



Speech By  
**Shane King**


**MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH**

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Record of Proceedings, 24 October 2019

## **TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

### **Report, Motion to Take Note**

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (3.22 pm): I move—

That the House take note of report No. 28 of the Transport and Public Works Committee titled *Examination of Auditor-General report No. 1: 2018-19—Monitoring and managing ICT projects* tabled on 19 September 2019.

Report No. 28 of the Transport and Public Works Committee represents a summary of our committee's consideration of the Auditor-General's report No. 1 of 2018-19, titled *Monitoring and managing ICT projects*. Our committee's only recommendation was that the Legislative Assembly note the contents. We noted that historically the implementation of ICT projects has caused difficulties throughout the world. The difficulty of finding solutions that are suitable for the varying applications required by a government as an off-the-shelf product or even one that requires little modification to suit varying applications is extremely difficult. Also, the increasing rate that technology becomes out of date is another key factor in trying to keep these systems relevant and adds to the difficulty.

Overall, our committee considered the Digital Projects Dashboard helps to create a more transparent overview of government ICT projects and that prior to its implementation it was difficult to know which projects departments were undertaking, what stage they were at and the costings involved. We did note that departments need to make sure that the information on the dashboard is more up to date, in particular the status of the project needs to be accurate and end dates updated with reasons if projects are not reaching time lines. We also found that government and department bodies were largely not using the dashboard and that they should be encouraged to use it as it would help with quality assurance of projects as well as helping departments to learn from mistakes when they are made and logged. That has to help with efficiency overall.

We also noted the Queensland government's Chief Information Officer's comments regarding the difficulty in retaining highly skilled personnel and his encouragement that appropriate training and coaching of existing staff needs to be increased to help fill this gap. Overall though, we were satisfied that appropriate action is being taken to address the recommendations made in the Auditor-General's report. I want to thank the officials from the Queensland Audit Office and the Department of Housing and Public Works who attended our public briefing and thanks also, as always, to our committee members and our hardworking secretariat staff for their work on this report.