in relation to estimates should be directed through the Chairman of the Committee. In fact, information of the nature sought was not required to be directed through the Chair. Although an apology was forthcoming from the Minister in relation to this matter at the hearing, the refusal to supply the material denied the Member the opportunity this year to research the area using this resource. It is to be hoped this practice will not occur in the future.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND THE ARTS

In respect of the Department of Justice and Attorney-General the non-Government Members note:

- the Minister, in answer to a question concerning the Matters Management System being established within the Director of Public Prosecutions Office, that is, what working hours have been saved for the 1994-95 financial year and what hours are anticipated to be saved in the 1995-96 financial years, indicated that the Department is currently preparing an impact document which will identify the financial savings which are expected from the introduction of this system.

It would appear that the Matters Management System has been put in place prior to savings, if any, being identified;

- it is a farce that the Ministers' expenditure for such things as travel are not accountable by the Minister to the relevant Estimates Committee. Rather, expenditure relating to Ministerial travel is questionable only in respect of the Treasury Estimates. This is an unacceptable mechanism as it means that most of the Treasury Estimates could be consumed by this one topic and Ministers are not accountable for their own personal expenditure;
- it became apparent during questioning that the budgeting process had in some cases broken down within the Department. For example, in answer to a question as to what funds have been allocated in the 1995-96 Budget for overseas travel by each of the Judges of the Appeal Court, the Committee was advised that there had been a global allocation of \$1,718 million to the Court of Appeal but that these funds had not yet been allocated across a number of cost centres. Furthermore, in relation to the 1994-95 financial year, expenditure on this issue was uncertain. This makes a mockery of the budgetary process as specific budgetary expenditure was not available;

- the Criminal Justice Commission indicated at last year's Estimates Committee that the report into the administration of criminal justice in this State would be concluded in a couple of months as it was well advanced. However, the Commission's report titled *Report on the Sufficiency of Funding of the Legal Aid Commission of Queensland and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Queensland* was not completed until April of this year. Unable to provide a suitable answer at the Estimates Committee hearings, of the CJC undertook to provide a written reply. The reply subsequently provided to the Committee does not give the reasons for the delay following last year's optimistic reply to the timetable;
- at the hearing the Minister was asked as to what were the estimated cost savings to be gained from the merging of the Land Court, the Planning and Environment Court and part of the Building Tribunal to form the new Land, Planning and Environment Division of the District Court. The Minister replied that the estimated cost savings are significant. However, the Minister did not provide any details as to the estimated cost savings;
- the Portfolio Program Statement for the Department stated that in relation to the Legal Aid Office a customer service evaluation will be conducted and that the office aims to achieve a 5 per cent improvement on the previous years results. The Minister was unable to provide an adequate answer to the question as to why this initiative is occurring in the 1995-96 financial year and has not been addressed in previous years; and
- generally, the Minister's answers to question asked by the Opposition contained more rhetoric than information.
- a totally inadequate time limit was allowed for the Arts portfolio. With 30 minutes total time, 15 minutes question time for Opposition Members only allows a maximum of 5 questions to be asked, assuming that the Minister takes the full 3 minutes to answer - as was invariably the case. Ideally time for questions should be unlimited. Only thirteen and a half minutes was left for questioning by non-government Members after the Minister had made his opening statement.

General Matters

Generally, the non-Government Members believed that more definition could be introduced to the Portfolio Program Statements. These statements should contain all relevant information to the Department and its expenditure. This would make it unnecessary to review other budget documents to find information pertinent to the Department's expenditure. The non-Government Members also believe that the information contained with the Portfolio Program Statements should be enhanced.

Allowing equal time for Opposition Members, and Government backbench Members asking Dorothy Dix-style questions is unreasonable. Should there be problems with extending the absolute time limit, more time could be created for the Opposition through the limiting of Government backbencher time.

Senior public servants rather than Ministers should be the recipients of questioning in Estimates, the same system as in the Senate Estimates Committees. This is the basic

premise for the existence of Estimates Committees. Ministers are available to answer questions in question time, but there is no opportunity to question the bureaucracy. The focus of these questions should be on their effectiveness, efficiency and output.



Russell Cooper MLA
Member for Crows Nest



Denver Beanland MLA
Member for Indooroopilly



Marc Rowell MLA
Member for Hinchinbrook

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**Minutes of Meeting on 23 May 1995****- M I N U T E S -**

A meeting of the Estimates Committee B was held in Room B.29 of Parliament House on 23 May 1995 at 3.27 pm.

Members Present: Lorraine Bird, Darryl Briskey, Pat Purcell and Marc Rowell.

Apologies: Russell Cooper and Denver Beanland.

Also Present: Neil Laurie and Graeme Kinnear.

1. Election of Chair: The Research Director, Mr Neil Laurie, with the approval of the Committee called for nominations for Chairman.

Mr Purcell nominated Mr Darryl Briskey, seconded by Ms Bird.

There being no other nominations, Mr Briskey was elected Chairman.

2. Election of Deputy Chair: Upon Mr Briskey assuming the Chair, he called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chair.

The Chairman invited Members of the Opposition parties to nominate for the position.

Mr Rowell, on behalf of the Opposition Members, indicated to the Chairman that the Opposition would not be nominating a Member for the position.

Mr Purcell then nominated Ms Lorraine Bird for Deputy Chair, seconded by Mr Rowell.

There being no other nominations Ms Bird was declared Deputy Chair.

3. Departments of Timings for Hearing:

A proposed schedule for the hearings on 31 May 1995 was distributed to Members. It was moved by Mr Purcell that the order of Departments be;

- Police and Corrective Services
- Emergency Services
- Justice and Attorney General and the Office of the Arts

and the time allocations be as per the proposed schedule, namely:

Police	2 hours
Corrective Services	2 hours
Queensland Emergency Services	2 hours
Consumer Affairs	40 minutes
Rural Communities	40 minutes
Justice and Attorney General	2 hours
Office of the Arts	30 minutes

Seconded Ms Bird
Carried

4. Other Business:

General discussion ensued in relation to procedural aspects of the operation of the Committee.

(a) Information on Issues

Agreed that Members are to forward to the Research Director any requests for information on particular issues. The Research Director would contact the relevant Department if required or compile additional material.

(b) Briefing Papers

Agreed that the Research staff would not be required to provide a briefing paper for the members. However, if Members requested summarised briefing papers in relation to a particular program then that request would be met by Committee research staff.

Other Business (cont). (c) Questions Taken on Notice

It was moved by Ms Bird that answers to questions taken on notice had to be with the Committee no later than 4.00 pm on Friday 2 June 1995.

Seconded Mr Purcell
Carried

(d) Questions by Non-Committee Members

Agreed by the Committee that although non-Committee members must seek leave of the Committee to participate in the hearing, that the Chairman be authorised to automatically grant leave.

(e) Lunch and Dinner Breaks for Hearing

Agreed to timings as per schedule.

(f) Meeting Times and Rooms

Agreed to further meetings and time tabling of the draft report as per proposed schedule distributed to Members.

Next Meeting:

Agreed that the Committee would meet in B.27 at 11.00 am on Wednesday 31 May prior to commencement of the hearing at 11.30 am.

Meeting closed at 3.38 pm.

Confirmed this

31st

day of

May

1995.


Chairman

Minutes of Meeting on 31 May 1995

- M I N U T E S -

A meeting of the Estimates Committee B was held in Room B.27 of Parliament House on 31 May 1995 at 11.04 am.

Members Present: Darryl Briskey (Chairperson), Lorraine Bird (Deputy Chairperson), Denver Beanland, Russell Cooper, Pat Purcell and Terry Sullivan.

Apologies: Marc Rowell

Also Present: Neil Laurie and Graeme Kinnear.

1. Confirmation of Minutes Resolved that the minutes of the meeting on 23 May 1995 be approved.

Moved Pat Purcell
Seconded: Lorraine Bird
Carried

2. Schedule for examination of Portfolio The Chairman noted that it had become necessary to amend the schedule for examination of Portfolios as a result of the Office of Rural Communities no longer being within the Deputy Premier's portfolio. An amended schedule was circulated to Members.

Resolved to ratify the changes made by the Chairman to the schedule for examination of Portfolios.

Moved: Pat Purcell
Seconded: Terry Sullivan
Carried

3. Opening Statements by Ministers The Chairman indicated that Ministers had been advised they could make a short opening statement not exceeding two minutes.

Resolved to allow Ministers a short opening statement not exceeding two minutes.

Moved: Russell Cooper
Seconded: Terry Sullivan
Carried

4. Audio/Visual

Resolved not to permit audio/visual recording by the media or strangers during the Committee Hearing.

Moved: Terry Sullivan
Seconded: Lorraine Bird
Carried

6. Procedure for Hearings

General discussion ensued as to the procedures to be observed during the hearing.

Meeting closed at 11.12am.

Confirmed this

6th

day of

June

1995.


Chairman

Minutes of Meeting on 31 May 1995

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

**Minutes of Proceedings of Hearings of
Estimates Committee B held at 11.30am on 31 May 1995 in
the Legislative Council Chamber
Parliament House, Brisbane**

1. Meeting

The Committee met in public session at 11.30am with the Chairman, Mr Darryl Briskey MLA in the Chair.

2. Statement by the Chairman

The Chairman made an introductory statement concerning its consideration of proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation Bill 1995 for the areas set out in the Sessional Orders.

3. Attendance

The following Members of the Committee were present:

Mr Darryl Briskey MLA
Mrs Lorraine Bird MLA
Mr Denver Beanland MLA
Mr Russell Cooper MLA
Mr Pat Purcell MLA
Mr Marc Rowell MLA
Mr Terry Sullivan MLA

Also Present: Mr Neil Laurie and Mr Graeme Kinnear.

4. Department of Police

In attendance was the Minister for Police and Corrective Services, the Honourable Paul Braddy MLA, accompanied by the following officers:

Mr Jim O'Sullivan	Commissioner of Police
Mr Bill Aldrich	Deputy Commissioner, Executive Director Operations
Mr Dick Warry	Executive Director, Corporate Services
Mr John Just	Director, Finance Division

Dr Jim Hann	Director, Information Management Division
Mr Jim Hardie	Manager, Human Resources Management Branch
Ms Suzanne Kelly	Senior Planning Officer
Mr Bob Carson	Director, Administration Division
Mr Terry Livingstone	Manager, Information Services Branch
Dr A Scott	Principal Policy Officer, Office of the Commissioner
Mr BV Hodge	Senior Policy Officer, Office of the Commissioner

The Chairman declared the proposed expenditure for the Department of Police to be open for examination.

The question before the committee was "that the proposed expenditures be agreed to".

The Committee examined the following witnesses:

Hon Paul Braddy MLA	Minister
Mr Jim O'Sullivan	Commissioner of Police
Mr Bill Aldrich	Deputy Commissioner, Executive Director Operations
Mr Dick Warry	Executive Director, Corporate Services
Mr John Just	Director, Finance Division

Ms Fiona Simpson MLA, by leave, also asked questions.

The Committee concluded its examination and the witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of Sitting

The sitting was suspended at 1.30pm.

Resumption of Sitting

The Committee resumed at 2.30pm.

5. Corrective Services Commission

In attendance was the Minister for Police and Corrective Services, the Honourable Paul Braddy MLA, accompanied by the following officers:

Prof Patrick Weller	Chairperson of the Commission
Mr Keith Hamburger	Director-General
Mr Stan Macionis	Deputy Director-General
Mr Peter Rule	Director, Corporate Services
Mr Ian Stewart	Director, Executive Support
Mr Wayne Shennan	Director, Audit and Investigation
Mr Bruce Peng	General Manager, Finance and Administration
Mr Roger Carstens	General Manager, Media and Marketing

Mr Neil McAllister Principal Adviser, Policy and Co-ordination
Secretary

The Chairman declared the proposed expenditure for the Corrective Services to be open for examination.

The question before the committee was "that the proposed expenditures be agreed to".

The Committee examined the following witnesses:

Hon Paul Braddy MLA	Minister
Mr Keith Hamburger	Director-General
Mr Stan Macionis	Deputy Director-General

The Committee concluded its examination and witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of Sitting

The sitting was suspended at 4.31pm.

Resumption of Sitting

The Committee resumed at 4.40pm.

6. Queensland Emergency Services

In attendance was the Minister for Queensland Emergency Services, the Deputy Premier, the Honourable Tom Burns MLA, accompanied by the following officers:

The following officers attended:

Dr Leo Keliher	Director-General
Mr Geoff Skerritt	Commissioner, Queensland Fire Services
Dr Gerry FitzGerald	Commissioner, Queensland Ambulance Service
Ms Susan Bradshaw	Executive Director, Corporate Services Division
Mr Gary Taylor	Director, Finance
Mr Bernie Elder	Acting Management Accountant
Mr Michael Kinnane	Executive Director
Mr Allan Windsor	Executive Director, Counter Disaster Services Division
Mr Mat Tilley	Director, Facilities and Asset

The Chairman declared the proposed expenditure for Queensland Emergency Services to be open for examination.

The question before the committee was "that the proposed expenditures be agreed to".

The Committee examined the following witnesses.

Hon Tom Burns MLA	Minister
Dr Leo Keliher	Director-General
Mr Geoff Skeritt	Commissioner
Dr Gerry FitzGerald	Commissioner
Ms Susan Bradshaw	Executive Director, Corporate Services Division
Mr Michael Kinnane	Executive Director, Statewide Services Division
Mr Mat Tiley	Director, Facilities and Assets

Mr Brian Littleproud MLA by leave, also asked questions.

The Committee concluded its examination and the witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of Sitting

The sitting was suspended at 6.40pm.

Resumption of Sitting

The Committee Hearing resumed at 7.40pm.

7. Office of Consumer Affairs

In attendance was the Minister for QES and Consumer Affairs, the Honourable Tom Burns MLA, accompanied by the following officers:

Dr Leo Keliher	Director-General, Deputy Corporate Affairs
Mr John Susso	Director, Policy and Legal Division
Mr Neil Lawson	Commissioner for Consumer Affairs
Ms Susan Bradshaw	Executive Director, Corporate Services Division

The Chairman declared the proposed expenditure for the Office of Consumer Affairs to be open for examination.

The question before the Committee was "that the proposed expenditures be agreed to".

The Committee examined the following witnesses:

Hon. T Burns	Minister
Dr Leo Keliher	Director-General, Deputy Corporate Affairs
Mr John Susso	Director, Policy and Legal Division
Mr Neil Lawson	Commissioner for Consumer Affairs

Suspension of Sitting

The sitting was suspended at 8.20pm.

Resumption of Sitting

The Committee resumed at 8.33pm.

8. Department of Justice and Attorney-General

In attendance was the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General and Minister for the Arts, the Honourable Dean Wells MLA, accompanied by the following officers:

Mr Brian Stewart	Director General
Mr Ken Levy	Deputy Director-General
Mr Brendan Butler	Deputy Director of Prosecutions
Mr Steven Davey	Prosecutions Office
Mr David Hook	Executive Director, Courts Division
Mr Kent Maddock	Deputy Director-General
Mr Keith Watts	Executive Director, Corporate Services
Ms Rane de Gruchy	Executive Director, Crown Law Division
Mr Barry Read	Manager, Magistrates Courts Branch
Ms Marg O'Donnell	Director, Alternative Dispute Resolution Division
Mr Dominic McGann	Executive Director, Policy and Legislation Division
Ms Marg Herriot	A/Executive Manager and Cabinet Legislation & Liaison Officer
Mr David Robson	Executive Director, Administrative Law Division
Mr Ian McEwan	State Reporting Bureau
Mr Kevin Martin	Public Trustee
Mr Jim Cockrell	Public Trust Office
Mr J Hodgins	Legal Aid Commission of Qld
Mr John Britten	A/Commissioner, Anti-Discrimination Commission
Mr Des O'Shea	Commissioner, Electoral Commission
Mr Lew Wyvill QC	A/Chairperson, Criminal Justice Commission
Mr Graham Brighton	Executive Director, Criminal Justice Commission
Mr Rod Newton	Executive Manager, Financial Services

The Chairman declared the proposed expenditure for the area of the Department of Justice and Attorney-General to be open for examination.

The question before the committee was "that the proposed expenditures be agreed to".

The Committee examined the following witnesses:

Hon Dean Wells MLA	Minister
Mr Brian Stewart	Director-General

The Committee concluded its examination and the witnesses withdrew.

9. Arts

In attendance was the Honourable Dean Wells MLA, Minister for the Arts accompanied by the following officers:

Mr Doug Hall	Director, Queensland Art Gallery
Mr Des Zagami	Director, Queensland Cultural Centre Trust
Dr Alan Bartholomai	Director, Museum
Mr Tony Gould	Director, Performing Arts Trust
Ms Jane Haley	Executive Manager, Policy and Planning, Queensland Theatre Company
Mr Chris Johnson	Artistic Director
Mr Des Stevens	State Librarian

The Chairman declared the proposed expenditure for the area of the Office of the Arts to be open for examination.

The question before the committee was "that the proposed expenditures be agreed to".

The Committee examined the following witnesses:

Hon Dean Wells MLA Minister

Mrs Joan Sheldon MLA, by leave, also asked questions.

10. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11.00pm, Wednesday 31 May 1995.

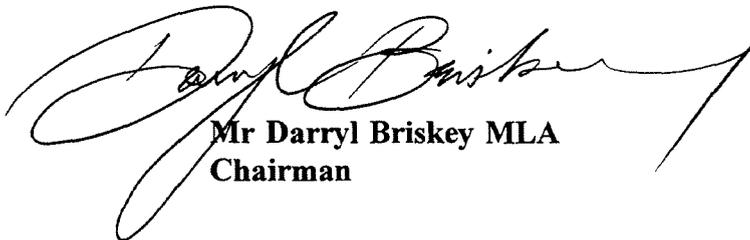
Confirmed this

6th

day of

June

1995.



Mr Darryl Briskey MLA
Chairman

Minutes of Meeting on 6 June 1995

- M I N U T E S -

A meeting of the Estimates Committee B was held in Room A.17 of Parliament House on 6 June 1995 at 11.35 am.

Members Present: Darryl Briskey (Chairperson), Denver Beanland, Pat Purcell, Marc Rowell and Terry Sullivan.

Apologies: Lorraine Bird and Russell Cooper.

Also Present: Neil Laurie and Graeme Kinnear.

Confirmation of Minutes Confirmation of Minutes of the previous meeting held at 11.04 am on 31 May 1995.

Moved: Terry Sullivan

Seconded: Marc Rowell

Carried

Confirmation of Minutes of Estimates Hearing held at 11.30 am in the Legislative Council Chamber on 31 May 1995.

Moved: Pat Purcell

Seconded: Denver Beanland

Carried

1. Questions on Notice: Answers to Questions on Notice received as at 6 June 1995 were tabled. The Chairman read two letters from the Minister for Police and Corrective Services regarding answers to Questions on Notice relating to Police and Corrective Services. The Ministers letters stated that some Questions on Notice would be unable to be answered until early on the week commencing 6 June 1995 because of the detail of the information sought.

Questions on Notice
(cont).

It was resolved pursuant to Section 4 of the Parliamentary Papers Act that the Answers to Questions on Notice be published and provided to non-committee members who had asked questions at the Committee Hearing.

Moved: Pat Purcell
Seconded: Denver Beanland
Carried

2. Chairman's Draft Report

The Chairman's draft report for Estimates Committee B hearing was tabled, to be considered at the next meeting.

It was agreed that any Member requiring assistance in drafting a dissenting report or reservation, be at liberty to contact the research staff for their assistance.

Next Meeting

To be held on 7 June 1995 in Room A.35 of Parliament House at 11.30 am.

Meeting closed at 11.45 am.

Confirmed this



day of

June

1995.


Chairman

Minutes of Meeting on 7 June 1995

- M I N U T E S -

A meeting of the Estimates Committee B was held in Room A.35 of Parliament House on 7 June 1995 at 11.38 am.

Members Present: Darryl Briskey (Chairperson), Lorraine Bird (Deputy Chairperson), Russell Cooper, Marc Rowell and Terry Sullivan.

Apologies: Pat Purcell.

Also Present: Neil Laurie and Graeme Kinnear.

Confirmation of Minutes Confirmation of Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 June 1995.

Moved: Terry Sullivan

Seconded: Denver Beanland

Carried

1. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

1. Questions on Notice

The Chairman tabled answers to questions on notice received from the Minister for Police and Corrective Services but noted that some answers to questions had not been received.

2. Consideration of Draft Report

The Chairman asked if Members had any additional matters to be included within the report or any suggested changes to the report.

Mr Marc Rowell MLA, Mr Denver Beanland MLA and Mr Terry Sullivan MLA suggested that some additional material be included in the report.

Agreed that the proposed additions be included within the report and a new draft be circulated for consideration at the next meeting. Copies of the answers to the questions on notice once received would also be circulated.

Next Meeting

To be held on 8 June 1995 in Room B.27 of Parliament House at 9.00am.

Meeting closed at 11.55 am.

Confirmed this



day of



1995.



Chairman

Minutes of Meeting on 8 June 1995

- M I N U T E S -

A meeting of the Estimates Committee B was held in Room B.27 of Parliament House on 8 June 1995 at 9.07 am.

Members Present: Darryl Briskey (Chairperson), Lorraine Bird (Deputy Chairperson), Denver Beanland, Russell Cooper, Pat Purcell, Marc Rowell and Terry Sullivan.

Also Present: Neil Laurie and Graeme Kinnear.

Confirmation of Minutes Confirmation of Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 June 1995.

Moved: Lorraine Bird
Seconded: Denver Beanland
Carried

1. Questions on Notice: The Chairman tabled Questions on Notice received from the Minister for Police and Corrective Services.

Resolved that the Questions on Notice be published.

Moved: Denver Beanland
Seconded: Terry Sullivan
Carried

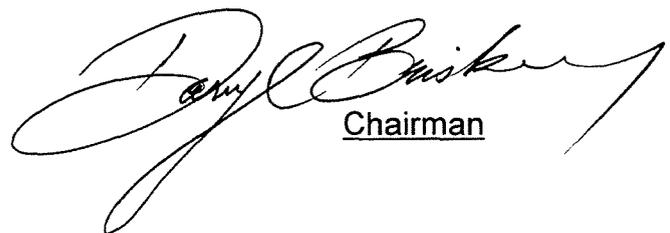
2. Approval of Report: The Chairman's final draft report was read to the Committee paragraph by paragraph with two minor amendments being made.

Resolved that the Chairman's draft report be approved.

Moved: Pat Purcell
Seconded: Lorraine Bird
Carried

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3. Reservations: Non-Government Members of the Committee indicated that they would, pursuant to Sessional Order 20(2), be providing a reservation to be added to the report.
4. Report to Include Minutes: Resolved that the minutes of the Committee's meetings be attached to the report.
- Moved: Denver Beanland
Seconded: Terry Sullivan
Carried
5. Tabling of Report, Minutes of Evidence & Questions on Notice: Resolved that the Chairman table the Committee's report, Minutes of Evidence taken on 31 May 1995 and Questions on Notice received by the Committee.
- Moved: Denver Beanland
Seconded: Pat Purcell
Carried

Meeting closed at 9.25 am.


Chairman