

A HOUSE OF REVIEW

BACKGROUND

The Legislative Council of Tasmania was established in 1825 as a unicameral legislature following the separation of Van Diemen's Land from New South Wales.

On 3 December of that year, Governor Darling of New South Wales proclaimed Van Diemen's Land as a separate colony, and simultaneously the first Legislative Council was created consisting of six nominee Members and the Lieut.-Governor, Colonel George Arthur.

The continuing prosperity and population growth of the colony were reflected by the increase in membership of the Council. In 1828, as a result of an Imperial Act, the Council was increased to 15 nominee Members (6 official and 8 unofficial) with the Governor as Presiding Officer.

In 1851, the Legislative Council Membership was further increased to a total of 24 Members. 16 Members were elected by restricted franchise and 8 Members were nominated by the Governor, who ceased to be a Member. From 1850 until 1856 the Presiding Officer in the Council was known as the Speaker. The Members elected Sir Richard Dry as the first incumbent of that position. In 1856 the title of the Presiding Officer changed from that of Speaker to President.

During the 1840s the British Colonial Office argued that the penal transportation system should continue. The colonists argued against any further influx of convicts and believed that their interests would be better served by a form of representative government for the colony. Although the Governor temporarily resolved this crisis, agitation for a more representative style of government grew stronger. The efforts of the colonists were rewarded with the proclamation of an act to permit the introduction of a bicameral, representative Parliament on 24 October 1856. The first elections were held in 1856 and the first Session of the new Parliament was opened on 2 December in that year.

When a bicameral Parliamentary system was discussed in the 1850s a Select Committee of the Council was appointed in 1853 to draw up proposals. The Committee, charged with producing a constitution for the State of Tasmania, stated in the explanatory introduction to their report - *"A Legislative Upper Chamber is recommended to guard against hasty and ill considered legislation by ensuring due deliberation previous to the adoption of any measure. This necessarily imparts a very different character to the Legislative Council from that which the Assembly will possess. The instincts of the Assembly will be movement - progress - innovation; generally of a useful character, but subject to the defects incidental even to improvement when suddenly introduced. The instincts of the more conservative Council will be caution - deliberation - resistance to change if not fully proved to be beneficial"*.

Throughout the life of the Legislative Council, Tasmanian electors have to a very large extent, preserved the independent nature of their Upper House. The Legislative Council is neither a rubber stamp for decisions of the Government in the Lower House, nor an alternative Opposition.

Reduction in
Numbers

Both Houses of the Parliament had adjournment periods cut short during the 1998 sitting year by a Proclamation issued by the Lieutenant-Governor on the recommendation of the then Premier, the Honourable Tony Rundle MHA, in order that the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council assemble primarily for the purpose of considering a Bill entitled the *Parliamentary Reform Bill 1998* (subsequently Act No. 31 of 1998). Both Houses resumed sitting on Wednesday, 22 July 1998.

Prior to the introduction of this Bill there had been introduced and debated in the Parliament, during the preceding few years, several Bills relating to the structure and operation of the Tasmanian Parliament. Provisions debated included changes to Legislative Council boundaries, the Council's powers in relation to Budget and Supply Bills; the numbers of Members in both Houses including a proposal to conduct a referendum on the future structure of the Parliament.

However, prior to the introduction of the *Parliamentary Reform Bill 1998* only legislative provisions relating to changes to Legislative Council boundaries including some validating legislation had successfully passed both Houses.

New 40
Member
Parliament

Having been introduced into the House of Assembly by the then Leader of the Opposition, the Honourable Jim Bacon MHA (subsequently Premier as a result of Labor's victory in the State election held on 29 August 1998), the Parliamentary Reform Bill which provided for the reduction in the number of Members in both Houses of the Parliament passed the House of Assembly on 22 July 1998.

The Bill was read the First time in the Legislative Council on that same day and passed through all stages by the morning of 23 July 1998. The Bill received the Royal Assent on 27 July 1998. As soon as the Royal Assent had been given the Premier sought, and was granted, a General Election for the House of Assembly. The Assembly was dissolved and the subsequent election held on 29 August 1998 returned 25 Members to that House.

The amending provisions of the Legislation affected principally the *Constitution Act 1934*, the *Electoral Act 1985* and the *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995*, with respect to the constitution of both the Assembly and the Council and the process by which a Redistribution Tribunal would determine the transitional arrangements to implement the redistribution of the State in respect of the Legislative Council, by providing for a reduction in the number of Members from 19 to 15.

Transition
Determination

The transition determination of the Redistribution Tribunal appointed in accordance with provisions contained in the *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995* was made on 26 May 1999.

The determination cited as the *Legislative Council (Transition Arrangements) Determination 1999 inter alia* allocated Members to the fifteen new Council electoral divisions which were determined at the last redistribution of the State Legislative Council boundaries on 6 February 1999 and established a new periodical election cycle. An allocated Member was taken to have been elected for and to represent the Council division to which they were allocated.

The term of the four unallocated Members of the Council was reduced so that those Members ceased to be Members of the Council on 1 July 1999.

From that time the Legislative Council has consisted of 15 elected Members.

A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE PARLIAMENT

The Legislative Council, together with the House of Assembly and His Excellency the Governor constitute the Parliament of Tasmania.

The Legislative Council as the Upper House of the Parliament of Tasmania can be described as democratic with an independent character. The role of the Council is three-fold:

- (i) to authorize the raising of revenue and the expenditure of State monies;
- (ii) to examine the merits of legislation; and
- (iii) to provide a Parliamentary check on the Government of the day. In modern times the role of the Legislative Council has expanded from the base of being a purely legislative body to a House that involves itself in the examination and analysis of actions, decisions and workings of the Executive Government.

The Department of the Legislative Council provides procedural, administrative and support services to assist the Members of the Legislative Council in performing their parliamentary duties. These services include research and advice on parliamentary practice and procedure, the preparation of documents for use in the House and the provision of staff and equipment. The Department's principal outcome is a functioning House of Parliament in which Members of the Legislative Council are able to discharge their constitutional duties in respect of the consideration of legislation and other parliamentary business. In addition the Clerk of the Legislative Council is responsible, together with the Clerk of the House of Assembly for ensuring the effective operation of the joint services of the Parliament.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

For Legislative Council elections the State is divided into 15 single-Member electoral divisions. Each Member holds office for six years and periodical elections are held for two or three divisions every year. As it cannot be dissolved, there are never any general elections for the Council.

The method of counting votes is identical with that used in House of Representatives elections. It is a preferential system which can be described as election by absolute majority through use of the alternative vote. If any candidate secures first preference votes exceeding half the total of first preferences, he or she is elected. If no candidate satisfies this condition, the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded and the second preferences shown on his or her voting papers are transferred to other candidates, the transfer value of each such second preference being equal to one. If no candidate then has the required majority, the process of exclusion is repeated until such time as one candidate secures the majority.

The Constitution Act has been amended to alter the provision relating to the Council's election day moving it from the last Saturday in May to the first Saturday in that month. This amendment was necessary to allow the Government to introduce its Budget into the Parliament during the May-June period in each year.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES REDISTRIBUTION

Background

Legislative Council divisions contain approximately equal numbers of electors, and this parity is maintained by the periodic redistribution of divisional boundaries.

The *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995* requires the Electoral Commissioner to recommend to the Minister the reappointment of the Redistribution Committee and Tribunal whenever nine years has elapsed since the previous appointment. The Governor may appoint the Committee and Tribunal during the period of 60 days following the Commissioner's recommendation.

The Redistribution Process

The process of creating new electoral boundaries commenced with an Initial Redistribution Proposal published by the Redistribution Committee.

The Redistribution Committee comprised: Mr Bruce Taylor, the Electoral Commissioner, Mr Peter Murphy, the Surveyor-General, and Ms Cassandra Short, who was nominated by the Australian Statistician.

After the publication of the Initial Redistribution Proposal the Redistribution Committee was dissolved. The members of the former Committee became members of the Redistribution Tribunal and were joined on that Tribunal by Mr Richard Bingham, the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission, who was to be the Chairperson of the Tribunal, and Ms Liz Gillam, a member of the Electoral Commission.

After the Redistribution Tribunal had concluded its inquiries earlier this year into any comments, suggestions and objections to the Initial Redistribution Proposal it made a Further Redistribution Proposal for the State. The Redistribution Tribunal subsequently considered comments, suggestions and objections before making its final determination.

Once the final determination of the new electoral boundaries and the names of the new divisions were made, the Tribunal determined the transition arrangements in respect of the newly determined divisions.

As in 1998, the Redistribution Committee used the services of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to provide projected enrolment statistics.

The Redistribution Criteria

In accordance with the *Legislative Council Boundaries Act 1995* the Redistribution Committee took into account the following priorities —

- ◆ The first priority was to ensure, as far as practicable, that the number of electors in each Council division would not, (in four and a half years time) vary more than $\pm 10\%$ of the average Council division enrolment.
- ◆ The second priority was to take into account community of interest within each Council division.

After taking into account the priorities specified above, the Redistribution Committee considered the following matters in the case of each electoral division —

- ◆ The means of communication and travel within the division.
- ◆ The physical features and area of the division.
- ◆ Existing electoral boundaries.
- ◆ Distinct natural boundaries.

The Council division quota was to be the basis for the Initial Redistribution Proposal. For the 2008 redistribution the average divisional enrolment, or quota, is 23,183 which was determined as at 30 September 2007.

In no case is any variation from the Council division quota to exceed 10 per cent.

The Further Redistribution Proposal was published on 12 April 2008 and a Second Further Redistribution Proposal was published on 10 May 2008.

As a consequence, further objections dealt exclusively with the names of the divisions of Paterson, Wellington and Rowallan.

The Redistribution Tribunal accepted the argument that the best recognised geographic features of Paterson and Wellington were, respectively, Launceston and Hobart's central business districts and accordingly these divisions were renamed Launceston and Hobart. These two divisions were previously changed during the 1998-99 redistribution. The Tribunal also acknowledged the historical significance of Hobart and Launceston as Australia's second and third oldest cities.

An object to the division name of Rowallan saw this division renamed Great Western Tiers and after a further objection was considered the name Western Tiers was agreed upon. It was considered that the previous proposed name was cumbersome and that the escarpment is frequently referred to as Western Tiers in everyday usage.

The transition arrangements which were published in the Gazette on 25 May and revised on 14 June 2008 allocated Members to the fifteen divisions, set out the periodical election cycle and set out reasons for the arrangements.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The Parliamentary (Disclosure of Interests) Act (No. 22 of 1996) received the Royal Assent on 15 October 1996. This Act established a register of interests in each House containing information on the pecuniary and other interests of Members which have the potential to lead to a conflict with their official duties. The Council's register is open to public scrutiny. Returns are lodged with the Clerk and Tabled annually after 1 October each year. New Members are required to lodge a 'Primary Return' within three months of having taken the Oath.

The Act requires that Members disclose details of —

- ◆ each source of income greater than \$500 received by a Member, including income from trusts;

- ◆ all real estate interests of a Member except where the interest is as executor or administrator of a deceased estate of which the Member is not a beneficiary or as a trustee related to the Member's non-parliamentary occupation;
- ◆ any interests or any position, whether remunerated or not, that a Member may hold in a corporation, except where the corporation is set up as a non-profit organisation for community purposes. This includes shareholdings;
- ◆ any position, whether remunerated or not, held by a Member in a trade union, professional or business association;
- ◆ all debts owed by the Member exceeding \$500, except where the money is owed to a relative, a normal lender of money such as a bank or building society or arises from the supply of goods or services as part of a Member's occupation outside of Parliament;
- ◆ gifts of value greater than \$500, except where received from a relative;
- ◆ disposition of property by a Member where there is an arrangement for the Member to retain the use or benefit of the property or a right to acquire the property at a later date;
- ◆ contributions to travel undertaken by a Member of value greater than \$250. Travel contributions would not need to be disclosed where provided by the Government, a relative or where made in the normal course of a Member's occupation outside Parliament. Contributions made by a Member's political party for travel on party business are also exempted.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

VISION

To be an efficient and responsive House administration.

GOALS

- ◆ *Service*
To ensure a consistently high level of satisfaction with all services and support provided to elected Members and Department clients by the House administration.

- ◆ *Our People*
To attract and retain a highly skilled and motivated team, to recognise the contribution of our employees and to encourage them to develop and perform to their fullest capabilities.

- ◆ *Information*
To ensure that information on all aspects of the Parliamentary process in the House is made available to Members and the public in the most timely, efficient and cost-effective manner.

- ◆ *Communication*
To ensure effective communication both within the Parliamentary environment and to the broader community.

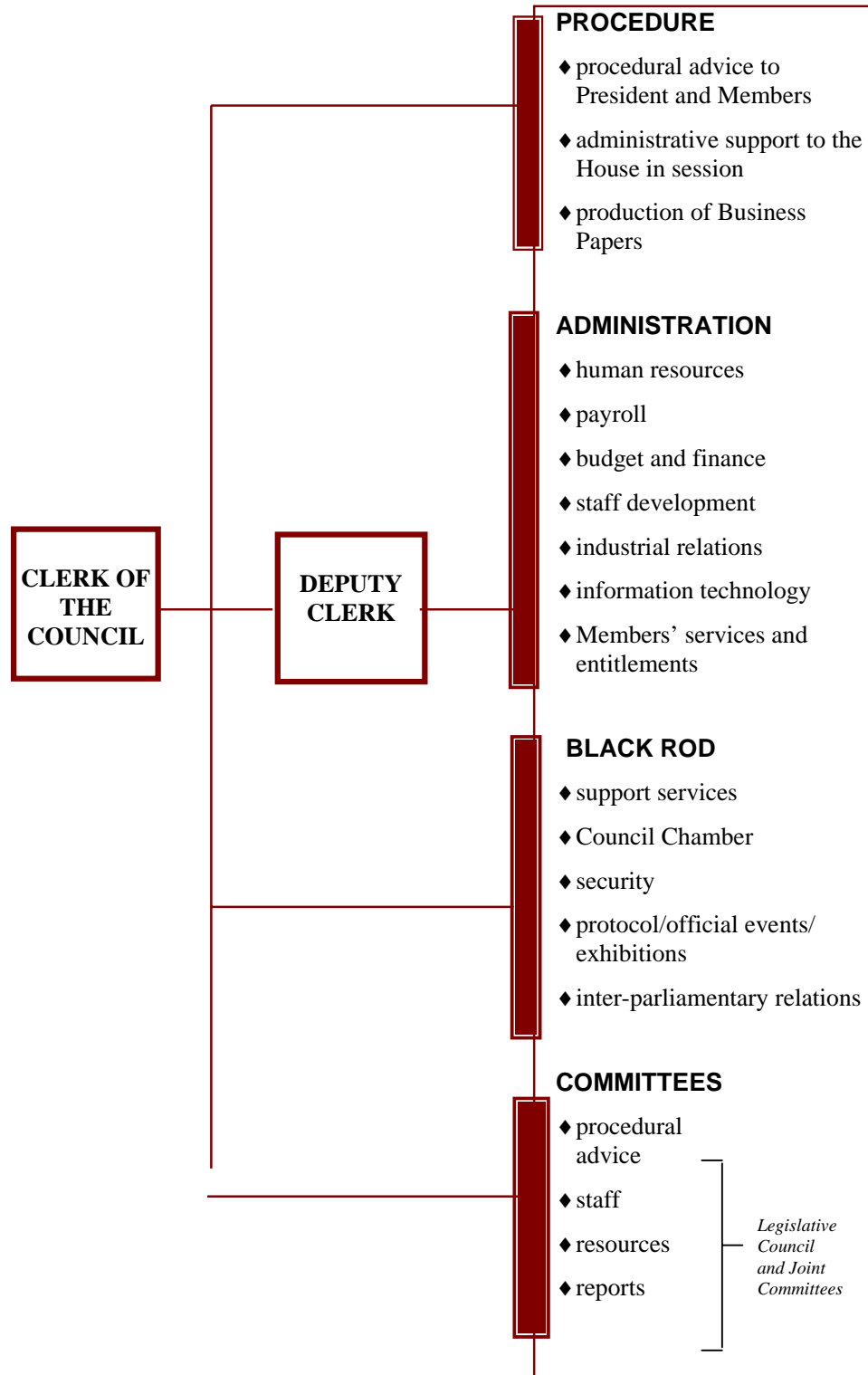
- ◆ *Education and Community Relations*
To improve community perception and understanding of the Parliament generally and the Legislative Council specifically.

- ◆ *Technology*
To support the provision of innovative and practical technological solutions for the improvement of parliamentary operations and services generally.

- ◆ *Finance and Resource Management*
To ensure optimal use of our human, financial and physical resources.

- ◆ *Continuous Improvement*
To continue to seek innovative and better methods of servicing the House, its Members and those others who necessarily have a connection to the House.

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



A list of staff of the Legislative Council appears at Appendix B.

PURPOSE

To provide apolitical, professional, innovative and integrated support services and information to the Legislative Council and its elected Members in the interests of the people of Tasmania.

The permanent officers of the Legislative Council, under the direction of the Clerk are charged with the responsibility of providing the Legislative Council, its committees, the President of the Council and all Honourable Members with advisory, procedural, research and administrative support services of the highest possible standard to assist them in undertaking effectively their constitutional and parliamentary duties and responsibilities. The activity of the Department is to a very considerable extent demand driven by the Government of the day, the House itself, Committees and Members' electoral and associated responsibilities. The Department has no control over the number of Bills introduced, Committee inquiries held or any other decision or Resolution agreed in the House.

There are three principal program areas of the Department.

Advisory and procedural services

These include:

- ◆ authoritative professional advice to Members on all aspects of parliamentary law, practice and procedures;
- ◆ preparation of documentation for use in the House;
- ◆ production of the records of proceedings of the House and its committees.

Administrative and support services

- ◆ provision of support staff and equipment for Members;
- ◆ administration of Members' salaries, allowances and entitlements;
- ◆ effective delivery of other services available to Members both within and outside Parliament House;
- ◆ provision of advice and staff to committees, enabling them to carry out research and prepare reports.

Corporate management

- ◆ corporate and strategic planning;
- ◆ budget development, monitoring and reporting;
- ◆ personnel training;
- ◆ industrial and associated employee relations.

OBJECTIVES

The major objectives and responsibilities are to:—

- ◆ support the Legislative Council in its constitutional role;
- ◆ provide an accurate retrieval and assessment system of precedent, law, history and Parliamentary method necessary for the effective functioning of the Legislative Council, its committees and Members;
- ◆ provide effective apolitical support, including administrative, research, policy and procedural support and advice to the President of the Legislative Council and other elected Honourable Members;
- ◆ ensure the effective custody of documents including Journals, Records and Papers of the Legislative Council, which responsibility in accordance with Standing Orders, is vested in the Clerk of the Legislative Council;
- ◆ ensure the effective functioning of Standing, Sessional and Select Committees including the provision of adequate and appropriate resources;
- ◆ accurately and efficiently prepare and present legislation, once passed through both Houses, to His Excellency the Governor for the Royal Assent;
- ◆ maintain appropriate standards of integrity and conduct and concern for the public interest;
- ◆ promote public awareness of the purpose, functions and work of the Legislative Council;
- ◆ be a fair and responsible employer, maximising the potential of all staff through effective human resource management practices; and
- ◆ effectively and efficiently manage resources, both financial and human.

PURSUIT OF OBJECTIVES

In meeting the objectives the Department must continue to pursue excellence in:—

- ◆ professional standards
- ◆ management standards
- ◆ skills development
- ◆ internal and external communication
- ◆ resource allocation and utilization

MAJOR DOCUMENTS

- ◆ **Annual Report** - The annual report on the operations of the Legislative Council is compiled and presented to the both Houses of Parliament pursuant to the Financial Management and Audit Act 1990.
- ◆ **Committee Reports** - Reports presented by committees and published as parliamentary papers.
- ◆ **Votes and Proceedings** - An official record of the proceedings of the Legislative Council being the Journals of the House. The Votes and Proceedings are produced 'in-house' and are published for each day's sitting.
- ◆ **Notices of Question, Motion and Orders of the Day** - An official list of all business before the Council in the order in which it is proposed to be dealt with. The 'Notice Paper' is produced 'in-house' and is published for each day's sitting.
- ◆ **Index to the Votes and Proceedings** - This index is also incorporated and printed in final form in the bound volumes of the Votes and Proceedings.
- ◆ **The Legislative Council Brochure** - An information and souvenir booklet providing a brief history and other relevant procedural information for visitors to the Council.
- ◆ **List of Members** - A list of Council Members and senior officers in alphabetical order, detailing electoral division, party, postal address and phone and facsimile numbers.
- ◆ **Standing Orders of the Legislative Council** - The standing rules and orders of procedure for the operation of the Council and its committees. As a consequence of a complete examination and review the new and revised Standing Orders were agreed by His Excellency the Governor on 6 January 2005.
- ◆ **Rulings and Opinions of Presiding Officers of the Legislative Council 1856-2003** - A comprehensive index, by individual headings, of rulings and opinions of Legislative Council Presiding Officers.
- ◆ **Legislative Council Members Handbook** - A guide on procedures and entitlements prepared by the Clerk of the Council, for use by Members and their staff.
- ◆ **Parliament of Tasmania: A Brief Guide for Visitors** - prepared by the Joint Presiding Officers for the information of visitors to both Houses.
- ◆ **Guidelines for Select and Standing Committees** - Guidelines on the powers, functions and procedures of Legislative Council Select and Standing Committees.
- ◆ **Briefing Notes on the Budget Estimates** - a key budgetary document which presents detail of the Council's principal expenditure areas. Budget briefing notes are utilised by the Premier during the consideration of the Council's expenditure estimates by budget estimate committees of both Houses.

STATUTES AFFECTING LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING ORDER PROVISIONS

The following Statute provisions impact upon the Legislative Council's Standing Order provisions:—

- ◆ Constitution Act 1934
- ◆ Electoral Act 2004
- ◆ Parliamentary Privilege Act 1858, 1885, 1898, 1957
- ◆ Parliament House Act 1962
- ◆ Defamation Act 2005
- ◆ Evidence Act 2001
- ◆ Acts Custody Act 1858
- ◆ Acts Enumeration Act 1947
- ◆ Acts Interpretation Act 1931
- ◆ Subordinate Legislation Committee Act 1969
- ◆ Public Works Committee Act 1914
- ◆ Public Accounts Committee Act 1970

ASSET MANAGEMENT

The Department maintains the following inventory and asset register records:—

- ◆ Members Capital Equipment Inventory
- ◆ General Inventory
 - Legislative Council [furniture and general items]
 - Henty House, Launceston [furniture and general items]
- ◆ Antiques and Works of Art Inventory

DELIVERY OF SERVICES

Accurate forecasting of the volume of work and rate of activity required to be undertaken by staff is difficult to determine due to the nature of the Legislative Council's operations. Indicators that affect workload, for example, the number of Legislative Council sitting days and establishment and activity of committees are dependent upon Resolutions and decisions made by the House itself. A qualitative assessment of the Legislative Council's effectiveness in meeting its predetermined objectives is undertaken on an on-going basis by the President and Clerk. This examination is undertaken to ensure that necessary service and support is being provided by the staff to Honourable Members.

Members of the Legislative Council are entitled to receive the highest possible standard of service and support.

Throughout the year the Department's major objectives have again been pursued with dedication and commitment resulting in the achievement of desired standards and results.

The Department's principal focus continues to be the maintenance and development of the Legislative Council as an effective and relevant parliamentary institution.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The focus has been to ensure that appropriate levels of support and service are provided to the President and elected Members to enable the effective discharge of their constitutional, Parliamentary and electoral responsibilities.

Legislative Council Support Services has three measurable generic activities. These activities are:—

- ◆ chamber and related committee activity;
- ◆ procedural advice and support; and
- ◆ service delivery and compliance.

Measurement of Chamber and related committee activity is based on the number of sitting days; Legislation debated and presented for the Royal Assent; and committee related Resolutions.

Procedural advice and support is measured by the degree of satisfaction of Members based on the criteria of quality, quantity and timeliness of the advice and support provided.

Service delivery and compliance is measured again by the degree of satisfaction of Members and those other agencies, groups and individuals who necessarily have a connection to the Legislative Council.

Procedural Support and Advice

During the reporting year the Clerk and staff of the Legislative Council provided procedural and related advice to the President, Chair of Committees, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Government together with the respective Chairs of Select and Standing Committees and to other elected Members.

Advice provided focused principally on areas of Parliamentary precedent, law and method.

Personal Assistant Support to Members

It is the Clerk's responsibility to ensure that adequate levels of assistant support are provided to all Members of the Council. It is considered essential that Members have access to high quality secretarial and personal support to enable them to adequately discharge their responsibilities. Personal assistant support continues to be assessed on an ongoing basis by the President and Clerk. Funding is available to enable all Members to engage personal assistant support up to one full-time equivalent (FTE).

Chamber Activity

The First Session of the Forty-Sixth Parliament commenced on Tuesday, 30 May 2006. From that time to 30 June 2006 the Legislative Council sat on nine days. From 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 the Legislative Council sat on thirty-nine occasions. The First Session continued until the prorogation of the Parliament on 22 February 2008. From 1 July 2007 until prorogation the Legislative Council sat on 29 days. The Second Session commenced on 4 March 2008. From that time to 30 June 2008 the Council sat on 20 days.

The number of Bills which were presented for the Royal Assent during the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 totalled 89.

Notice Papers and Votes and Proceedings, being the Journals of the Council, were prepared for each day's sitting of the House.

Financial Activity

According to law, the Clerk is responsible for the overall effective, efficient and economical management of the House.

The Clerk must ensure that expenditure is in accordance with the law and that effective accounting and financial management information systems are maintained.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990*, associated Treasurer's Instructions and other statutory provisions, the Clerk of the Council, in respect of the financial year ending on 30 June 2007 presented to the Parliament the Council's Annual Report. As required by law that Report contained the Council's duly audited Financial Statements to 30 June 2007.

The Financial Statements and accompanying Audit Report for the financial year ending on 30 June 2008 form part of this Annual Report.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL OUTCOMES

The total expenditure by the Legislative Council from the Consolidated Fund for the year ending on 30 June 2008 was within the budget approved by the Parliament with additional funds (RAF's) being approved from the Treasurer's Reserve to meet additional expenditure associated with an increase in payment of accrued staff entitlements on the retirement of two senior table officers and Select Committee activity. The additional funding approved by the Treasurer totalled \$235,000. Financial activities were conducted both in accordance with statutory provisions and in terms of compliance with mandatory reporting requirements of the Department of Treasury and Finance.

The Reserved-by-Law expenditure estimate for the financial year was expended at a level of 99.5% of budget.

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL BUSINESS

The Department of the Legislative Council ensures that Tasmanian businesses are given every opportunity to compete for the Department's business. It is the Department's policy to support Tasmanian businesses whenever they offer best value for money for the public funds expended.

No tenders were called, or contracts awarded, with a value greater than \$50,000 during the financial year ending on 30 June 2008.

There were no individual consultancy contracts awarded with a value less than or equal to \$50,000 during the financial year ending on 30 June 2008.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Parliament's Strategic Asset Management Plan identifies the overall risk management strategy together with other Occupational Health and Safety issues.

Risks relating to the building complex are progressively identified.

Risks of damage to buildings or injury to staff or clients through failure of plant, services or equipment are addressed through maintenance strategies. Statutory maintenance continues to be undertaken by a single contractor responsible for all building elements in the complex which has greatly improved control and simplifies audit.

Risks flowing from security both from the point of view of buildings and the occupants has been improved upon in recent years, particularly with the rationalisation of building accommodation and access routes through the parliamentary complex.

Measures are in place which see a strengthened security process within the Parliament building.

In terms of the computer network throughout the building there is in place a Disaster Recovery Plan. This Plan, which has been put in place by the Systems and Electronic Security Manager, deals with matters such as data backup; off-site server facility; off-site software; web server recovery; file server recovery and network recovery. A Policy Statement in respect of computer and internet usage is published on the Parliament Intranet site.

DEPARTMENT OUTPUTS

Summary and Description

OUTPUT SUMMARY

Output Group 1:

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUPPORT SERVICES

- 1.1 - Procedural, administrative and research support and advice to the President and Members.
- 1.2 - Committee Support Services.

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION

Output Group 1:

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUPPORT SERVICES

Description: Services provided under this Output Group include —

- ◆ procedural, administrative and research support and advice to the President and Members of the Legislative Council;
- ◆ assistance to Members of the Legislative Council in order that they are able to execute their duties and responsibilities as elected representatives of the people of Tasmania;
- ◆ tabling of Legislative Council Select Committee and Parliamentary Joint Select Committee reports on a variety of subject specific matters agreed to by Resolution of the Council;
- ◆ the continuing statutory obligations of the three Joint Parliamentary Standing Committees; and
- ◆ the administration of travel and research and equipment support allowances to Members.

Outcomes to be achieved from this Output Group are as follows:—

- ◆ the continuing lawful and constitutional operation of the Legislative Council;
- ◆ the provision of quality and timely advice on Parliamentary practice and procedure to the President and Members;
- ◆ the provision of a full range of services to directly support the functioning of the Council during ordinary sittings and to support its Sessional, Standing and Select Committees;
- ◆ the provision of quality and timely research and information to Members;
- ◆ the provision of accommodation and office services to Members so as to enable the efficient and effective discharge of their Parliamentary and representational responsibilities; and
- ◆ the effective financial management of the Council in accordance with statutory requirements and other instructions.

OUTPUT SUMMARY

Output Group 2:

PAYMENTS ADMINISTERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2.1 - Salaries, allowances and entitlements of elected Members of the Legislative Council.

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION

Output Group 2:

DESCRIPTION

This Output Group specifically provides for the Parliamentary Salaries and Allowances of Members of the Legislative Council as prescribed in the *Parliamentary Salaries, Superannuation and Allowances Act 1973* as amended.

Description: Activities undertaken as part of this Output Group include —

- ◆ the consideration of legislative and other measures presented to the Legislative Council; and
- ◆ the passage of statute law in Tasmania.

The Legislative Council's outputs are largely demand driven by the Government's legislative program, the Council itself in its Resolutions, Committees and Members.

The Department's services are delivered in accordance with certain general standards.

These standards seek to ensure that:—

- ◆ procedural advice conforms to Standing Order provisions, President's rulings and practices of the Council and its Committees;
- ◆ procedural advice is provided to meet the priorities of the Council and its Committees and within time frames agreed with Members;
- ◆ the preparation necessary for the Council and its Committees to meet and carry out their programmed business is undertaken enabling them to meet as scheduled, with the necessary papers and undertake their activities having regard to the Standing Orders and established Council practices as they relate specifically to House and Committee activity;
- ◆ all documents, papers and other House records are held in safekeeping by the Clerk of the Council and his office;
- ◆ information provided to other Agencies and those individuals and groups who have a connection with the Council is provided in a timely manner and is accurate;
- ◆ the administration of Members' entitlements is carried out efficiently and in accordance with prescribed legislation and other relevant determinations as varied from time to time;
- ◆ adequate levels of personal staff support with appropriate skills are provided to Members in order to assist them to efficiently and effectively discharge their range of duties and responsibilities as elected Members of Parliament.

Each Member of the Legislative Council who does not hold a Parliamentary office has personal staff support funded to the extent necessary to allow for an allocation of no less than one full-time equivalent employee.

HOUSE MATTERS

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

On 10 June 2008, the Honourable Sue Smith MLC was elected unopposed as President of the Legislative Council. Madam President is the first female President since the establishment of the Legislative Council in 1825. Madam President's election came after the resignation of former President, the Honourable Don Wing MLC, who had been President of the Legislative Council from May 2002.

OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE

There have been several changes to staffing in the Legislative Council since the retirement of Scott McKenzie, Clerk from 1989-2007; and Wendy Peddle, Clerk Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod from 1998-2008, Wendy having served the Parliament of Tasmania for over 30 years.

David Pearce, formerly Deputy Clerk, was appointed Clerk of the Council on 20 August 2007. Nigel Pratt, former Clerk Assistant (House), Legislative Council of Western Australia, was appointed Deputy Clerk on 22 October 2007. Sue McLeod, formerly Second Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees, was appointed Clerk Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod on 21 February 2008. Finally, Dr Colin Huntly, formerly an Advisory Officer (Legal) in the Legislative Council of Western Australia, was appointed Clerk of Committees on 7 April 2008.

In August 2007 the former long serving Chief Executive Officer and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Mr Scott McKenzie, retired after more than twenty-six years with the Parliament of Tasmania, the last eighteen as Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Scott McKenzie was appointed Secretary of the Parliament's Joint House Committee in February 1982 and within a relatively short period of time was appointed in April 1989 to the position of Clerk of the Legislative Council after having served as a Table Officer from September 1985 holding the offices of Second Clerk-Assistant and then Clerk-Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod.

Scott McKenzie held the most senior executive officer position in the Legislative Council with great distinction and was pre-eminent among the Clerks of other Parliaments throughout Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

Scott McKenzie was a great servant of the Parliament of Tasmania and the Legislative Council specifically and a strong supporter and powerful advocate of the important role and responsibility of the Upper House in our bicameral representative parliamentary democracy.

February 2008 saw the retirement of Miss Wendy Peddle from her senior executive position of Clerk-Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod in the Legislative Council. Like Scott McKenzie, Wendy Peddle was a long serving officer of the Parliament with over thirty years' experience in various positions from an Executive Officer to former Leaders of the Government to a Table Officer in the Legislative Council.

Wendy Peddle also held the position of Secretary to the Subordinate Legislation Committee from May 1989 through until her retirement in February 2008. Wendy Peddle will be remembered by all whom she was associated as a dedicated, loyal and professional colleague and servant of the Parliament of Tasmania.

GOVERNMENT BRIEFINGS

Although not unique to the Parliament of Tasmania, briefings of Members arranged by the Leader's Office have become one of the methods by which Members of the Council may inform themselves of various matters being promoted by the Government. The device, although not formally part of the Standing Orders, has developed due to two factors: the political composition of the Council Chamber, which has always had a majority of Independent Members; and the increased complexity of legislation. Due to the absence of any official caucusing by Independents, there is often no consensus view developed prior to the debate in the Chamber. As a result, through the 1990s Government briefings developed into an accepted mechanism to deal with complex or contentious issues.

Members are briefed by the various parties involved in the issue; generally this will include Government departments, lobby groups and sometimes even private individuals. By this method, Members can obtain information and clarification more quickly than could normally occur in the Chamber. Though briefings have their advantages in usually speeding up the process of legislating, there are two aspects of the briefings process which should be noted. Firstly, a briefing may not be viewed as a proceeding in Parliament and may not therefore be protected by parliamentary privilege. Secondly, they are conducted in private and not minuted or recorded. This requires Members to be vigilant in ensuring any undertakings or explanations of the effect of clauses in the Bill are reaffirmed in the public debate in the Chamber.

The sittings of the Council are often suspended on motion by the Leader to enable a briefing on a Bill to be undertaken prior to, or even during, the Bill's consideration.

Briefings can take up a significant portion of a sitting day. For the 23 sitting days from March to the conclusion of sittings for the winter recess in July 2008, approximately 15.5 hours of Government briefings have been offered. Briefings, although not compulsory, are well attended by Independent Members.

Briefing time is not included in the official statistics for a sitting day. The trend in the use of briefings is unlikely to abate, though a more formal structure with provision in the Standing Orders for this procedure would provide the protection of absolute privilege afforded to a proceeding in parliament.

Detail of briefings conducted are as follows:—

	Briefing	Date
1	Tasmanian Coalition of Acquired Brain Injury Providers	4 July 2007
2	Mr Richard Ireland – Pulp Mill	5 July 2007
3	Legal Profession Bill 2007 (No. 23)	12 July 2007
4	Pulp Mill Permit	21 August 2007
5	Pulp Mill Permit	22 August 2007
6	Victims of Crime Assistance Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 29)	3 October 2007
7	Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 8)	16 October 2007
8	Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 8)	17 October 2007
9	Human Cloning and Other Prohibited Practices Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 38)	30 October 2007
10	Environment Management and Pollution Control Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 46)	31 October 2007

	Briefing	Date
11	Environment Management and Pollution Control Amendment (Contaminated Sites) Bill 2007 (No. 45)	31 October 2007
12	Human Cloning and Other Prohibited Practices Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 38)	31 October 2007
13	Environment Management and Pollution Control Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 46)	1 November 2007
14	Environment Management and Pollution Control Amendment (Contaminated Sites) Bill 2007 (No. 45)	1 November 2007
15	Human Cloning and Other Prohibited Practices Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 38)	1 November 2007
16	Department of Mines in relation to proposed Select Committee on Mining and Related Industries in Tasmania (Motion, Ms Forrest)	13 November 2007
17	Human Cloning and Other Prohibited Practices Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 38)	14 November 2007
18	Living Marine Resources Management Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 55)	15 November 2007
19	Living Marine Resources Management Amendment Bill 2007 (No. 55)	20 November 2007
20	Environmental Management and Pollution Control Amendment (Environmental Protection Authority) Bill 2007 (No. 77)	22 November 2007
21	Environmental Management and Pollution Control Amendment (Environmental Protection Authority) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2007 (No. 78)	22 November 2007
22	Poisons Amendment (Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2007 (No. 80)	22 November 2007
23	Public Hospital System	2 April 2008

DISSENTING STATEMENTS TO COMMITTEE REPORTS

On 15 April the Standing Orders were amended to include provision for a Dissenting Statement to be added to a committee report following practices in other jurisdictions.

Standing Order 196A provides:—

The Chair shall sign the unanimous or majority report. A Dissenting Statement, confined to the issues in dispute, may be added to the report but may not be presented separately.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recently there have been comments made during the debates on committee reports during private members' business on the need for a procedure to require a response from Government in respect to recommendations contained in committee reports. It is likely that this matter will be considered by the Standing Orders Committee in the near future and further debate in the House is expected on this important matter.

APPLICATION OF CITIZEN'S RIGHT OF REPLY

The availability of a procedure to accommodate a citizen to a right of reply was inserted in the Standing Orders following their review in 2004. Standing Order 331 provides for a person who has been named or referred to in such a way as to be readily identified in debate to write to the President requesting that the person be permitted to incorporate an appropriate response in *Hansard* where: —

...that person has been adversely affected in reputation or in respect of dealings of associations with others, or injured in occupation, trade, office or financial credit, or that person's privacy has been unreasonably invaded by reason of that reference.

The President may, if satisfied that the submission from the citizen is not trivial or frivolous, vexatious or offensive in character, determine the matter or refer the submission to a committee.

The first occasion for the use of Standing Order 331 came on 22 November 2007. The President made a statement to the House in which he agreed to the incorporation into the *Hansard* record of debate for 30 October 2007 of a response from Mr Peter Whish-Wilson. Mr Whish-Wilson's submission followed comments made by two Independent Members and the Leader of the Government on Thursday, 18 October 2007 during the consideration by the Council of the Premier's State of the State address. The comments arose from Mr Whish-Wilson's participation in a community group opposed to the Tamar Valley pulp mill. A copy of the aggrieved citizen's response was provided by the President to the Members concerned who were consulted prior to the President's statement.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS TO ENABLE CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT FROM THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

On 10 July 2008 the Council suspended its Standing Orders to enable consideration of a further amendment made by the House of Assembly to the Animal Welfare Amendment Bill 2008. The Council had received the Bill from the Assembly, amended it and returned it to the Assembly seeking its concurrence on 16 April 2008.

Some weeks later on 12 June 2008, the Bill was returned to the Council. The House of Assembly Message indicated that the Assembly had agreed to the Council's amendments but sought to make a further amendment to the Bill. The procedural problem was that the further amendment offended the long standing rule that a further amendment has to be consequential upon the Assembly's agreement to the Council's amendments.

Erskine May's 22nd edition at page 549 states, inter alia, the following: —

'According to a long-established rule, the Commons, when considering Lord Amendments, may not leave out or otherwise amend anything which they have already passed themselves, unless such amendment be immediately consequent upon the acceptance or rejection of an amendment made by the Lords.'

In this case the further amendment sought by the House of Assembly bore no relationship to the amendment made by the Council. The amendment sought to delete the commencement clause and replace it with a new commencement clause that allowed for the retrospective operation of one of the clauses of the Bill.

The problem arose from the fact that another Bill, the Monetary Penalties Enforcement (Transitional Arrangements and Consequential Amendments) Bill had been passed and assented to and commenced on 28 April. That Act made consequential amendments to infringement provisions in several acts and statutory rules, including the *Animal Welfare Act 1993* (as amended). However, the provisions affected were not yet in place due to the fact that the Animal Welfare Amendment Bill 2008 had not yet been passed.

In the debate in the Assembly on the Council's amendment, the Minister in charge of the Bill explained that the "simple solution", recommended by Parliamentary Counsel, was to provide a retrospective commencement of the infringement provision in the Animal Welfare Amendment Bill.

There was general agreement in the Council that the amendment would improve the Bill and avoid the need for a further amendment Bill to be introduced. To facilitate the will of the Council, and following a statement by the President as to the effect and purpose of the procedural rule, the Standing Orders were suspended to enable consideration of the Assembly's message so that the further amendment of the Assembly could be agreed to.

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON GENE TECHNOLOGY IN PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

The Parliament of Tasmania established the above Joint Committee on 5 July 2007 with Members from the Government, Liberals and Greens and Independents from the Legislative Council. The Committee was established to inquire into the most appropriate and effective policy position on the use of gene technology in primary industries that best serves the future market interests of Tasmania.

Of particular interest, was the appointment by the Committee of the Minister for Primary Industries and Water as its Chairman; the Minister having responsibility for Departmental policy relating to this issue.

Although the appointment of Chairman was agreed to at the time, it has caused some issues since, with the Minister making statements to the media about his policy views prior to the Committee reporting.

INCREASED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

In the last twelve months the number of Select Committees involving Legislative Council Members has increased considerably. The following Select Committees have undertaken their specific work during the course of the reporting period —

- ◆ Working Arrangements of Parliament (Joint)
- ◆ Accreditation of Building Practitioners
- ◆ Gene Technology in Primary Industries (Joint)
- ◆ Recreational Marine Fishing in Tasmania
- ◆ Surrogacy
- ◆ Mining Industry Regulation
- ◆ Public Sector Executive Appointments
- ◆ Ethical Conduct (Joint)

In addition, the Legislative Council has Members on the Joint Standing Committees on Public Works; Public Accounts; Subordinate Legislation; Community Development; and Environment, Resources and Development – and its own Standing Orders and Privileges Committees. Two sessional domestic committees also operate.

Given that the Legislative Council comprises only fifteen Members to be appointed to these committees, the difficulty in timetabling meetings etc, as well as staffing issues, can be appreciated.

FAMILY MEMBERS PROVIDING SUPPORT IN MEMBERS' OFFICES

In accordance with the Legislative Council's policy relating to the paid engagement of family members to provide electorate office support effective from 1 January 2008 it is a requirement that such approvals by the President be reported in this Report.

Accordingly during the reporting period the following disclosure is made:—

- ◆ Carolynn Jamieson (daughter of the Honourable Member for Mersey, Norma Jamieson) was employed in the Devonport Electorate Office from 11 January 2008 to 8 February 2008. The period of time was as a consequence of the retirement of Mrs Gaye Burns and the subsequent recruitment of Mrs Bonnie Phillips as the new Executive Assistant in the Devonport Electorate Office. The classification level for temporary family member support was drawn from the Administrative and Clerical Employees Award at Level 5, first year of service. A casual hourly rate was applicable.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The boundaries of the current 15 electoral divisions were determined by the Legislative Council Redistribution Tribunal during the early part of this calendar year. Under the *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995* the enrolment of each Legislative Council division is determined as at the last day of January, April, July and October of each year and are published in the Gazette and in the three daily newspapers circulating generally in the State. Elections are conducted on a six year periodic cycle. Elections for three Members are held in May in one year, with elections for two Members held in May the following year and so on.

Periodic elections for two electoral divisions were conducted on Saturday, 3 May 2008. As a consequence of those elections the two sitting Members were returned in the Divisions of Huon and Rosevears.

In the Division of Huon the sitting Member, the Honourable Paul Harriss MLC was returned after receiving around 62 per cent of the formal votes.

In the Division of Rosevears the Honourable Kerry Finch MLC was returned with 12,990 first preference votes or 72.66 per cent of the vote. The only other candidate received 27.34 per cent of first preference votes. There were 23,402 electors enrolled with 17,879 formal votes cast.

TELEVISIONING OF PROCEEDINGS

A decision was made by the Government during the reporting year regarding the financial support required to enable the televising of proceedings of both Houses of the Tasmanian Parliament together with Committees.

A local firm, Winning Post Productions, was engaged to provide the consultancy services for the televising project.

An amount of \$1.9 million has been allocated for the project which was given in-principle support in December 2007.

Five high definition television cameras will be installed into the Legislative Council Chamber and three cameras into Committee Room No. 1. A control room will be constructed in an area between both Chambers.

The new televising arrangements will replace the ad-hoc television and still camera usage in both Houses and Committee Rooms. It is expected that the televising system will go live when the Parliament resumes for the 2009 sitting year.

ELECTORATE FAMILIARISATION TOUR

An electorate tour of the Murchison electorate was undertaken by eleven Members of the Legislative Council between 26 and 29 February 2008.

The program included the following:—

- ◆ Attendance at the official opening of the Tullah Museum;
- ◆ Visit to the Wee Georgie Wood Steam Railway;
- ◆ Tour of Tullah by horse and cart;
- ◆ Visit to Zinifex Rosebery Mine;
- ◆ Visit to Zeehan spray tunnel;
- ◆ Visit to West Coast Pioneers Memorial Museum;
- ◆ Meeting with West Coast Council Members;
- ◆ Tour of the Lake Margaret Power Station;
- ◆ Tour of the Henty Gold Mine; and
- ◆ Macquarie Harbour cruise with community representatives.

DEPARTMENT STAFF

INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT

A revised interim agreement was agreed between the parties and filed with the Tasmanian Industrial Commission prior to the end of the 2007 calendar year. This twelve month interim agreement reflected the position reached between the Community and Public Sector Union and the State Government to provide an increase in salaries and wages of 4.5 per cent.

The Agreement applies to all persons employed under the *Parliamentary Privilege Act 1898* and contains the classification, salary and other working related conditions which apply to all staff in the Legislative Council who are appointed by and on the recommendation of the President.

The classification and salary rates for the three Senior Table Officer positions in the Legislative Council form part of the agreed Staff Agreement.

PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE AWARDS

From a staff perspective one of the more significant functions held once again during the reporting year was the presentation by the President and Speaker of Parliamentary Service Awards.

The Awards recognised those employees across both Houses and the Joint Services areas who had served the Parliament of Tasmania for a period of 15 years or more. Permanent, part-time and casual staff are all eligible to receive awards under the scheme. Certificates of Service were presented along with a gift voucher to each eligible member of staff. Service awards are presented each year at a function held during the month of December.

Service of 15 years has been determined as the base for an award with additional service to be recognized in five-year increments thereafter.

The decision by the Joint Presiding Officers and Clerks to support a Parliamentary Service Award Scheme is seen as a fitting way to recognise and reward officers of the Parliament who had served for long periods with dedication, enthusiasm and loyalty.

One of the Parliament's goals is to attract and retain a highly skilled and motivated team, to recognise the contribution of its employees and to encourage them to develop and perform to their fullest capabilities. The fact that so many staff have long years of service and have made a career working in the Parliament and progressing to senior positions within the Parliamentary system, demonstrates that this goal has been achieved.

The awards presentation function was extremely well attended and feedback from those who attended was extremely positive. The award concept continues to be well received by all employees.

The Tasmanian Parliament follows other Australian parliamentary jurisdictions who have in place similar award schemes.

The certificates of service which were presented were enthusiastically received as they represented a permanent record of service to the Parliament and an acknowledgement of the high regard which the Presiding Officers have for those award recipients.

The Tasmanian Parliament looks very much forward to future Parliamentary Service Award ceremonies.

HOUSE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

In the Tasmanian Parliament the position of Secretary of the Joint House Committee is held on a 12 monthly rotational basis by a Table Officer from each House. The position of Secretary involves being generally responsible for the effective and efficient management of the joint services area of the Parliament, as well as supporting the Joint House Committee which consists of three Members from each House. The Council's Standing Orders provide for the House Committee's establishment at the commencement of every session.

Rotation of the position to an officer in the House of Assembly took place in January 2008.

During the 2007 calendar year the Council's Second Clerk-Assistant and Clerk of Committees, Mrs Sue McLeod, held the position of Secretary.

The responsibility for the day to day management of the Legislature-General [Joint House] Department will remain with the House of Assembly until January 2009 at which time the Legislative Council will assume day to day oversight and directional responsibility.

Standing Order No. 218 *inter alia* provides —

At the commencement of every Session the Council shall appoint the following Committee —

A Committee of three Members, one of whom shall be the President, to serve on a Joint Committee to be known as the House Committee to control Parliament House and the grounds appurtenant thereto, with power to regulate and control all matters relating to —

- (i) Catering for Parliament.
- (ii) Allotment of rooms, subject to the approval of the President or Speaker, as the case may be.
- (iii) Repairs, renewals, and alterations to Parliament House.
- (iv) Maintenance and upkeep of the gardens and roadways of the Parliament Reserve.
- (v) Any other matters referred to the Committee by a joint Resolution of both Houses.

Any expenditure incurred by the House Committee in the exercise of any of its functions shall be defrayed out of moneys to be provided by Parliament for the purposes of the Committee.

The Committee shall have power to sit and act during any recess of Parliament.

A majority of Members shall form a quorum of the said Committee, provided that the quorum of the Committee shall not consist exclusively of Members of one House only.

The Committee shall meet within one month after the commencement of every Session when summoned by its Secretary.

SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES

The Table below provides detail of the level of superannuation fund choice being exercised by staff of the Legislative Council —

Superannuation Schemes	Number of employees for whom employer superannuation contributions are made (as at 30 June 2008)
RBF defined benefit scheme	14
Tasmanian Accumulation Scheme (TAS)	13
Other complying superannuation schemes	3
Total	30

As indicated in the Table there were three Legislative Council employees who were members of an alternative complying superannuation scheme during the period up to 30 June 2008.

DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

The benefits available to staff through attendance at specialised courses is recognised and every encouragement is made to allow selected staff the opportunity to attend appropriate courses. Development of both new and existing skills ensures a continued high standard in the delivery of service to Members and other clients of the Legislative Council.

The Department's Clerks-at-the-Table are members of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Clerks-at-the-Table (ANZACATT). That Association conducts annual professional development seminars in various parliamentary jurisdictions throughout Australia and New Zealand. The Legislative Council is represented at these seminars.

The ANZACATT Professional Development Seminar was hosted by the Tasmanian Parliament in January 2008. The theme for the seminar was "Parliament and Technology - the Management of Change". The seminar was extremely successful and special thanks are extended to Mrs Sue McLeod from the Legislative Council and Mrs Heather Thurstans from the House of Assembly who were instrumental in their efforts, as part of the Parliament's organising team, in ensuring the success of the seminar. The Legislative Council is also able to nominate officers to undertake the Parliamentary Law, Practice and Procedure Program (PLPPP) conducted by the Queensland University of Technology by agreement with ANZACATT. This program provides an overview of the constitutional and legal frameworks underpinning Australia and New Zealand's parliamentary systems.

Other courses of training were attended by selected staff during the reporting period. These included attendance at the annual Australasian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG) Conference, fire drill training and computer support training. In addition the second annual meeting of Executive Assistants and other officers was held in Launceston in September 2007.

INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY

The Legislative Council administration continues to pursue a cooperative approach to decision making. The small numerical size of the Legislative Council allows for direct and immediate consultation between executive officers and staff. Should they be required, more formal channels are available to resolve disputes. These channels are accessible by all staff and are clearly prescribed in the Legislative Council Staff Industrial Agreement.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Occupational health and safety is a principal management consideration. Appropriate equipment, facilities and programs are provided to ensure the ongoing safety and well-being of staff.

Attention has been focussed in recent years on the development and refinement of detailed surveys of the building complex in order to —

- ◆ assess compliance with the requirements of the Building Code of Australia with regard fire escape;
- ◆ assess compliance with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act in reference to the provision of access and facility for the disabled; and
- ◆ assess the performance of mechanical services in the provision of a controlled environment.

These surveys have identified the need to —

- ◆ improve fire escape from the building;
- ◆ improve access and facility for the disabled; and
- ◆ remove redundant mechanical services, reinstate natural ventilation and introduce thermostatically controlled electric heating where appropriate, and maximise efficiency of remaining mechanical services.

As a consequence work has been done to address the areas identified.

Other elements of Occupational Health and Safety have been addressed through —

- ◆ the maintenance of plant and equipment through a single maintenance contract; and
- ◆ the progressive removal and upgrading of engineering services throughout the building complex as part of the continuing major works program on site.

Additional Occupational Health and Safety issues such as work practices and the provision of ergonomically designed facilities continue to be addressed.

PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEES: STATUTORY IN NATURE

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Public Accounts Committee is established by Statute. It comprises of three Members each from the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly. The Secretary is a Table Officer in the House of Assembly and its administration is attached to that House.

The Committee must inquire into, consider and report to the Parliament on any matter referred to the Committee by either House relating to —

- (a) the management, administration or use of public sector finances; or
- (b) the accounts of any public authority or other organisation controlled by the State or in which the State has an interest.

The Committee may inquire into, consider and report to the Parliament on —

- (a) any matter arising in connection with public sector finances that the Committee considers appropriate; and
- (b) any matter referred to the Committee by the Auditor-General.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Committee is also established by Statute. It comprises three Members from the House of Assembly and two Members from the Legislative Council; the Secretary is a Table Officer in the House of Assembly and it is therefore administered by that House.

The function of the Committee is to report on every proposed public works which is estimated to cost at least \$2 million. The Committee is provided with plans, specifications and other related material from the relevant Department, and may also summon witnesses. It then reports back to the Parliament the results of its enquiries.

SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

The Subordinate Legislation Committee was established in 1969 by Statute. Although it is a Joint Standing Committee the Secretary to the Committee has traditionally been a Table Officer in the Legislative Council, and therefore the Council is responsible for administering the Committee. The Committee is comprised of three Members each from the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly. Ministers and Presiding Officers may not be members.

The Committee's charter is to examine every Regulation, By-law and Rule. Regulations comprise all subordinate legislation made by the Governor-in-Council but do not include Orders, Proclamations or Rules of the Supreme Court. By-laws are those made by municipal councils, marine boards and other semi-government authorities. The Committee is also responsible for ensuring the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1992* is complied with, and the examination of other Instruments referred to it under the authority of an Act.

The Government Printer sends the Committee copies of all regulations as soon as they have been gazetted. Each municipality is required under the Local Government Act to provide the Committee with a copy of any new or amended By-Laws.

During this financial year the Committee again contributed to Treasury's review of the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1992*. The Committee was briefed on two occasions by Treasury Officers and agreement has now been reached regarding proposed amendments.

The Committee held hearings into —

SR No. 34	Building Amendment Regulations 2007
SR No. 87	Electricity Supply Industry (Price Control) Amendment Regulations 2007

Committee Membership

Legislative Council

Mrs S. Smith (Chair and Member to 19.06.08)

Ms L. Thorp

Ms R. Forrest (Chair from 19.06.08)

Mrs N. Jamieson (from 19.06.08)

House of Assembly

Mr R. Hidding (Deputy Chair
from 19.06.08)

Mr G. Sturges (Deputy Chair and
Member until 19.06.08)

Mr B. Green (from 19.06.08)

COMMITTEES

OVERVIEW

The Legislative Council has the power to appoint Members to form Committees for the purpose of investigating specific matters and reporting their findings to the House. With the need for expert technical advice, and the importance of giving all groups and individuals direct access to the Parliament, committees perform an increasingly important function. The main types of committees are:

- (a) Statutory (Standing) Committees of both Houses;
- (b) Sessional Committees of both Houses;
- (c) Joint Select and Standing Committees of both Houses; and
- (d) Select Committees of one House.

There are at present three Standing Committees of both Houses established by Statute. They are: the Public Works Committee, which investigates all major Government construction works; the Subordinate Legislation Committee, which examines all Government Regulations and local government by-laws; and the Public Accounts Committee, which examines the manner in which public funds are spent.

Two Joint Standing Committees were established by Resolution of both Houses in December 2000 and reappointed on 12 March and 27 November 2002 and again on 7 April 2004. These Joint Standing Committees are known as the Community Development Committee and the Environment, Resources and Development Committee. Both Committees were formally agreed and established by Resolution of both Houses on 25 November 2004. After the election for the House of Assembly on 30 March 2006 both Committees were reappointed on 31 May 2006 and again on 5 March 2008 following the prorogation of Parliament.

The two Joint Sessional Committees are: the House Committee, which manages and controls the building of the Parliament, the Dining Room and the grounds of Parliament House; and the Library Committee, which supervises the activities of the Parliamentary Library. Although these Committees operate almost continuously, they must, unlike Standing Committees, be reappointed at the commencement of each session.

WORK OF JOINT STANDING AND SELECT COMMITTEES

Joint Select Committee on the Working Arrangements of the Parliament

The Legislative Council and House of Assembly jointly administer this Committee.

The members of the Committee as at 30 June 2008 were : Mr Doug Parkinson MLC (Chair), Mrs Sue Smith, MLC, Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC, Mr Don Wing MLC, Mr David Llewellyn MP, Mrs Sue Napier MP, Ms Peg Putt MP and Ms Paula Wriedt MP.

During the year the Committee met on two occasions and the Committee is currently inquiring into the matter of separate appropriations for the Children's Commissioner and other statutory officers.

Joint Standing Committee on Environment, Resources and Development

The Legislative Council administers this Committee.

The members of the Committee as at 30 June 2008 were : Mr Greg Hall MLC (Chair), Ms Lin Thorp MLC (Deputy Chair), Mrs Tania Rattray-Wagner MLC, Mr Paul Harriss MLC, Mr Brenton Best MP, Mr Bryan Green MP, Mr Peter Gutwein MP and Mr Kim Booth MP.

During the year the Committee met on twenty occasions. On 5 July 2007 the Committee tabled its report on the Joint Venture Log Supply Deal. The Committee also tabled its report on Alternative Fuels on 8 May 2008.

The Committee also adopted terms of reference in relation to Coastal Erosion and Wildfires in this reporting period and advertised for submissions on the Coastal Erosion matter.

Joint Standing Committee on Community Development

The Joint Select Committee on Community Development is administered by officers in the House of Assembly Secretariat. The Committee consists of four Members from each House. At 30 June 2008 the Legislative Council was represented on the Committee by Mr Kerry Finch MLC, Mr Terry Martin MLC, Ms Allison Ritchie MLC and Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC.

The scope of the Committee covers issues and legislative proposals in the following areas —

- Health, welfare, education, justice and law;
- Sports and recreation;
- Racing and gaming;
- Public sector operations;
- Arts, cultural development; and
- Community quality of life.

For details of the Committee's activity refer to the Annual Report of the House of Assembly.

SELECT COMMITTEES – AN INVESTIGATORY FUNCTION

Notwithstanding the establishment of two Joint House Standing Committees previously detailed, an important function of the Legislative Council has been the work carried out over time by its Select Committees. The Council's Standing Orders prescribe the way in which Select Committees operate. A Select Committee is formed by the Council agreeing to a motion moved by a Member for its establishment. A Select Committee can enquire into a Bill which is before the House or a matter which the House considers requires further investigation.

A Select Committee has a number of powers. It is able to summon witnesses to appear before it and call for such papers and records as it may require. All submissions, written or verbal, become the property of the Committee and in most instances cannot be made public until the Committee has reported to Parliament and Tabled the associated documents.

Witnesses are usually heard with open doors enabling the media and interested members of the public to attend but not participate in the proceedings. A Committee may however, when it considers necessary, meet behind closed doors and hear evidence in private.

Expenses associated with the activities of all Select Committees are met through funds appropriated from the Consolidated Fund and approved by the Parliament.

Legislative Council Select Committee on Ashley, Youth Justice and Detention

The Committee was established by order of the Legislative Council on 28 November 2006 and reported to the Council in July 2007.

The members of the Committee were the Mr Ivan Dean MLC, Mr Greg Hall MLC (Chairman), Mrs Norma Jamieson, Mr Terry Martin and Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC.

The Committee met on one occasion in the financial year to finalise its report which made 32 recommendations, the first three being —

1. The *Youth Justice Act 1997* be amended to provide access to diversionary programs prior to any plea of guilty.
2. The inter-agency working party be further encouraged to facilitate bail and remand options for young offenders.
3. Supported accommodation for young people who are held on remand following an appearance in an after hours court should be established in Hobart.

Legislative Council Select Committee on Organ Donation

The Committee was established by order of the Legislative Council on 6 June 2007 and reported to the Council on 11 June 2008.

The members of the Committee were Ms Ruth Forrest MLC, Mr Paul Harriss MLC, Mrs Tania Rattray-Wagner and Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC (Chairman).

The Committee called for evidence in advertisements placed in the three daily newspapers. In addition invitations were sent to key stakeholder groups and individuals.

Sixteen written submissions were received and verbal evidence given by twenty three witnesses in Tasmania and seven witnesses interstate. The Committee met on fourteen occasions.

The Committee made 22 recommendations, including that the current ‘opt in’ system for registration of consent to donate be maintained.

Legislative Council Select Committee on Housing Affordability in Tasmania

The Committee was established by order of the Legislative Council on 10 July 2007 and reported to the Council on 15 April 2008.

The Members of the Committee were Ms Ruth Forrest MLC, Mr Paul Harriss MLC, Mr Terry Martin MLC (Chair), Mrs Tania Rattray-Wagner MLC and Mrs Sue Smith MLC.

The Committee called for public submissions during August 2007, placing advertisements in Tasmanian daily newspapers. Invitations to participate in the inquiry were sent to a number of stakeholders. In total, 51 submissions were received.

Hearings were held during September and October 2007 and on one occasion in November, mostly in Hobart and once in Launceston. Sixty-one witnesses presented verbal evidence and some witnesses were recalled for a second or third appearance. In October 2007, the Committee travelled to Brisbane, Sydney, and Canberra, holding discussions with 23 interstate stakeholders.

The Committee met on 22 occasions.

Joint Select Committee on Gene Technology in Primary Industries

The Legislative Council administered this Committee. It was established by Order of the Parliament on 5 July 2007 to determine the most appropriate and effective policy position on use of gene technology in primary industries that best serves the future market interests of Tasmania.

The Members of the Committee were Mr Kim Booth MP, Ms Ruth Forrest MLC, Mr Greg Hall MLC, Mr David Llewellyn MP (Chair), Ms Sue Napier MP and Ms Lin Thorp MLC.

The Committee called for evidence in advertisements placed in the three daily newspapers. In addition invitations were sent to key stakeholder groups and individuals.

The Committee received 1,179 responses to its invitation for written submissions. Of these responses, 964 were identically-worded emails from individuals residing in Japan, Germany and Canada. The remaining 115 submissions came from individuals and organisations based in Australia. A significant number of the latter were also identically-worded emails or were copies of submissions that had been presented to inquiries established in other States of Australia. It is important to note that these inquiries in other jurisdictions did not have the same Terms of Reference as this Committee. As a result it was not always possible to relate them to the specific matters before this Committee, although they were taken into consideration wherever possible.

After initial consideration of the written submissions, the Committee invited a number of individuals and organisations to provide further evidence in person and be questioned by Members of the Committee. The Committee held public hearings in Devonport, Launceston and Hobart and also received evidence via phone link interstate and overseas. Witnesses ranged from emerging and eminent scientists, representatives from major stakeholders and interest groups to interested individuals.

The Committee met on fourteen occasions this financial year and is due to report to the Parliament by the end of August 2008.

Legislative Council Select Committee on the Accreditation of Building Practitioners and Administration of the Building Act 2000

The Committee was established by order of the Legislative Council on 13 July 2006 and re-established on 4 March 2008.

The Members of the Committee are the Mr Ivan Dean MLC, Ms Ruth Forrest MLC, Mr Paul Harriss MLC (Chair), Ms Lin Thorp MLC and Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC.

The Committee operations were suspended on 29 November 2006 through a motion in the Legislative Council “that further proceedings before the Legislative Council Select Committee on the Accreditation of Building Practitioners be suspended until such time as the Legislative Council can be satisfied that such proceedings would not prejudice related proceedings in the Supreme Court of Tasmania (Criminal Division)”.

The Committee has met on one occasion this financial year since its re-establishment. It is expected that further hearings will be held early in the next financial year.

Legislative Council Select Committee on Mining Industry Regulation

The Committee was established by order of the Legislative Council on 15 April 2008.

The Members of the Committee are the Mr Kerry Finch MLC, Ms Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair), Mr Paul Harriss MLC and Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC.

Advertisements calling for submissions were placed in the three regional newspapers on Saturday, 19 April 2008 with a closing date for submissions on 30 May 2008.

The Committee met on two occasions during the financial year. Hearings and site visits will be held in Tasmania and the Committee will be travelling to Western Australia and Queensland to gather further evidence.

Legislative Council Select Committee on Surrogacy

The Committee was appointed on 1 April 2008. The membership of the Committee as determined by Order of the Legislative Council was Mrs Sue Smith MLC, Ms Lin Thorp (Chair) MLC and Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC. On 10 June 2008 Mrs Tania Rattray-Wagner MLC was appointed to the Committee to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs Sue Smith MLC.

Advertisements were placed in the three regional daily newspapers on 5 April 2008 calling for submissions and evidence regarding the Committee’s full terms of reference on Surrogacy.

Nine witnesses gave verbal evidence to the Committee in Hobart. Eleven written submissions were received. The Committee held private hearings in Hobart on 21 May 2008.

The Committee expects to complete its hearings and table a Report early in the 2008-09 reporting year.

Legislative Council Select Committee on Recreational Marine Fishing

This Committee was appointed by order of the Legislative Council on Tuesday, 20 November 2007. The membership of the Committee was determined to be Mrs Tania Rattray-Wagner MLC; Ms Lin Thorp MLC; Mr Jim Wilkinson MLC and Mr Paul Harriss MLC (Chair). The Committee was re-appointed by order of the Legislative Council on Tuesday, 4 March 2008.

The Committee met three times in the reporting period and held one day of public hearings in Hobart. Hearings and deliberations of the Committee continue.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEES

The Legislative Council again agreed to the establishment of Estimates Committees which could not vote on, but could examine and report upon the proposed expenditures contained in the *Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill 2008-09*, with such expenditures being considered on an output by output basis, including Grants, Subsidies and Loans and the Capital Investment Program.

The Resolution adopted by the Legislative Council on 12 June 2008 contained the following provisions:—

Appointment and Membership That the Legislative Council establish two Estimates Committees and that Committee A shall consist of 5 members and Committee B shall consist of 6 members.

And that the Members for –

Elwick
Huon
Murchison
Nelson, and
Rowallan
be of Committee A

and

Apsley
Mersey
Paterson
Pembroke
Rosevears, and
Windermere
be of Committee B

Reporting Date That the Estimates Committees report upon the proposed expenditures contained in the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills (No. 1 and No. 2) and budget papers by no later than 4 July 2008.

Committee Timetable And that the schedule distributed in the Legislative Council on Wednesday, 11 June 2008 be adopted as the Estimates Committee timetable.

The Estimates Committee hearings were held during the week 23-26 June 2008. Committee A met on six occasions and Committee B on seven occasions.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESSES SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

On 18 October 2007 the Legislative Council again established two Government Businesses Scrutiny Committees to inquire into Government Businesses on 4 and 5 December 2007.

The following businesses were scrutinised —

- ◆ Forestry Tasmania
- ◆ Hydro Tasmania
- ◆ Transend Networks Pty Ltd
- ◆ Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd
- ◆ The Public Trustee
- ◆ TT Line Company Pty Ltd

GBE Committee A met on nine occasions and GBE Committee B met on five occasions.

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT SUMMARY

Committees/Inquiries Operating as at 1 July 2007:

- ◆ Joint Committee on Environment, Resources and Development: Alternative Fuels
- ◆ Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation
- ◆ Privileges
- ◆ Standing Orders
- ◆ Accreditation of Building Practitioners and Administration of the Building Act 2000
- ◆ Housing Affordability in Tasmania
- ◆ Organ Donation
- ◆ Joint Committee on Gene Technology in Primary Industries
- ◆ Environment Resources and Development: Joint Venture Log Supply Deal and Alternative Fuels
- ◆ Ashley, Youth Justice and Detention
- ◆ Joint Select Committee on Working Arrangements of Parliament

Committees/Inquiries Commenced and Ongoing

	No. Meetings	Hearing Days	No. Submissions	No. Witnesses
Mining Industry Regulation (commenced 15/4/08)	2	-	21	-
Recreational Marine Fishing in Tasmania (commenced 20/11/07 – re-appointed 4/3/08)	7	4	24	23
Accreditation of Building Practitioners and Administration of the Building Act 2000 (re-established following suspension on 4/3/08)	1	-	44	-
Joint Select Committee on the Working Arrangements of Parliament		-	-	-

Committees/Inquiries Concluded

	No. Meetings	Hearing Days	No. Submissions	No. Witnesses
Estimates Committee A	6	4	-	-
Estimates Committee B	7	4	-	-
Government Businesses Scrutiny A	9	1	-	18
Government Businesses Scrutiny B	5	1	-	12
Joint Committee on Environment, Resources and Development: Alternative Fuels (established 31/10/06)	6	4	28	17
Joint Committee on Environment, Resources and Development: Joint Venture Log Supply Deal	1	-	-	-
Housing Affordability in Tasmania	22	8	51	61
Organ Donation	14	5	16	23
Surrogacy	5	3	15	9
Joint Committee on Gene Technology in Primary Industries	14	6	115	43
Ashley, Youth Justice and Detention	1	-	-	-

Joint Committee Inquiries Commenced and Staffed by the Legislative Council

	No. Meetings	Hearing Days	No. Submissions	No. Witnesses
Joint Committee on Environment, Resources and Development: Coastal Erosion	1	2	15	8
Joint Committee on Environment, Resources and Development: Wildfires (established on 3/6/08)	1	-	-	-

Committees/Inquiries Operating as at 30 June 2008:

- ◆ Privileges
- ◆ Standing Orders
- ◆ Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation
- ◆ Joint Committee on Environment, Resources and Development: Coastal Erosion
- ◆ Joint Committee on Environment, Resources and Development: Wildfires
- ◆ Recreational Marine Fishing in Tasmania
- ◆ Joint Committee on Gene Technology in Primary Industries
- ◆ Mining Industry Regulation
- ◆ Accreditation of Building Practitioners and Administration of the Building Act 2000
- ◆ Joint Select Committee on Working Arrangements of Parliament

APPENDIX A
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(as at 30 June 2008)

MEMBER	ELECTORATE DIVISION	PARTY
Aird, Michael Anthony <i>Treasurer</i> <i>Minister for Racing</i>	Derwent	ALP
Dean, Ivan Noel	Windermere	Ind.
Finch, Kerry <i>Third Deputy Chair of Committees</i>	Rosevears	Ind.
Forrest, Ruth Jane	Murchison	Ind.
Hall, Gregory Raymond <i>Chair of Committees</i>	Rowallan	Ind.
Harriss, Andrew Paul <i>Second Deputy Chair of Committees</i>	Huon	Ind.
Jamieson, Norma Mary	Mersey	Ind.
Martin, Terence Lewis	Elwick	Ind.
Parkinson, Douglas John <i>Leader of the Government</i>	Wellington	ALP
Rattray-Wagner, Tania Verene <i>Deputy Chair of Committees</i>	Apsley	Ind.
Ritchie, Allison Maree <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer</i>	Pembroke	ALP
Smith, Susan Lynette <i>President</i>	Montgomery	Ind.
Thorp, Lin Estelle <i>Deputy Leader of the Government</i>	Rumney	ALP
Wilkinson, James Scott	Nelson	Ind.
Wing, Donald George	Paterson	Ind.

APPENDIX B

STAFF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

(as at 30 June 2008)

Clerk of the Council	-	Mr David Pearce
Deputy Clerk	-	Mr Nigel Pratt
Clerk-Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod	-	Mrs Sue E. McLeod
Clerk of Committees	-	Dr Colin Huntly
Parliamentary Officer: Personnel and Administration	-	Miss Janet A. Chipman
Parliamentary Officer: Finance and Administration	-	Mr Denis J. Millhouse
Parliamentary Officer: Bills and Papers	-	Mr Mark J. Baily
Personal Assistant to the President and Clerk	- -	Mrs Janet A. Harrison/ Mrs Sandra L. Phillips
Personal Assistant to the Deputy Clerk	-	Mrs Sandra L. Phillips
Personal Assistant to the Clerk-Assistant	- -	Miss Julie Thompson/ Ms Allison Waddington
Personal Assistant to the Clerk of Committees	-	Mrs Jill Mann
Executive Assistant to the Leader of the Government	-	Miss Mandy J. Jenkins
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Leader of the Government	-	Ms Debbie Cleaver
Electorate Officers	- - - - - - - - - - - -	Ms Allison Waddington Mrs Rachel Burgess Ms Dawn Vallance Mrs Bonnie Phillips Mrs Suzanne Carracher Mrs Sue Szoka Ms Di Bucknell Ms Melissa Partridge Mrs Sally Avery Mr Brett Galbraith Mrs Megan Graham
Research Officers:	- -	Miss Emily Freeman Mr Nathan Fewkes
Parliamentary Officers - Support Services	- -	Mr Leigh T. Matthews Mr Craig M. Thorp
Communications Officer	-	Mrs Shirley Holzner

Full-Time Equivalent Employees as at 30/6/2008 - 26.25

APPENDIX C

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL

	Forty-Fifth Parliament Second Session up to 30 June 2004	Forty-Fifth Parliament Second Session up to 30 June 2005	Forty-Fifth Parliament Second Session continued up to 31 December 2005	Forty-Sixth Parliament First Session up to 30 June 2006	Forty-Sixth Parliament First Session up to 30 June 2007	Forty-Sixth Parliament First Session up to 31 December 2007	Forty-Sixth Parliament Second Session 4 March 2008 up to 30 June 2008
Sitting Days	13	41	21	9	39	29	20
Hours of Sitting	50	144	73	19	142	106	86
Bills Amended	3	13	8	-	13	7	3
Bills Passed	16	85	43	14	68	62	25
Questions on Notice	8	40	3	4	71	25	25
Petitions	-	-	-	1	3	6	-
Substantive Motions	6	41	8	19	55	7	25
Matters of Public Importance	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Divisions	1	9	7	-	6	6	3
Ministerial Statements	-	2	-	2	4	-	2
Motions for the Disallowance of Regulations	1	2	-	-	1	-	-

APPENDIX D

PASSAGE OF BILLS

Bills	2002-2003	2003-2004 up to 30 June 2004	2004-2005 up to 30 June 2005	2005-2006 up to 30 June 2006	2006-2007	1 July 2007 to 31 December 2007	4 March 2008 to 30 June 2008
Introduced	125	29	89	53	61	61	28
Lapsed	4	-	-	4	0	3	-
Negatived at Second Reading	-	-	1	2	0	-	-
Passed	124	16	85	57	54	62	25
Without Amendment	114	13	72	49	41	55	22
With Amendment	10	3	13	8	13	7	3
Number of Amendments	19	3	131	52	58	27	24

APPENDIX E

OFFICIAL VISITORS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

High Commissioner of New Zealand His Excellency Dr John Larkindale	10 July 2007
Ambassador of Mexico Her Excellency Mrs Martha Ortiz de Rosas	21 August 2007
Ambassador of Germany His Excellency Mr Martin Lutz	23 October 2007
Ambassador of South Korea His Excellency Mr Cho Chang-Beom	7 November 2007
Ambassador of Chile His Excellency Mr Jose Luis Balmaceda	22 April 2008
Australian Political Exchange Council Sixth Delegation from New Zealand	16 May 2008

In addition, a Farewell Dinner was held at Parliament House on 6 March 2008 in honour of His Excellency the Honourable William Cox, AC, RFD, ED, Governor of Tasmania and Mrs Cox.

A lunch was also held at the Launceston Club on 26 March 2008 to welcome the Deputy Vice Chancellor UTAS, Professor David Rich.

APPENDIX F

SCHOOL VISITS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Date Visited	School Name	Visitor Numbers	Date Visited	School Name	Visitor Numbers
July 2007	Sorell High	13	Nov 2007	Launceston Prep	20
July 2007	Springfield Gardens Primary	20	Nov 2007	Bridgewater High	20
July 2007	Taroona High	25	Nov 2007	Blackmans Bay Primary	50
July 2007	Princes Street Primary	30	Nov 2007	Friends School	40
Aug 2007	Herrick Presbyterian	13	Nov 2007	Clarendon Vale Primary	26
Aug 2007	Dominic College	60	Nov 2007	Sprent Primary	30
Aug 2007	Cosgrove High	40	Nov 2007	Illawarra Primary	55
Aug 2007	Ogilvie High	60	Nov 2007	Natone Primary	18
Aug 2007	Campbell Street Primary	30	Nov 2007	Leighland Christian School	27
Aug 2007	St Patricks College	42	Dec 2007	Meander Valley Primary	12
Aug 2007	Sacred Heart Geeveston	24	Dec 2007	Illawarra Primary	25
Aug 2007	Campbell Street Primary	30	Dec 2007	Scotch Oakburn	60
Aug 2007	Guilford Young College	20	Dec 2007	Prospect High	60
Aug 2007	Molesworth Primary	24	Mar 2008	Scotch Oakburn	60
Aug 2007	Oakwood Primary	10	Mar 2008	Bruny Island State School	20
Sept 2007	St James College Cygnet	54	Mar 2008	Guilford Young College	20
Sept 2007	MacKillop College	28	Mar 2008	Elizabeth College	22
Sept 2007	Sheffield School	50	Mar 2008	Newstead College	34
Oct 2007	Woodbridge High	30	Apr 2008	St Thomas More's School	20
Oct 2007	Hutchins School	54	Apr 2008	John Paul School	28
Oct 2007	Rosny College	20	Apr 2008	Sacred Heart Hobart	35
Oct 2007	Hagley	55	Apr 2008	Ulverstone Primary	60
Oct 2007	Rosny College	35	Apr 2008	Sacred Heart Launceston	28
Oct 2007	McKillop College	53	Apr 2008	Fahan School	36
Oct 2007	Zeehan Primary	30	May 2008	Montagu Bay Primary	45
Oct 2007	Fairview Primary	25	May 2008	McKillop College	56
Oct 2007	Lenah Valley Primary	25	May 2008	Glen Dhu Primary	60
Oct 2007	Swansea Primary	27	May 2008	Glenora Primary	22
Oct 2007	Sorell High	16	May 2008	New Norfolk High	22
Oct 2007	St Therese's School	32	May 2008	Tasman District High	20
Oct 2007	St Patrick's Latrobe	12	May 2008	UTAS	24
Oct 2007	Abbotsfield Primary	30	May 2008	TAFE Hobart	5
Nov 2007	Lindisfarne Primary	32	May 2008	Forest Primary	40
Nov 2007	Mount Carmel College	60	May 2008	Sacred Heart Geeveston	24
Nov 2007	Taroona High	25	May 2008	Rosny College	49
Nov 2007	Bicheno Primary	20	May 2008	Oakwood School	25
Nov 2007	Montagu Bay Primary	40	June 2008	Guilford Young College	46
Nov 2007	Waimea Heights	27	June 2008	St Virgil's College	60
Nov 2007	East Devonport Primary	80	June 2008	Launceston Church Grammar	60
Nov 2007	Sorell Primary	25	June 2008	Mount Carmel College	38

APPENDIX G

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Financial Report of the Legislative Council for the period ending on 30 June 2008 including the Independent Audit Report.