

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

The committee met on Wednesday, 28 May 2014 from 9 am to 10.53 pm.

The committee called the Department of Finance and agencies in the finance portfolio, including ASC Pty Ltd (ASC), the Future Fund Management Agency (FFMA), ComSuper and Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC).

Among other issues, the following issues were discussed:

- the Commission of Audit recommendation to privatise ASC, and the government's decision not to adopt that recommendation at present
- determination of dividends and future dividend projections for ASC, and workforce requirements and planning
- the Air Warfare Destroyer program, major challenges and the Winter Review report
- administrative and operational matters concerning the FFMA, including fund growth and returns and performance against its investment mandate, the process for and progress of recruiting a new managing director, public commentary by the FFMA Chairman, and the rental of an apartment in New York by the agency
- the approach of the FFMA to investment in emerging markets
- the processes for establishing the new investment funds announced in the budget and their investment mandate
- the Commonwealth's superannuation liabilities and the treatment in the budget papers of the unfunded liability interest payment
- the proposed merger of ComSuper and CSC
- governance arrangements for the new ADF Superannuation Scheme
- provision in the budget's contingency reserve for the Paid Parental Leave scheme
- variations since MYEFO relating to National Disability Insurance Scheme payments
- the decision to omit the detailed family outcome table from the budget documents
- Australia's position on membership of the Open Government Partnership
- the procurement of Australian goods and services under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules
- higher education reforms under the budget
- the private health insurance rebate expenditure model
- processes for the development of a legislative response to the High Court decision in the *Williams* case
- cross portfolio budget measures, including the Administered Programme Indexation Pause and the increased further efficiency dividend
- the one per cent efficiency dividend imposed on the ABC and SBS.