



Economics and Industry Standing Committee

Annual Report 2011-2012

Report No. 15
October 2012

Legislative Assembly
Parliament of Western Australia

Committee Members

Chair	Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA Member for Kingsley (from 12 September 2012)
	Dr M.D. Nahan, MLA Member for Riverton (until 17 August 2012)
Deputy Chair	Mr W.J. Johnston, MLA Member for Cannington
Members	Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA Member for Kingsley (until 12 September 2012)
	Mr I.C. Blayney, MLA Member for Geraldton
	Mr M.P. Murray, MLA Member for Collie-Preston
	Mr D.A. Templeman, MLA Member for Mandurah (Co-opted, until 19 October 2011)
	Hon. M.H. Roberts, MLA Member for Midland (Co-opted, from 1 March 2012)

Committee Staff

Principal Research Officer	Mr Tim Hughes, BA (Hons) Ms Renée Gould, BA GradDipA (from 16 April 2012)
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Presented by

Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA

Laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 25 October 2012

Chair's Foreword

As Chair of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee of the 38th Parliament, I am pleased to present the Committee's fourth annual report.

Over the 2011-2012 reporting period, the Committee completed one Inquiry begun in the previous reporting period (Report No 10, Response to House – Matter of Park Home Residents), commenced two new Inquiries and completed one of those new Inquiries (Report No 11 – Inquiry into Ironbridge Holdings Pty Ltd).

As part of its work program the Committee held 34 deliberative meetings, conducted 36 hearings and received six briefings.

It has been a very busy year for the Committee and the staff, as reports were finalised and Inquiries commenced.

I would like to formally thank the previous Chair of the Committee, Dr Mike Nahan MLA, for his commitment to and his leadership of the Committee throughout the year.

I would also like to express the Committee's appreciation of the work performed by the Committee Secretariat: Mr Tim Hughes (Principal Research Officer), Mrs Kristy Bryden (Research Officer) and Ms Renee Gould (Principal Research Officer), who has assisted the Committee during the Inquiry into the 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon.

MS A.R. MITCHELL, MLA
CHAIR

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Chapter 1

The Committee's Work

Summary

During the course of this reporting period, the Committee:

- Completed one Inquiry begun in the previous reporting period, commenced two new Inquiries and completed one of those new Inquiries;
- Held 34 deliberative meetings
- Conducted 36 public hearings;
- Received 6 briefings; and
- Undertook investigative travel to Bunbury and Kununurra.

Table 1.1: Summary of the activities of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012

Activity	Number of instances
Deliberative meetings	34
Formal evidence hearings	36
Briefings	6
Reports tabled	5
Report findings tabled	83
Report recommendations tabled	32

Public Hearings

Pursuant to Assembly Standing Order 264, the Committee has the power to send for persons, papers and records. During the period 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012, the Committee conducted 36 hearings, taking evidence from 73 witnesses to assist with its Inquiries.

Table 1.2: Public Hearings of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
29 August 2011	Mr Brian Bradley	Director General	Department of Commerce
	Ms Anne Driscoll	Executive Director, Consumer Protection	

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	Mr David Hillyard	Director, Consumer Protection	
	Mr Tom Filov	Acting Director, Legislation and Policy	
29 August 2011	Mr Timothy Hillyard	Property Services Manager	Western Australian Planning Commission
29 August 2011	Mr Grahame Searle	Director General	Department of Housing
	Mr Paul Whyte	General Manager, Commercial and Business Operations	
29 August 2011	Mr Brad Jolly	Executive Director, Governance and Legislation	Department of Local Government
	Ms Mary Adam	Manager, Legislation	
	Mr Walter Arrow	Acting Principal Policy Officer	
	Miss Joanne Proctor	Research and Policy Officer	
31 August 2011	Ms Stephanie Buckland	Chief Executive Officer	Tourism WA
	Mr Campbell Fletcher	Policy Manager	
31 August 2011	Mr Keiran McNamara	Director General	Department of Environment and Conservation
	Mr James Sharp	Deputy Director General, Parks and Conservation	
	Mr Peter Sharp	Director, Parks and Visitor Services Division	
6 October 2011	Ms Carolynn Hill	Resident	The Tuarts Estate
	Ms Ciara Lyons	Resident	
	Mr Jason Schuttloffel	Resident	
	Mr Douglas Steele	Resident	
	Mr Michael Taylor	Resident	
6 October 2011	Mr Paul Cain	Resident	Recreation Estate
	Ms Jane Ryan-Barnard	Resident	
17 October 2011	Ms Debra Goostrey	Chief Executive Officer	Urban Development Institute of Australia (WA)
	Mr Nicholas Perrignon	Chief Operating Officer	Satterley Property Group
17 October 2011	Ms Anne Driscoll	Commissioner for Consumer Protection	Department of Commerce

	Mr David Hillyard	Director, Retail and Services	
	Mr Stephen Meagher	Director, Property Industries	
17 October 2011	Mr Frank Marra	General Manager, Finance and Strategy	LandCorp
	Mr Carl Curtis	Development Manager	
17 October 2011	Mr Peter James	Director	Recreation Drive Pty Ltd
26 October 2011	Mr Ian Wallace	Director	Ironbridge Holdings Pty Ltd
	Mr Thomas O'Rourke	Assistant Project Manager	
	Mr Nicholas Wallace	Land Salesman	
8 December 2011	Mr Ian Wallace	Director	Ironbridge Holdings Pty Ltd
31 January 2012	Mr Ian Wallace	Director	Ironbridge Holdings Pty Ltd
	Ms Denise Young	Director	Charters Chartered Accountants
20 April 2012	Mr Glenn Hamilton	Director Events, Eventscorp	Tourism Western Australia
	Mr David Lowe	Acting Chief Executive Officer	
	Mr Gwyn Dolphin	Executive Director, Eventscorp	
20 April 2012	Mr Keiran McNamara	Director General	Department of Environment and Conservation
	Mr Luke Bentley	Acting East Kimberley District Manager	
20 April 2012	Dr Andrew Robertson	Acting Executive Director, Public Health and Clinical Services	Department of Health
23 April 2012	Mr Craig Waters	District Manager, Fire Investigation and Analysis Unit	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of Western Australia
23 April 2012	Assistant Commissioner Michael Burnby	Assistant Commissioner, Regional WA	Western Australia Police
	Superintendent Michael Sutherland	Superintendent, Kimberley	
	Detective Senior Constable Robert Seaman	Arson Squad	

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	First Class Constable Krystle Duckett	Police Officer, Wyndham Police Station	
	First Class Constable Robert Wolfe	Police Officer, Wyndham Police Station	
23 April 2012	Mr Gary Gaffney	Chief Executive Officer	Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley
	Mrs Nadia Donnelly	General Manager	Kununurra Visitors Centre
23 April 2012	Mr Sarel De Koker	Community Paramedic	St John Ambulance
	Mr Matthew Maywald	Operations Manager	
	Mr Philip Strapp	Regional Manager	
23 April 2012	Mr Paul Cripps	Operations Manager/Pilot	Heliwork WA
	Mr Bryn Watson	Pilot/Paramedic	
24 April 2012	Mr John Storey	Farmer	
	Mrs Ann-Marie Storey	Farmer	
24 April 2012	Mr Lon Croot	Volunteer	
	Mr Frederic Mills	Former Shire President	Shire of Wyndham- East Kimberley
24 April 2012	Mr James Salerno	Cattle Operator/Landowner	Salerno Pastoral
30 April 2012	Miss Turia Pitt	Competitor, Racing ThePlanet 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon	
	Miss Kate Sanderson	Competitor, Racing ThePlanet 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon	
	Mr Michael Hull	Competitor, Racing ThePlanet 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon	
	Mr Shaun Van Der Merwe	Competitor, Racing ThePlanet 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon	
2 May 2012	Ms Mary Gadams	Founder/CEO	RacingThePlanet Events Limited
9 May 2012	Mrs Stephanie Buckland	Chief Executive Officer	Tourism Western Australia

	Ms Kate Lamont	Chairman (Board)	
9 May 2012	Dr Kim Hames, MLA	Minister for Tourism; Health	
9 May 2012	Mr Andy Hewat	Race Director	Great Ocean Walk 100, Bogong2Hotham
9 May 2012	Mr Paul Rosair	Director General	Department of Regional Development and Lands
	Mr Declan Morgan	Director, State Land Services	
	Mr Colin Slattery	Director, Regional Investment	
9 May 2012	Mr Robert Boyce	President	Australian Ultra Runners Association (AURA)
	Miss Bernadette Benson	Vice President	
10 May 2012	Mr Frank Chidiac	Executive Producer	Beyond Action
10 May 2012	Mr Evan Hall	Chief Executive Officer	Tourism Council Western Australia
23 May 2012	Mr Tony Stevenson	Fire Services Manager, East Kimberley	Fire and Emergency Services Authority of Western Australia

Briefings

In addition to gathering evidence during the formal hearings, the Committee received a number of informal briefings. The briefings were used to gain information and advice in relation to the Committee's Inquiries.

Table 1.3: Briefings provided to the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
10 August 2011	Ms Anne Driscoll	Commissioner for Consumer Protection	Department of Commerce
	Mr David Hillyard	Director, Retail and Services	
	Mr Steve Marr	Director, Property Industries Divisions	
	Mr Robert Spinks	Senior Investigator, Property Industries Investigation Branch	
8 December 2011			BDO Australia
21 March 2012	Closed Briefing		

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28 March 2012	Closed Briefing		
30 April 2012	Closed Briefing		
9 May 2012	Closed Briefing		

Investigative Travel

The Committee travelled to Bunbury in relation to the *Inquiry into Ironbridge Holdings Pty Ltd and other matters regarding residential land and property developments*. During this travel, the Committee toured affected residential estates and held public hearings with residents of these estates.

The Committee travelled to Kununurra in relation to the *Inquiry into the 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon*. During this travel, the Committee toured the area in which the first half of the 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon was held, and flew over the area where the fire started and the incident site from where the injured competitors were rescued. The Committee also conducted public hearings in Kununurra on 23 and 24 April 2012.

Conferences

The Committee Chair attended the Australian Institute of Energy Luncheon as the guest speaker on 7 November 2011.

Reports tabled

The Committee tabled five reports in the Legislative Assembly during the period 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012.

Report No. 8 – *Economics and Industry Standing Committee 2010-2011 Annual Report* was tabled on 18 August 2011.

Report No. 9 – *Response to Referral from the House dated 15 June 2011* was tabled on 18 August 2011.

Report No. 10 – *Response to House – Matter of Park Home Residents* was tabled on 20 October 2011.

Report No. 11 – *Inquiry into Ironbridge Holdings Pty Ltd and other matters regarding residential land and property developments* was tabled on 1 March 2012.

Report No. 12 – *Clarification of issue from Committee Report No. 10* was tabled on 1 March 2012.

Work In Progress

On 1 March 2012, the Legislative Assembly directed the Committee to investigate the 2011 Kimberley Ultramarathon and report back to the House on 21 June 2012. On 13 June 2012, due to the large amount of evidence received and the need to critically evaluate this material in a measured and reasonable manner, the Committee requested an extension to the tabling date from the Legislative Assembly. The Committee was granted an extended tabling date of 16 August 2012.

Chapter 2

Financial Statement

The Economics and Industry Standing Committee does not have its own formal budget and is funded out of the budget of the Legislative Assembly. Approval for major expenditures is required on a case-by-case basis and is entirely at the discretion of the Speaker.

The Committee's expenditure for the financial year 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012 (in accordance with Standing Order 276) is detailed below:

Table 2.1: Expenditure items of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012

Expenditure Item	Amount \$AUD
Advertising	6,636
Consultants	6,793
Conference Fees	90
Travel	33,762
Witness Expenses (Video Conferencing)	1,010
Postage	115
Printing	1,893
Miscellaneous	2,300
TOTAL	52,599

- Figures rounded to the nearest \$100.
- Salaries of committee staff are not included.
- Costs of shares administrative expenses, including lease costs for committee accommodation, not included.

Appendix One

Committee's functions and powers

The functions of the Committee are to review and report to the Assembly on: -

- a) the outcomes and administration of the departments within the Committee's portfolio responsibilities;
- b) annual reports of government departments laid on the Table of the House;
- c) the adequacy of legislation and regulations within its jurisdiction; and
- d) any matters referred to it by the Assembly including a bill, motion, petition, vote or expenditure, other financial matter, report or paper.

At the commencement of each Parliament and as often thereafter as the Speaker considers necessary, the Speaker will determine and table a schedule showing the portfolio responsibilities for each committee. Annual reports of government departments and authorities tabled in the Assembly will stand referred to the relevant committee for any inquiry the committee may make.

Whenever a committee receives or determines for itself fresh or amended terms of reference, the committee will forward them to each standing and select committee of the Assembly and Joint Committee of the Assembly and Council. The Speaker will announce them to the Assembly at the next opportunity and arrange for them to be placed on the notice boards of the Assembly.