



**HOUSE OF
ASSEMBLY
INFORMATION
SHEET
2014**

STANDING COMMITTEES

In order to properly hold the government of the day accountable and to better inform the House on matters of public interest the South Australian Parliament has established a series of Standing Committees of Members of both Houses. These committees are in addition to any Select Committee that might be established for the purposes of an ad hoc inquiry. The majority of Standing Committees are established under the *Parliamentary Committees Act 1991*.

The appointing House or Houses determines membership to these Committees and appointments are made for the life of the Parliament.

Standing Committees inquire into specific matters or areas referred to it by either of the following methods:

- a motion from the appointing House(s);
- the Committee's own motion; or
- a direction from the Governor.

The *Parliamentary Committees Act* provides for ten Standing Committees, five are administered by the House of Assembly and five by the Legislative Council. The *Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee Act* provides for an eleventh Standing Committee which is administered by the Legislative Council (see below).

ECONOMIC AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Economic and Finance Committee inquires into and may report on any matter concerned with finance or economic development; the organization and efficiency of any area of public sector operations or any publicly funded body, other than a statutory authority and any matter concerned with the regulation of business or any other economic activity. The Committee also has a number of statutory functions. The Committee comprises seven Members of the House of Assembly and is administered by the House of Assembly.

ENVIRONMENT, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Environment, Resources and Development Committee inquires into and may report on any matter concerned with the environment; the conservation and utilisation of the resources of the State and planning, land use and transportation issues. The Committee also has a number of statutory functions. The Committee comprises six Members; three from the House of Assembly and three from the Legislative Council and is administered by the House of Assembly.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Committee must inquire into, consider and report on any public work referred to, including; the purpose necessity or advisability of the work; the revenue-producing character and prospective public value; the recurrent or whole-of-life costs associated and estimated net effect on the Consolidated Account; and the efficiency and progress of construction. The Committee comprises five Members of the House of Assembly and is administered by the House of Assembly.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION

This Committee is required to keep the administration and operation of the *Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986*, the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986*, and other legislation affecting occupational health, safety, welfare, occupational rehabilitation or compensation, under continuous review; and, in particular, examine regulations that may allow for the performance of statutory functions by private bodies or persons. The Committee comprises six Members three from the House of Assembly and three from the Legislative Council. It meets on an ad hoc basis and is administered by the House of Assembly.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Natural Resources Committee may inquire into and report on the protection, improvement and enhancement of the natural resources of the State and the extent to which it is possible to adopt an integrated approach to the use and management of the natural resources in accordance with the principles of ecologically sustainable use, development and protection; and also the extent to which the objectives for the rehabilitation of the River Murray are being achieved pursuant to the *River Murray Act 2003*. The Committee comprises seven Members, four from the House of Assembly and three from the Legislative Council and is administered by the House of Assembly.

CRIME AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY POLICY COMMITTEE

The Crime and Public Integrity Policy Committee examines the performance of functions and exercise of powers by the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption, the Ombudsman and the Office for Public Integrity; and whether the operation of the anti-corruption legislation has made an appreciable difference to the prevention or minimisation of corruption, misconduct or maladministration in public administration. It also examines the effectiveness of serious and organised crime legislation in disrupting and restricting the activities of organisations involved in serious crime and protecting members of the public from violence associated with such organisations. The Committee comprises six members, three from the House of Assembly and three from the Legislative Council and is administered by the Legislative Council.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Legislative Review Committee may inquire into any aspect of legal, constitutional or parliamentary reform or the administration of justice. The Committee is required to consider all sub-ordinate legislation (regulations, rules and by-laws) and is also responsible for matters concerned with inter-government relations. The Committee comprises six Members, three from the House of Assembly and three from the Legislative Council and is administered by the Legislative Council.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Social Development Committee may inquire into and report on any matter concerned with the health, welfare or education of the people of South Australia, any aspect of occupational safety or industrial relations or the arts, sport or cultural development. The Committee comprises six members, three from the House of Assembly and three from the Legislative Council and is administered by the Legislative Council.

STATUTORY AUTHORITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Statutory Authorities Review Committee may inquire into and report on any aspect of the operations of statutory authorities. The Committee comprises five Members of the Legislative Council and is administered by the Legislative Council.

STATUTORY OFFICERS COMMITTEE

The Statutory Officers Committee is responsible for inquiring into and reporting on the suitability of any person for appointment to an office which is filled by way of a recommendation of both Houses such as the Ombudsman. The Committee comprises six Members; three from the House of Assembly and three from the Legislative Council. It meets on an ad hoc basis and is administered by the Legislative Council.

ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE

Unlike those Committees mentioned above, this Committee was established by the *Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee Act* to review the operation of the *Aboriginal Lands Trust Act*, the *Maralinga Tjarutja Land Rights Act* and the *Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Act* and inquire into the interests of the traditional owners; the management of the Lands and the health, housing, education, economic development or training of Aboriginal people. The Committee comprises seven Members, three from the House of Assembly and four from the Legislative Council and is administered by the Legislative Council.

GENERAL INFORMATION

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Standing Committees meet both in the parliamentary precinct and off-site as the need arises. The proceedings are usually open to the public when the Committee is hearing evidence but closed during the Committee's deliberations.

COMMITTEE POWERS

A Committee has the same powers, privileges and immunities as the House(s) that established them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

All reports of the Standing Committees are tabled in their appointing House(s) and are available from each Committee's web-page or the House of Assembly Tabled Papers database on the Parliament of South Australia website. Should you have difficulty finding a report contact the House of Assembly's Procedure Office or the Legislative Council's Papers Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Further information on the committees mentioned above and current inquiries can be found on the Parliament of South Australia website at www.parliament.sa.gov.au.

Individual committees can be contacted as shown below:

Economic & Finance Committee	Tel (08) 8237 9223 Email EFC.Assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au
Environment, Resources & Development Committee	Tel (08) 8237 9387 Email ERDC.Assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au
Public Works Committee	Tel (08) 8237 9231 Email PWC.Assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au
Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation	Tel (08) 8237 9426 Email OccHealthCommittee@parliament.sa.gov.au
Crime & Public Integrity Policy Committee	Tel (08) 8237 9308 Email chris.schwarz@parliament.sa.gov.au
Legislative Review Committee	Tel (08) 8237 9415 Email seclrc@parliament.sa.gov.au
Social Development Committee	Tel (08) 8237 9416 Email sdcc@parliament.sa.gov.au

Natural Resources
Committee

Tel (08) 8237 9475
Email NRC.Assembly@parliament.sa.gov.au

Statutory Authorities Review
Committee

Tel (08) 8237 9417
Email sarc@parliament.sa.gov.au

Statutory Officers
Committee

Tel (08) 8237 9308
Email chris.schwarz@parliament.sa.gov.au

Aboriginal Lands
Parliamentary Standing
Committee

Tel (08) 2379568
Email alpsc@parliament.sa.gov.au

Or write to

The Secretariat (of the relevant committee)
Parliament House
GPO Box 572, ADELAIDE 5001