



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

## ANNUAL REPORT

### 2008-2009

### REPORT NO. 1 – AUGUST 2009

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic Development Committee is a select committee of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Queensland Parliament established by motion of the House on 23 April 2009. This report summarises the work the committee undertook during the first two months of its existence.
2. For more detailed information on the work of the committee, including copies of any documents tabled and information on current inquiries, visit the committee's Internet site at:  
[www.parliament.qld.gov.au/edc](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/edc)

#### THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

3. The Economic Development Committee was created by motion of the House passed on 23 April 2009.
4. The role of the committee is to monitor and report on issues in the policy areas of employment, infrastructure, transport, trade, industry development, agriculture and tourism.
5. The committee may decide to conduct a particular inquiry or the parliament may refer specific issues for investigation. However, the committee must give priority to matters referred to them by resolution of the Queensland Legislative Assembly.
6. The committee does not have the power to investigate and report on events, incidents or operational matters within their terms of reference. They are also unable to investigate or report on issues that fall within the responsibilities of another Queensland Parliamentary Committee.
7. The committee consists of seven members of parliament: four government and three non-government.

#### ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

8. The resolution that established the committee requires it to report on the operations of the committee as soon as practicable after 30 June each year.

#### INQUIRY INTO IDENTIFYING WORLD'S BEST PRACTICE BY GOVERNMENTS TO EFFECTIVELY STIMULATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN QUEENSLAND

9. When the Queensland Parliament established the Economic Development Committee, it also referred an inquiry to the committee. The terms of reference for this inquiry are:

That the Economic Development Committee identify world's best practice by governments to effectively stimulate employment opportunities to ensure that Queensland is well positioned to create employment opportunities in readiness for an economic upturn.

In undertaking this inquiry, consideration should be given to established and new and emerging industries, and specifically:

- (a) Queensland's significant science, research and technology infrastructure
  - (b) Queensland's natural resources
  - (c) Areas in which Queensland has a demonstrated comparative advantage
  - (d) The current and future skills requirements of the Queensland economy
  - (e) The impact of regulation on economic growth and recovery.
10. The reference requires the committee to report on this inquiry to the House by 30 October 2009.
  11. Given the extensive nature of this inquiry and the tight reporting timeframe, the committee focused on this reference from its establishment on 23 April 2009 until the end of this reporting period, 30 June 2009.
  12. During this time, the committee conducted background research, including literature reviews and received four briefings from key stakeholders on their views on the key issues within the inquiry's terms of reference.
  13. In the next financial year, the committee plans to release an issues paper, call for public submissions, hold a public hearing and report, in accordance with the motion of the House, on or before 30 October 2009.

## MEETINGS AND OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

14. The committee held three committee meetings and four briefings during the reporting period.

## MEETING ATTENDANCE

15. As outlined above, the committee held three meetings during 2008-09. Member attendance at these meetings is outlined in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Member attendance at Economic Development Committee meetings 2008-09

Meeting Dates	Evan Moorhead	Fiona Simpson	Tracy Davis	Jan Jarratt	Shane Knuth	Jason O'Brien	Lillian van Litsenburg
20 May 2009	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 June 2009	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17 June 2009	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE

16. The committee is funded from the appropriation made to the Legislative Assembly. Due to its establishment late in the financial year, the committee did not receive a specific budget allocation for 2008-09. The committee has received a budget of \$232,652.92 for the 2009-10 financial year.

17. The committee's expenditure for the year was \$29,300.73.

18. Table 2 below gives a breakdown of committee expenditure during the year.

**Table 2:** Breakdown of Economic Development Committee expenditure for 2008-09

Item	\$
Employee expenses	28,540.65
Communications	282.04
Other costs	478.04
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>29,300.73</b>

19. The committee had no revenue during 2008-09.

## WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT 1994

20. During 2008-09, no disclosures were made to the committee in accordance with the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1994*.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – 53RD PARLIAMENT



**Mr Evan Moorhead MP, Chair**  
Member for Waterford



**Ms Fiona Simpson MP, Deputy Chair**  
Member for Maroochydore



**Ms Tracy Davis MP**  
Member for Aspley



**Ms Jan Jarratt MP**  
Member for Whitsunday



**Mr Shane Knuth MP**  
Member for Dalrymple



**Mr Jason O'Brien MP**  
Member for Cook



**Ms Lillian van Litsenburg MP**  
Member for Redcliffe

## SECRETARIAT

### Ms Lyndel Bates

Acting Research Director

### Ms Margaret Telford

Acting Principal Research Officer

### Ms Anne Fidler

Executive Assistant

## CONTACT DETAILS

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If you would like to receive email updates about the committee's activities, please advise the committee secretariat.

**Evan Moorhead MP**  
Chair