



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

2009 - 2010

REPORT NO. 3 – AUGUST 2010

INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic Development Committee is a select committee of the 53rd Queensland Parliament established on 23 April 2009. This report summarises the work the committee undertook during 2009 - 2010.
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

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. 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 were:

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; and
 - (e) The impact of regulation on economic growth and recovery.
10. The reference required the committee to report on this inquiry to the House by 30 October 2009. On 1 September 2009, the House extended the reporting date from 30 October 2009 to 26 November 2009.
 11. For this inquiry, the committee released an issues paper. The committee published this issues paper on their website and distributed over 800 copies to interested individuals and groups. Additionally, the committee met with stakeholders, inspected science facilities and held two public hearings.
 12. The report recognised that the complexity of our economy and society means a well co-

ordinated policy response is vital to promoting employment opportunities. Additionally, the report recognises the diversity of Queensland's regions, each of which has its own unique opportunities and challenges. The report made 28 recommendations designed to address a range of issues including skill requirements, innovation, regional and industry considerations and government regulation.

13. Section 107 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* requires the responsible ministers to respond to recommendations within three to six months of the recommendations being tabled. On 21 January 2010 the Hon Desley Boyle MP, Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, responded to two of the recommendations. On 26 February 2010, the Treasurer and Minister for Employment and Economic Development tabled a whole-of-government response to the committee's recommendations.
14. Of the 28 recommendations, the government supported 19 recommendations, supported in principle one recommendation, supported the objective of six recommendations, supported the direction of one recommendation and did not support one recommendation.
15. The committee recommended that the government investigate the feasibility of establishing a state-wide capability data warehouse to develop better links between industry and research institutions. This recommendation was not supported by the government who stated that previous experience demonstrated that developing and supporting data warehouses is resource intensive and not satisfactory for system users.
16. A copy of the government's response to the committee's report is available from the website.

INQUIRY INTO THE ROAD SAFETY BENEFITS OF FIXED SPEED CAMERAS

17. On 11 March 2010, the committee chair, Mr Evan Moorhead MP, tabled Issues Paper No. 2, *Inquiry into the road safety benefits of fixed speed cameras*. During this inquiry, the Economic Development Committee will examine and report on the road safety benefits of fixed speed cameras in

Queensland. As part of this inquiry, the committee will consider:

- The effectiveness of fixed speed cameras in reducing speeding and road trauma;
 - The criteria used to select sites for fixed speed cameras;
 - The most efficient use of resources to maximise the road safety benefits of fixed speed cameras;
 - The impact of new technologies on fixed speed cameras; and
 - The appropriate role of fixed speed cameras in the overall speed enforcement regime.
18. During 2009 - 2010 the committee released the issues paper, called for public submissions to this inquiry and undertook a study tour to Melbourne. The committee tabled 46 submissions to this inquiry prior to 30 June 2010. The committee plans to hold a public hearing and table their report in the next financial year.

INQUIRY INTO DEVELOPING QUEENSLAND'S RURAL AND REGIONAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH GREY NOMAD TOURISM

19. On 15 April 2010, the committee chair, Mr Evan Moorhead MP, tabled Issues Paper No. 3, *Inquiry into developing Queensland's rural and regional communities through grey nomad tourism*. During this inquiry, the Economic Development Committee will investigate the development of Queensland's rural and regional communities through grey nomad tourism. As part of this inquiry, the committee will consider:
 - The role of grey nomad tourism in developing Queensland's rural and regional communities;
 - Infrastructure requirements for grey nomads;
 - Marketing and promotion of Queensland to potential grey nomad visitors;
 - The role of government in facilitating grey nomad tourism in Queensland; and
 - The utilisation of grey nomad skills and labour in rural and regional Queensland.
20. During 2009 - 2010, the committee released the issues paper and called for public submissions to this inquiry. By 30 June

2010, the committee had tabled 82 submissions to this inquiry. Next year the committee plans to hold a public hearing and table their final report for this inquiry.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

21. The committee held 19 meetings during 2009 - 2010. Member attendance at these meetings is outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Member attendance at Economic Development Committee meetings 2009 – 2010

Date of meeting	Mr Evan Moorhead MP	Mrs Rosemary Menkens MP (from 9 February 2010)	Ms Fiona Simpson MP (until 9 February 2010)	Ms Tracy Davis MP	Ms Jan Jarratt MP	Mrs Betty Kiernan MP (from 9 February 2010)	Mr Shane Knuth MP	Mr Jason O'Brien MP	Ms Lillian van Litsenburg MP (until 9 February 2010)
1 Jul 2009	✓	n/a		✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓
5 Aug 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a		✓	✓
19 Aug 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓
2 Sep 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓
16 Sep 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓
18 Sep 2009 (a)	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a			✓
18 Sep 2009 (b)	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a			✓
7 Oct 2009	✓	n/a	✓		✓	n/a		✓	✓
28 Oct 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓
11 Nov 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓
24 Nov 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a		✓	✓
25 Nov 2009	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓
10 Feb 2010	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
24 Feb 2010	✓		n/a		✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
10 Mar 2010	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
24 Mar 2010	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
14 Apr 2010	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓		✓	✓	n/a
19 May 2010	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓		n/a
9 Jun 2010	✓	✓	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a

COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE

22. The committee is funded from the appropriation made to the Legislative Assembly. The committee expended \$226,732.32 for the 2009 - 2010 financial year. This expenditure was 7.44 per cent under budget.

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

Table 2: Breakdown of Economic Development Committee expenditure for 2009 - 2010

Item	\$
Employee expenses	199,384.90
Travel	11,841.84
Printing	7,907.00
Advertising	2,323.07
Telephone	1,520.19
Other costs	3,755.32
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	226,732.32

24. The committee had no revenue during 2009 - 2010.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT 1994

25. During 2009 - 2010, no disclosures were made to the committee in accordance with the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1994*.



Evan Moorhead MP
Chair

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – 53RD PARLIAMENT

Mr Evan Moorhead MP, Chair

Member for Waterford

Mrs Rosemary Menkens MP, Deputy Chair (from 9 February 2010)

Member for Burdekin

Ms Fiona Simpson MP, Deputy Chair (until 9 February 2010)

Member for Maroochydore

Ms Tracy Davis MP

Member for Aspley

Ms Jan Jarratt MP

Member for Whitsunday

Mrs Betty Kiernan MP (from 9 February 2010)

Member for Mt Isa

Mr Shane Knuth MP

Member for Dalrymple

Mr Jason O'Brien MP

Member for Cook

Ms Lillian van Litsenburg MP (until 9 February 2010)

Member for Redcliffe

SECRETARIAT

Ms Lyndel Bates

Research Director

Ms Joanna Fear

Principal Research Officer (9 November 2009 to 29 January 2010)

Ms Margaret Telford

Acting Principal Research Officer (until 6 November 2009)

Mr Alistair MacLennan

Acting Principal Research Officer (15 February 2010 to 6 August 2010)

Ms Anne Fidler

Acting 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.