



# Select Committee on the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid

**Hearing Date: 5 December 2023**

**Questions taken on notice**

**Directed to: Department of Jobs Skills Industry and Regions**

**Received Date:** 12 January 2024

## 1. **David Davis, page 62**

### **Question Asked to Tim Ada:**

David DAVIS: And did you speak to Mr Moule in those three days subsequently? Just the first day you were told and then –

Tim ADA: I would have to take that question on notice. I talk to him regularly, but not daily.

David DAVIS: Can you please tell us and indicate as to whether the Commonwealth Games cancellation was talked about in that three-day period? And did you talk to Jacinta Allan in that three-day period, the Deputy Premier at the time?

Tim ADA: Can I take that question on notice?

### **Response:**

Yes, the Secretary and the DPC Secretary communicated during the period 19-22 June 2023, including in relation to the Commonwealth Games and cost pressures.

Yes, the Secretary spoke with Minister Allan on 20 June 2023.

## 2. **Melina Bath, page 68-69**

### **Question Asked to Heather Ridley:**

Melina BATH: ... The department questionnaire details that \$134.545 million was expended at the time that that submission was made. Do you have an update on that figure, and can you provide that to the committee?

...

Melina BATH: Okay. And as an update to our inquiry, could you provide that level of detail to us as well, please?

Heather RIDLEY: In terms of what we expect the final outcome to be?

Melina BATH: Correct.

Heather RIDLEY: We do expect it to be around \$197 million.

Melina BATH: And then the breakdown for that – your submission has provided some breakdown. You can take it on notice, but could you provide that as well?

Heather RIDLEY: Yes, some of that information could be provided.

**Response:**

The table below shows the department’s expenditure for this financial year up to the end of November 2023. This expenditure is in addition to the \$35.924 million spent in 2021-22 and \$134.546 million spent in 2022-23. The department is continuing to finalise its wind-up costs.

Line Item	2023-24 Expenditure (\$ million) (1 July to 30 Nov 2023)	Description
<b>Expenses from transactions</b>		
Employee benefits	6.882*	Expenditure relates to salaries, wages, some taxes, leave entitlements and superannuation.
Depreciation	..	N/A
Interest expense	..	N/A
Grant expense	0.014	Grant to delivery partner for activities undertaken prior to cancellation.
Other operating expenses	2.801	Other operating expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• office accommodation,</li> <li>• information technology (IT) costs,</li> <li>• travel, and</li> <li>• engagement of professional services.</li> </ul>
<i>Total expenses from transactions</i>	<b>9.697</b>	

\* Following the cancellation of the Commonwealth Games, the majority of Games-related staff were mobilised to support implementation of the \$2 billion Regional Package and activities associated with the wind-up of the Games.

Note that the questionnaire response submitted to the Committee on 2 October 2023 detailed expenditure for the 2022-23 financial year.

3. **Melina Bath, page 69**

**Question Asked to Tim Ada:**

Melina BATH: ... Back in August this year you had three employee termination payments at a total value of \$546,536 related to the Commonwealth Games, and from 1 August to 9 October there were a further three employee termination payments with a total value of \$633,648. Can you provide an updated figure of any other payments in relation to termination figures?

**Response:**

To December 2023, the department made 6 employee termination payments related to the Commonwealth Games. This was the number advised on 9 October 2023.

4. **Joe McCracken, page 71**

**Question Asked to Tim Ada:**

Joe McCracken: ... did anyone from the department give advice saying that the government should go ahead with the Commonwealth Games based on the business case?

Tim ADA: Unless you know the answer to that question, Pete, we might have to take that question on notice, just to see what documents were provided by the department to the then minister.

Joe McCracken: As a subsequent question I will then ask: what advice was provided from the department, whether it was the secretary or the deputy secretaries or anyone else, to the decision-makers who finally made the call on whether to proceed with the games based on the business case?

Tim ADA: Again, can I take the question on notice, just to assess what documents the department prepared above and beyond the business case, to go to your question. As I understand it the department at the time walked through the risks, limitations, challenges and opportunities with the then minister.

David DAVIS: And said 'go ahead' or not?

Tim ADA: With all due respect, can I take that question on notice to see the written evidence? I just again may well need to consult the government about its release that was appended to various submissions.

**Response:**

In March 2022, the former Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions prepared a covering brief to the former Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events to accompany a submission for the Victorian Government's consideration to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

The government claims executive privilege over the specific advice provided by the department and submission. The Premier's letter to the Committee Chair dated 7 October 2023 stated that the government claims executive privilege over information that would reveal, directly or indirectly, the deliberative processes of Cabinet.