



# Queensland Parliament Factsheet

## Estimates Process

The Minister and the Chief Executive Officer of the relevant Department or Authority must attend the committee's hearings and may be questioned directly by members. Members cannot ask questions of other public officials, however, a minister or the Chief Executive Officer, may refer a question to another public official. There is a provision for questions to be taken on notice with these having to be answered by 10am on the day prior to the hearing. Each minister must provide answers to up to 20 questions on notice. At least 10 of the questions on notice are to be allocated to non-government members of the committee.

Questioners at estimates hearings are allowed a wide scope, with questions ranging from items of detail to broad policy. The Minister may inform a portfolio committee that a question will be taken on notice and an answer provided at a later date. When the committee's hearings are completed, the members meet, discuss the information gained and compile a final report. Any committee member can incorporate in the

report a statement of reservations or a dissent to the majority committee report. The final report is tabled in parliament and each one is debated in the House during the Consideration-in-Detail stage before it is adopted.