

20 September 2024

Ms Sarah Connolly, MP Chair Public Accounts and Estimates Committee Parliament House Spring Street EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

By email: paec@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Connolly

Response to recommendations in report on the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial and performance outcomes

Please find attached the parliamentary departments' response to recommendations made by the Public Accounts & Estimates Committee in its Report on the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial and performance outcomes.

Yours sincerely

Secretary

Department of Parliamentary Services

Encl.

Response to Recommendations in PAEC report on the 2021-22 and 2022-23 Financial and Performance Outcomes

RECOMMENDATION 54: To promote transparency and model best practice, the Parliamentary Departments respond to question two of the Committee's financial and performance outcomes questionnaire, which relates to the best performing and least performing programs that delivered outcomes to the community in the previous financial year.

RESPONSE: the Parliament of Victoria and the three parliamentary departments are neither public sector departments nor agencies that provides outputs to the Government to deliver on Government policies and election commitments and hence the parliamentary departments maintain that question two of the Committee's financial and performance outcomes questionnaire is not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION 55: From 2023–24, the Parliamentary Departments include explanations for variations on meeting or not meeting performance measure targets in its annual reports, as per the Model Report.

RESPONSE: The parliamentary departments accept the recommendation. The performance reporting in the 2023-24 Annual Report will include variance commentary as per the 2023-24 Model Report.

RECOMMENDATION 56: The Parliamentary Departments review their performance measures and targets to ensure they are sufficiently challenging.

RESPONSE: Parliament and the parliamentary departments are not service delivery departments in the context of the *Public Administration Act 2004*. Output measures reflected in Budget Paper No. 3 are agreed as an administrative accommodation with Executive government processes and are not an output purchased by the Executive from the Legislature.

However, the performance measures and targets published in Budget Paper No. 3 are reviewed annually by the parliamentary departments and are set at a level to be sufficiently challenging. The parliamentary departments have met or exceeded the current targets in the past financial years reflecting a high standard of procedural and legislative requirements being achieved and a high level of service delivery to the stakeholders. The current targets set for 2024-25 reflects the expected standard and allows for a minimal number of inaccuracies.