

2015–16 Budget Estimates Specific Questionnaire

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Question 1

In relation to changes in the departmental objectives, objective indicators and outputs, please indicate the rationale for developing the new departmental objectives and objective indicators:

DPC Response

New departmental objectives and objective indicators were established as a result of the 2014 State election, subsequent machinery of government changes and departmental restructure. Furthermore, changes were made to address the recommendations from the Victorian Auditor-General's *2014 Report into Public Sector Performance Measurement and Reporting*.

The changes included:

- wording changes to the department's objectives to create stronger links to outputs
- reducing the overall number of performance measures to improve clarity around output delivery, and ensure measures demonstrate effectiveness and efficiency
- rebalancing the quantity, quality and timeliness measures within each output.

Taking these factors into account, the department has proposed a number of measures for discontinuation that did not provide efficiency or effectiveness performance information suggesting these performance measures provide minimal value in explaining departmental performance.

Question 2

Regarding the establishment of Projects Victoria and Infrastructure Victoria, please detail:

- (a) the intended relationship between these two new bodies and Major Projects Victoria

DPC Response

Infrastructure Victoria will be required to perform its legislative functions – independent, long term infrastructure planning, research and advice – in collaboration with all government departments and agencies, including Major Projects Victoria. Projects Victoria will work cooperatively with other government departments and agencies (including Major Projects Victoria) to oversee major project delivery and improve capability in project development and delivery.

- (b) any functions that will be transferred from Major Projects Victoria to either of these two new bodies.

DPC Response

Infrastructure Victoria will produce and regularly update a 30 year state infrastructure strategy and provide the Government with independent, expert advice on a range of infrastructure-related matters. Projects Victoria will oversee the delivery of major projects, research and develop appropriate project delivery methods, and review and improve capability in project development and delivery. These roles will inform any decisions relating to the role of Major Projects Victoria.

Question 3

Within the *Advice and Support to the Governor* output, the performance measure ‘Maintenance of assets in accordance with asset management strategy’ was replaced with the measure ‘Maintenance of Government House in accordance with the asset management strategy’ (Budget Paper No.3, p.305), which appears to report on Government House only in contrast to the previous measure. Please explain the rationale for reducing the scope of the performance measure from all assets to one asset and for reducing the target from 100 per cent to 70 per cent.

DPC Response

The previous measure which referred to “assets” was not clear as to the content and extent of the list of assets.

“Maintenance to Government House” refers to Government House inclusive of all internal and external components ie. building structure, roof and external features in addition to all internal fixtures & fittings and assets.

A Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Government House was established in 2011. The CMP assessed the asset’s condition to identify areas of particular need and to prioritise repair and maintenance work.

The asset condition rated Government House in accordance with the Building Code of Australia. All of Government House, both internal and external assets were included in the assessment.

Of the 86 external elements assessed, 43 per cent of external elements were below required condition with the remaining 57 per cent of the external building rated at the required level or better.

Ongoing roof replacement work since 2011 has improved those elements such that the number of elements rated at ‘the required condition of the asset’ increased to nearly 70 per cent.

The changed reference to Government House and the revised target is intended to make the measure more meaningful in identifying the measure as an assessment of the extent to which the Office of the Governor is achieving the aims of the CMP as per the priorities and as a whole.