

Department of Treasury and Finance

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Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Chair

Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration A
via email: Jenny.Mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Forrest

Inquiry into the Financial and Operational Performance of the Department of Health

I refer to your letter of 28 April 2026 containing the Questions on Notice taken during the public hearing of the Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration A on 23 April 2026. I am pleased to provide the following responses:

1. Since the Auditor-General's report came out in May 2025, have there been any requests for advice, particularly around the funding of community service organisations and the grants that are provided through Health?

Since May 2025, Treasury has provided advice to a number of agencies to assist in determining if the procurement or grant framework is more applicable to a particular activity. No requests for specific advice have been received from the Department of Health.

In addition, Treasury continues to engage regularly with an interagency committee specifically in relation to community services funding. This includes providing additional advice and guidance as required, to assist agencies in applying the correct framework to community services funding activities.

2. Please provide a copy of the updated guidelines to the Committee.

The *Procurement vs Grant Guideline* issued to Accountable Authorities on 29 January 2026 is available on the Tasmanian Government Purchasing website ([https://www.purchasing.tas.gov.au/Documents/Procurement%20vs%20Grant%20Guideline%20\(January%202026\).PDF](https://www.purchasing.tas.gov.au/Documents/Procurement%20vs%20Grant%20Guideline%20(January%202026).PDF)). Treasury has also distributed the Guideline to agency procurement officers.

3. Have the Treasurer's Instructions changed in response to the Auditor-General's report on Health's management of CSO funding?

Consistent with the Department's response to the Auditor-General's Report on the Department of Health's funding of Community Service Organisations, Treasury provides a clear pathway for Accountable Authorities to obtain clarity within the Financial Management Framework if there is uncertainty regarding requirements.

On this basis there have been no changes made to the Treasurer's Instructions specifically in response to this Report.

4. Have the Treasurer's Instructions been updated/considered in light of fraud and corruption control measures?

Under the Financial Management Framework, Treasurer's Instruction FC-5 *Fraud and Corruption Control* together with the Better Practice Guidelines establish the minimal accountabilities, responsibilities and procedures to implement an effective Fraud and Corruption Control Plan within an Agency.

Treasury has not been made aware of any deficiencies within the Framework on this issue and there have been no changes made to the Treasurer's Instructions specifically in light of fraud and corruption control measures.

Should you have any queries or require any further information regarding this matter, please contact James Craigie on (03) 6145 0708 or email

james.craigie@treasury.tas.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Swain', with a stylized, cursive script.

Gary Swain
Secretary

8 May 2026