




Speech By
Shane King

MEMBER FOR KURWONGBAH

Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2023

TRANSPORT AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Report, Motion to Take Note

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (3.29 pm): I move—

That the House take note of the Transport and Resources Committee Report No. 28, 57th Parliament, *Examination of Auditor-General Report 18: 2021-22—Enhancing government procurement*, tabled on 16 December 2022.

The report we looked into was the Auditor-General's report 18 of 2021-22 titled *Enhancing government procurement*. I think it is important to point out that the Auditor-General's report did not examine the merits of supply contracts awarded by government departments. Rather, it analysed expenditure data, reviewed procurement strategies and related documents, and interviewed staff involved in recruitment processes for context. The overall goals of the Auditor-General's review were to interrogate the effectiveness of current procurement processes and identify opportunities for savings, including where departments could be sharing more of their purchasing power resources.

The Auditor-General made five recommendations, which I will outline for the benefit of the House. No. 1 was that Queensland Treasury and Queensland Government Procurement should monitor and report on how departments are collaborating to achieve whole-of-government outcomes including setting targets and putting in place reporting processes for performance at department and whole-of-government levels. No. 2 was that Queensland Treasury and Queensland Government Procurement should engage with departments about costs and benefits of a universal classification system for expenditure. No. 3 was that Queensland Treasury and Queensland Government Procurement should enhance information and data sharing between themselves to support strategic procurement decision-making.

No. 4 was that departments should use existing whole-of-government procurement arrangements and this should be monitored and reported on. We learned that there are 466 such arrangements already in existence that departments can tap into. Finally, recommendation 5 was that Queensland Government Procurement should ensure its most recent data strategy is endorsed and develop a detailed implementation plan about how to achieve its objectives that should be reported against. All five of these recommendations have been agreed to by government, with an implementation time line for the fourth quarter of 2024.

We committed to getting the best value for money for Queensland taxpayers, and the report noted there were some examples of effective collaboration, including a great case study on cross-departmental bulk purchasing of electricity supply. Electricity supply is always exciting to our committee. It is always good to get another perspective on government practices, checking what we are doing well and what we can improve on. That is what these Auditor-General reports do.

Once again, as always, I would like to thank the members of the Transport and Resources Committee for their collaboration on this report as well as our amazing, hardworking secretariat, Jodhi, Zac and Amanda. I also thank all of the witnesses who appeared before us at our briefings. Our committee recommended that the Legislative Assembly note the contents of this report and I commend it to the House.