

## Committees administered by the Senate Committee Office

### Introduction

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office provided staffing and resources for the following committees:

- Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees;
- Specific Joint Statutory Committees; and
- Senate Select Committees

### Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees

As indicated above, each Senate Standing Committee comprises a Legislation Committee and a References Committee. Under Senate Standing Orders, these Committees are re-established at the beginning of each Parliament and “stand ready” to inquire into and report on those matters relevant to their portfolio/subject area. Under Senate Standing Orders, Legislation Committees are established to inquire into and report on Bills, estimates, annual reports and the performance of government departments and agencies. References Committees inquire into and report on all other matters, generally broader policy issues.

The Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees and the relevant portfolio/subject areas allocated to them are as follows:

#### Community Affairs

- Legislation
- References

#### Health and Ageing

Family and Community Services

#### Economics

- Legislation
- References

#### Treasury

Industry, Tourism and Resources

#### Employment, Workplace Relations and Education

- Legislation
- References

#### Education, Science and Training

Employment and Workplace Relations

Environment, Communications,  
Information Technology and the Arts

- Legislation
- References

Environment and Heritage  
Communications and Information Technology  
and the Arts

Finance and Public Administration

- Legislation
- References

Parliament  
Prime Minister and Cabinet  
Finance and Administration  
Human Services

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

- Legislation
- References

Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Legal and Constitutional

- Legislation
- References

Attorney-General  
Immigration and Multicultural  
and Indigenous Affairs

Rural and Regional Affairs and  
Transport

- Legislation
- References

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Transport and Regional Services

**Joint Statutory Committees**

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office also administered three Joint Statutory Committees comprising members of the House of Representatives and Senators. These are:

- Australian Crime Commission
- Corporations and Financial Services; and
- Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account

**Senate Select Committee**

During the reporting period, the Senate Committee Office provided staffing and resources for the Select Committee on Mental Health (appointed 8 March 2005).