

Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts

Media Advisory

Thursday, 28 November 2024

Tabled Report:

1. Follow-up of Auditor-General Report No.2 of 2015-16 – Capital Works Programming and Management

The Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts (Committee) tabled the following report today:

Follow-up of Auditor-General Report - No.2 of 2015-16 - Capital Works Programming and Management

The Committee acknowledges this Tasmanian Audit Office Report was completed almost ten years ago, and notes it is important that the recommendations made by the Tasmanian Audit Office are responded to and Departments held to account. The Committee further notes there have been significant organisational changes across the Department of Health (DoH), and the Department of Education (the latter becoming the Department for Education, Children and Young People (DECYP)) since the release of this Auditor-General's Report.

The Committee made 37 findings and four recommendations that outline the progress that has been made and is continuing across the three departments in response to the Auditor-General's Report. In broad terms, the Committee acknowledges the Department of Treasury and Finance (DoTF), DECYP and DoH have responded positively to all recommendations with actions completed or in progress to respond.

With regard to the recommendation related to the DECYP, the Committee recommended that in order to promote transparency and public visibility, the asset condition data and priority ranking for all schools be published on the Department's website and updated annually. This information should include an explanation of how the priority rankings are used to inform annual budget allocations.

With regard to the DoTF, the Committee noted the work done to separate the Treasury-based Structured Infrastructure Investment Review Process (SIIRP) and the Infrastructure Tasmania (ITas) assurance process. The Committee recommended this separation be maintained to avoid potential conflicts. The Committee also recommended the Department conduct periodic reviews, including a review of the 2015 changes to the SIIRP, to assess its effectiveness and identify areas for further streamlining.

Finally, with regard to the DoH, the Committee recommended the Government closely monitor and report on patient health outcomes related to DoH capital investment and the alignment of clinical service delivery.

The Members of the Committee are:

Legislative Council Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair) Hon Luke Edmunds MLC Hon Bec Thomas MLC House of Assembly Mr Simon Behrakis MP Mr Mark Shelton MP Mr Josh Willie MP (Deputy Chair)

Further information about the Committee and a copy of the tabled report is available on the Committee website.

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