

### Report 79

# STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

The Local Projects Local Jobs Program and the establishment of a Parliamentary Budget Office — Extension of Time

Presented by Hon Tjorn Sibma MLC (Chair)

October 2019

### **Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations**

### Members as at the time of this inquiry:

Hon Tjorn Sibma MLC (Chair)

Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC (Deputy Chair)

Hon Diane Evers MLC

Hon Colin Tincknell MLC

Hon Jacqui Boydell MLC substitute for Hon Aaron Stonehouse MLC

### Staff as at the time of this inquiry:

Mr Grant Hitchcock (Advisory Officer)

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## 1 Inquiry into the Government's Local Projects Local Jobs Program

#### **Extension of time**

- 1.1 On 7 November 2018, the Legislative Council resolved that the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations (Committee) conduct an inquiry into
  - the Government's Local Projects Local Jobs program
  - the establishment of a Parliamentary Budget Office for the independent costings of election promises and related purposes.
- 1.2 The reporting date for the Committee's inquiry is 19 November 2019.
- 1.3 The scope of the Committee's inquiry is in two parts. The first aspect of inquiry revolves around the means by which certain election promises were developed and delivered under the Local Projects Local Jobs program. The second aspect of inquiry relates to the establishment of a Parliamentary Budget Office to cost election promises. While the two aspects of inquiry are related, the Committee is in effect pursuing two separate lines of inquiry to satisfy the terms of the referral.
- 1.4 On 16 October 2019 the Committee resolved to seek an extension of time in which the Committee is to report on the referral. The Committee considers that an extension of its reporting time is required to enable it to properly consider and discharge its reporting obligations to the Legislative Council in relation to each aspect of the referred inquiry.
- 1.5 The Committee therefore requests an extension of time in which to report from 19 November 2019 to 21 May 2020.

Hon Tjorn Sibma MLC

Chair



### **Inquiry into the Government's Local Projects Local Jobs Program**

### Date first appointed:

5 December 2018

#### Terms of Reference:

- (1) The Estimates and Financial Operations Committee shall conduct an inquiry into the Government's Local Projects, Local Jobs program.
- (2) The Committee is to inquire into the Local Projects Local Jobs program ("the program") with particular reference to the following
  - (a) how each project was developed, evaluated and selected for funding;
  - (b) how payments were made and acquitted under each project to ensure financial probity and accountability;
  - (c) how actual or perceived conflicts of interest were declared and managed under each project;
  - (d) the number of projects funded and for each project the amount of funding provided and number of jobs created;
  - (e) whether community, education, arts and sporting groups within the State were afforded an equal opportunity to access the program;
  - (f) whether funding to the program affected the quantum of funds available for grants or other funding sources for community, education, arts and sporting groups within the State and if so in what way; and
  - (g) any other related matter.
- (3) The Committee is to also inquire into the establishment of a Parliamentary Budget Office for the independent costing of election promises and related purposes.
- (4) For the purposes of this inquiry only, the Hon Tjorn Sibma is appointed Chair of the Committee and the Hon Alanna Clohesy is appointed Deputy Chair.
- (5) The Committee is to report no later than twelve months after the referral.



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