

Annual Report

2015-16

Report No. 24, 55th Parliament

**Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business
Committee**

November 2016

Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee

Chair	Mr Scott Stewart MP, Member for Townsville
Deputy Chair	Miss Verity Barton MP, Member for Broadwater
Members	Mr Mark Boothman MP, Member for Albert Mr Steve Dickson MP, Member for Buderim Mr Bruce Saunders MP, Member for Maryborough Mr Rick Williams MP, Member for Pumicestone
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1 Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee

The Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee was established on 27 March 2015 as a portfolio committee of the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

Section 92 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* outlines the main responsibilities of a portfolio committee. In relation to its portfolio area, a committee may—

- consider Appropriation Bills
- consider other legislation and proposed legislation
- perform its role in relation to public accounts and public works.

Schedule 6 of the *Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly* sets out the committee's portfolio responsibilities as follows:

- education
- tourism and major events
- innovation
- science, and
- the digital economy and small business.¹

In accordance with section 108 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* (the Act), the committee is required to table an annual report within four months and 14 days after the end of each financial year. The Act provides that the report must include:

- a list of meetings of the committee and the names of members attending or absent from each meeting
- a summary of issues considered by the committee, including a description of the more significant issues arising from the considerations
- a statement of the committee's revenue and spending for the year
- a brief description of responses by Ministers to recommendations of the committee.

This report provides a summary of the activities of the committee from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and includes the information required by the Act.

2 Inquiries and reports

During the 2015 -16 year the committee considered the Appropriation Bill for its portfolio areas, two policy inquiries, four Bills, subordinate legislation and a number of the Auditor-General's reports. The committee tabled 12 reports during the 2015-2016 financial year.

The committee's reports and inquiries are summarised below. Copies of the committee's publications are available from the committee's webpage: www.parliament.qld.gov.au/etisbc

2.1 Appropriation Bills

The committee reported in September 2015 on its consideration of the 2014-15 budget estimates for its portfolio areas, following a public hearing in August 2015. The committee commenced its examination of the 2015-16 budget estimates for its portfolio areas in June 2016.

¹ *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*, section 88 and *Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly*, effective from 31 August 2004, Standing Order 194 and Schedule 6

2.2 Policy inquiries

Section 92 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* provides that a portfolio committee is to deal with an issue referred to it by the Legislative Assembly, whether or not the issue is within its portfolio area.

Inquiry into a suitable model for the implementation of the National Injury Insurance Scheme (Report No. 11)

Terms of reference for an inquiry into a suitable model for implementation of the National Injury Insurance Scheme were referred to the former Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee on 11 November 2015.

Responsibility for the inquiry was transferred to the Education, Tourism, Innovation and Small Business Committee from 18 February 2016. The original reporting date of 7 March 2016 was extended to 21 March 2016.

The terms of reference required the committee to inquire into and report on the most suitable model for implementing the National Injury Insurance Scheme (NIIS) for 1 July 2016, which was entered into by Queensland in a Heads of Agreement with the Commonwealth in May 2013. The terms of reference specified options including a no-fault lifetime care scheme or a hybrid common law and no-fault care and support arrangement.

To enable committee members to quickly understand the policy issues in the short time between transfer of the inquiry and reporting, the committee held two private workshops, facilitated by secretariat staff from the former committee and this committee.

The committee held two public briefings, and four public hearings and considered 26 submissions.

The committee reported on 21 March 2016 and made seven recommendations, six of which were accepted by the Government.

Inquiry into smoking and tobacco use at universities, technical and further education facilities, and registered training organisations (Report No. 12)

In October 2015 the Legislative Assembly referred terms of reference for an inquiry into smoking and tobacco use at universities, technical and further education facilities, and registered training organisations. The committee's terms of reference required it to inquire into the current arrangements that limit smoking at these educational facilities, the impact of smoking on staff, students and campus users, and the capacity for improved laws and regulations at these facilities to reduce smoking. The committee was required to report by 29 April 2016.

The committee considered 16 submissions, and held a public briefing about current legislation that limits smoking, and a public hearing with representatives of Queensland universities.

The committee made one recommendation, which was accepted by the Government.

2.3 Bills examined

Under section 93(1) of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* a portfolio committee's responsibility is to examine the policy to be given effect by legislation, and the application of fundamental legislative principles to the legislation.

The committee considered and reported on the following Bills during 2015-16:

Jobs Queensland Bill 2015 (Report No. 5)

The Jobs Queensland Bill 2016 was referred to the committee on 16 September 2015 and was required to report five weeks later on 20 October 2015. The committee considered 11 submissions, and held a departmental briefing and a public hearing. Its report recommended that the Bill be passed and also recommended two amendments to the Bill, both of which were accepted by Government.

Retail Shop Leases Amendment Bill 2015 (Report No. 9)

The Retail Shop Leases Amendment Bill 2015 was referred to the committee on 13 October 2015, for reporting in February 2016. The committee received a written briefing from the department and did not hold a public hearing. Its report recommended that the Bill be passed.

Further Education and Training (Training Ombudsman) and Another Act Amendment Bill 2015 (Report No. 10)

In December 2015 the Further Education and Training (Training Ombudsman) and Another Act Amendment Bill 2016 was referred to the committee. Only four submissions were received and considered. The committee recommended two amendments to the Bill, both of which were accepted by the Government.

National Injury Insurance Scheme (Queensland) Bill 2016 (Report No. 13)

Following its policy inquiry into the most suitable model for the implementation of the National Injury Insurance Scheme in Queensland, the committee examined the National Injury Insurance Scheme (Queensland) Bill 2016 over a four week period in April-May 2016. Thirteen submissions were considered. The committee was briefed by officials on two occasions and held one public hearing. The committee's report recommended one amendment to the Bill which was accepted by the Government.

Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation (National Injury Insurance Scheme) Amendment Bill 2016

The Bill, to implement a second phase of the National Injury Insurance Scheme, was referred to the committee in June 2016; the committee reported to the Legislative Assembly in the 2016-17 year.

2.4 Subordinate legislation

During 2015-16 the committee tabled three reports about subordinate legislation. The committee considered six pieces of subordinate legislation.

2.5 Public works and public accounts

Section 94 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* provides that a portfolio committee has responsibility, in its portfolio areas, for public works. It also has responsibility for assessment of the integrity, economy, efficiency and effectiveness of government financial management (public accounts). One of the ways a committee may fulfil this responsibility is by considering the annual and other reports of the Auditor-General.

2.6 Auditor-General Reports**Reports referred to the committee in 2015-16**

During the reporting period, the Committee of the Legislative Assembly referred the following Auditor-General report to the Committee for consideration:

- *Cloud computing* (Report 13 : 2015-16)
- *Results of audit: education sector entities 2015* (Report 18 : 2015-16)
- *Early childhood education* (Report 19 : 2015-16)

After receiving a briefing from the Queensland Audit Office and considering the report *Results of audit: education sector entities*, the committee decided not to further examine the Auditor-General's report on the annual financial audit of education sector entities.

At the time of this report, the committee had not finalised its examination of the other Auditor-General's reports referred during the reporting year.

Reports referred prior to the 2015-16 year

The committee continued to monitor the implementation by departments of the Auditor-General's recommendations in two reports: *Maintenance of public schools* (Report 11 : 2014-15) and *Oversight of recurrent grants to non-state schools* (Report 12 : 2014-15). The committee reported to the Legislative Assembly on both of those reports in the 2016-17 year.

3 Committee expenditure

The committee had no revenue during 2015-16. The committee is funded from the appropriation made to the Legislative Assembly. The expenditure of the committee during 2015-16 is shown in the table below.

Item	\$
Staff salaries and related expenses ²	304,362
Business travel	865
Printing and production	496
Consultants	5,175
Telecommunication costs	2,620
Meeting expenses, stationery, consumables and miscellaneous expenses	1,137
Expenditure Total	314,655

² Figures for staffing expenditure shown above reflect a three person secretariat supporting the committee. The committee's staffing might have been supplemented with additional resources from general Committee Office staff during the year.

4 Meeting attendance record

The table below shows the attendance of committee members at committee meetings and other activities during the reporting period.

Standing Order 202(1) provides that in the case of a committee members' illness or inability to attend, another member may be appointed to attend that meeting or stand in for a particular inquiry.

- Mr Michael Hart MP replaced Dr Mark Robinson MP for part of 7 March 2016
- Ms Joan Pease MP replaced Ms Nikki Boyd MP for part of 7 March 2016
- Mr Peter Russo MP replaced Mr Bruce Saunders MP on 18 March 2016
- Ms Nikki Boyd was appointed as acting chair and Mr Rick Williams MP replaced Mr Scott Stewart on 20 April 2016
- Mr Chris Whiting MP replaced Mr Bruce Saunders MP on 22 June 2016.

Meeting Date	Mr Scott Stewart MP Chair	Dr John McVeigh MP Deputy Chair	Mr Mark Boothman MP	Mr Sid Cramp MP	Ms Joan Pease MP	Mr Bruce Saunders MP
15 July 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27 August 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16 September 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17 September 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9 October 2015	✓	x	✓	x	✓	✓
14 October 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19 October 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
28 October 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 November 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27 November 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 December 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 December 2015	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29 January 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8 February 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

11 February 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16 February 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
17 February 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
	Mr Scott Stewart MP Chair	Dr Mark Robinson MP Deputy Chair	Mr Mark Boothman MP	Mr Sid Cramp MP	Ms Nikki Boyd MP	Mr Bruce Saunders MP
24 February 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 March 2016	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
7 March 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16 March 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18 March 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
21 March 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20 April 2016	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26 April 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28 April 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5 May 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Mr Scott Stewart MP Chair	Miss Verity Barton MP Deputy Chair	Mr Mark Boothman MP	Mr Steve Dickson MP	Ms Nikki Boyd MP	Mr Bruce Saunders MP
11 May 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17 May 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18 May 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19 May 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25 May 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Mr Scott Stewart MP Chair	Miss Verity Barton MP Deputy Chair	Mr Mark Boothman MP	Mr Steve Dickson MP	Mr Rick Williams MP	Mr Bruce Saunders MP
15 June 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17 June 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
22 June 2016	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x



Scott Stewart MP
Chair
November 2016