

Question on Notice
No. 485
Asked on 24 May 2022

Ms F Simpson asked Premier and Minister for the Olympics (Hon. A Palaszczuk)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Office of the Queensland Integrity Commissioner—

Will the Premier provide (reported separately for each financial year since 2015-16) (a) the budget allocation for staff costs (as of the first day of the financial year or in the case of 2020-21, 1 December 2020) and (b) actual staff costs?

ANSWER:

Actual employee expenses for the financial years in question are included in the annual reports of the Queensland Integrity Commissioner which have been tabled in the Parliament and are available to the member on the Parliament's tabled papers database. Nonetheless, I provide the links to them from the tabled papers database as below:-

<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2016/5516T1060.pdf>, refer to page 21
<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2017/5517T1482.pdf>, refer to page 21
<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2018/5618T1122.pdf>, refer to page 21
<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2019/5619T1666.pdf>, refer to page 10
<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2020/5620T1765.pdf>, refer to page 18
<https://documents.parliament.qld.gov.au/tp/2021/5721T1611.pdf>, refer to page 28

The budget for employee expenses is also available in these annual reports using the links and at the page numbers above, although I am advised that these figures were not included in annual reports prior to 2017-18.

As such, I advise that the budget for employee expenses for the Office of the Integrity Commissioner was \$561,672 in 2015-16 and \$364,110 in 2016-17. The decrease in the budget was primarily due to Recommendation 15 of the Strategic Review of the Functions of the Integrity Commissioner undertaken by Professor Peter Coaldrake in 2015. The review recommended a reduction in the staffing resources from 3.8 FTE to 2.4 FTE.

In relation to 2020-21, while the 2020-21 Queensland Budget was delivered to the Parliament on 1 December 2020, the budget for employee expenses in 2020-21 was set for the whole of the financial year. As outlined in the Queensland Integrity Commissioner annual report 2020-21, the budget for employee expenses in 2020-21 was \$751,000 and actual employee expenses were \$725,000. The decrease in employee expenses was primarily due to short-term vacancies during the financial year.