LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

2018-19 ANNUAL REPORTS HEARINGS - SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

The Department of the Premier and Cabinet - Corporate Services

Hon Tjorn Sibma asked:

1) I presage, somewhat, the next question: I thought an \$8 million corporate overhead for a \$40 million function was exceedingly inefficient. That comprises 20 per cent of the budget, which no member of Parliament could actually point to that service being received and get an understanding or appreciation or satisfaction from it. Nevertheless, would it be possible to provide by way of supplementary information at the moment the actual composition of that corporate overhead? [Supplementary Information No A1]

Answer:

Corporate Overheads Breakdown	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Financial & Procurement Services	771,974	966,087	886,425
Human Resource Services	1,142,356	1,425,423	1,370,197
Information Management & Technology	2,260,876	2,699,045	2,661,596
Other services	2,545,474	2,559,806	3,156,589
Grand Total	6,720,681	7,650,361	8,074,808

As outlined at the Standing Committee Hearing, the allocation of Corporate Overheads to this Service is currently under review and will be adjusted to more accurately reflect the true cost of this Service for the department's 2020-21 Budget Statements and 2019-20 Annual Report.

NB: The existing overhead allocation model uses FTE to allocate Corporate Overheads to each of the department's Services, however for Service 2, the use of Electoral Office staff (approx. 200 FTE) as a cost driver has resulted in a disproportionate share of overhead costs being allocated to this Service. This will be corrected in future figures.

2) With that said, on a similar line, is it possible to provide some rationale for why that corporate overhead expense has grown from \$6.7 million in 2016–17 to over \$8 million in the 2018–19 budget year? [Supplementary Information No A2]

Answer: Refer details in table above.

3) I would just put that question in now that you have on notice. When you are looking at this subservice expenditure and the corporate overheads as part of that—the first on notice one was to have a breakdown of \$8 million in the year 2018–19, can I ask for the similar breakdown for the years 2016–17 and 2017–18? [Supplementary Information No A3]

Answer: Refer details in table above.

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The Department of the Premier and Cabinet - Executive Services Hon Tjorn Sibma asked:

4) Is it possible to give, by way of an answer to a supplementary question, the number of parliamentary offices that do comply with modern standards of disability access? I do not know the appropriate metric to use, but that would be useful information

[Supplementary Information A4].

Answer:

- 38 Parliamentary Electorate Offices fully comply with the Disability Discrimination Act for access.
- 42 Parliamentary Electorate Offices are accessible by people with a disability.
- 17 Parliamentary Electorate Offices are not accessible.
- 5) Might I seek then, if I am granted a little bit of indulgence, whether there are jurisdictional comparisons between other Australian states and territories which might provide an indication of how, for example, these kinds of things are done by the New South Wales, Victorian or Queensland jurisdictions? At a commonwealth level, it is devolved to the central agency and that is largely finance. But there is a demarcation between executive government email accounts, for example, and MP accounts. I think that is the appropriate thing [Supplementary Information A5].

Answer:

The Department does not have information on alternative models of service provision from other jurisdictions.

6) **Hon AARON STONEHOUSE:** Yes. Obviously, with 100 per cent everything was met for both groups, but in previous years, perhaps in the last two years, if that is not too onerous, to provide the breakdown of the target and the actual between executive and non-executive members of Parliament. That would be helpful. I know that we have asked previously for the satisfaction—the service recipients' confirmation that those services were provided, but I am looking for the target and actual delivered in 1.1 of that table, broken down by executive and members.

Hon SUE ELLERY: Honourable member, we will take it on notice, but I cannot guarantee that it is possible to backcast and split the data because it will depend on how the questions were asked, I suspect. But the director general might add some comments to that. We will take it on notice. If we are able to provide you with that, we will, but I am not sure that we can [Supplementary Information A6].

Answer:

Key Effectiveness Indicator (KEI) 1.1 does not currently include services or targets for Members of Parliament (Members). In response to concerns raised by the Legislative Council in 2018-19 that services provided to Members were not sufficiently transparent, the Department amended its reported services to more clearly identify those provided to Members in revised KEI 1.2. As part of ongoing improvements and review of the Outcome Based Management Structure, the Department is working with the Office of the Auditor General and Department of Treasury to continue to develop additional targets to reflect services to Members.

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The Department of the Premier and Cabinet - Infrastructure and Major Projects Hon Tjorn Sibma asked:

1) Can I ask, in the year—it might not be much considering the time involved. How many submissions did you receive from the private sector in the reporting period? [Supplementary Information A7].

Answer:

This answer is provided by way of supplementary information.

The Market-led Proposals Secretariat has received several proposals (via the prescribed prequalification template) from industry since the MLP policy was launched on 1 April 2019.

The specific number and nature of the proposals remains confidential to protect the intellectual property of the proponent and to provide participants with confidence in the integrity of the process. This is consistent with the disclosure section of the Cabinet approved policy.

The Market-led Proposals Secretariat maintains a register of all proposals submitted. The MLP Steering Committee, led by an independent Chairperson reports to Cabinet regularly on all proposals lodged and their status within the pre-qualification stage.

Should proposals proceed to Stages 1 and beyond, a high level summary of each proposal and the outcome of the evaluation of each proposal will be made public (via the Market-led Proposals page on the WA.gov.au website) at the end of Stages 1, 2 and 3.)

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