

Standing Committees – establishment

Resolution of Appointment

At its meeting on Wednesday, 2 December 2020, the Assembly passed the following resolution (amended [11 February 2021](#), [30 March 2021](#), [22 April 2021](#), [16 September 2021](#), [9 November 2021](#), [10 February 2022](#), [5 April 2022](#), [4 August 2022](#), and [28 November 2023](#)).

That:–

- (1) the following general-purpose standing committees be established as set out in the table below. The purpose of such committees is to enhance the scrutiny of the Executive, to examine and suggest improvements to any bills referred to it, to enable the citizens of the Territory to engage and to participate in law-making and policy review, to enable financial scrutiny of the Executive’s budget proposals and to review annual reports of taxpayer funded agencies;
- (2) the committees so established may inquire and report on matters referred to it by the Assembly or matters that are considered by the committee to be of concern to the community and within the nominated areas of responsibility;
- (3) calendar and financial year annual and financial reports stand referred to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report by 9 April of the year after the presentation of the report to the Assembly pursuant to the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004*; (amended 11 February 2021)
- “(3A) calendar and financial year annual and financial reports for 2020-2021 stand referred to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report by 31 May 2022 of the year after the presentation of the report to the Assembly pursuant to the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004*,” (amended 16 September 2021)
- (4) notwithstanding standing order 229, only one standing committee may meet for the consideration of the inquiry into the calendar and financial year annual and financial reports at any given time;
- (5) (Amended 30 March 2021 and 10 February 2021 and omitted 28 November 2023);
- (6) all reports of the ACT Auditor-General tabled in the Assembly stand referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts for inquiry and report;
- (7) the committees so established are required to examine the expenditure proposals contained in the main appropriation bills for the Territory and any revenue estimates proposed by the Government in the annual budget and prepare a report to the Assembly within 60 days of the presentation of the budget bills;
- (7A) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (7), expenditure proposals contained in the 2021-2022 appropriation bills for the Territory and any revenue estimates proposed by the Government in the 2021-2022 Budget stand referred to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report by 12 November 2021; (amended 9 November 2021)
- (8) funds be provided by the Assembly to permit the engagement of external expertise to work with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to facilitate the analysis of the budget;
- (9) the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety shall:

- (a) examine matters related to corruption and integrity in public administration;
 - (b) inquire into and report on matters referred to it by the Assembly or matters that are considered by the Committee to be of concern to the community;
 - (c) perform all functions required of it pursuant to the *Integrity Commission Act 2018*; and
 - (d) monitor, review and report on the performance of the Integrity Commission and the Inspector of the Integrity Commission or the exercise of the powers and functions of the Integrity Commission and the Inspector of the Integrity Commission, including examining the annual reports of the Integrity Commission and the Inspector of the Integrity Commission and any other reports made by the Commission; nothing in this resolution authorises the Committee to investigate a matter relating to particular conduct or to reconsider a decision to investigate, not to investigate or to discontinue an investigation of a particular complaint made to the Commission, or to reconsider the findings, recommendations, determinations or other decisions of the Commission or the Inspector in relation to a particular investigation or complaint;
- (10) the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety is also to perform a legislative scrutiny role of bills and subordinate legislation by:
- (a) considering whether the clauses of bills (and amendments proposed by the Government to its own bills) introduced into the Assembly:
 - (i) unduly trespass on personal rights and liberties;
 - (ii) make rights, liberties and/or obligations unduly dependent upon insufficiently defined administrative powers;
 - (iii) make rights, liberties and/or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions;
 - (iv) inappropriately delegate legislative powers; or
 - (v) insufficiently subject the exercise of legislative power to parliamentary scrutiny; and
 - (vi) consider whether any explanatory statement associated with legislation meets the technical or stylistic standards expected by the Assembly;
 - (b) reporting to the Legislative Assembly about human rights issues raised by bills presented to the Assembly pursuant to section 38 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*;
 - (c) considering whether any instrument of a legislative nature made under an Act which is subject to disallowance and/or disapproval by the Assembly (including a regulation, rule or by-law):
 - (i) is in accord with the general objects of the Act under which it is made;
 - (ii) unduly trespasses on rights previously established by law;
 - (iii) makes rights, liberties and/or obligations unduly dependent upon non-reviewable decisions; or
 - (iv) contains matter which in the opinion of the Committee should properly be dealt with in an Act of the Legislative Assembly; and
 - (d) consider whether any explanatory statement or explanatory memorandum associated with legislation and any regulatory impact statement meets the technical or stylistic standards expected by the Assembly;

- (11) in addition, the membership of the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure, established under standing order 16, be composed of the:
- (a) Speaker, as Chair;
 - (b) Government whip;
 - (c) Opposition whip; and
 - (d) ACT Greens whip;
- (12) each committee shall have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the relevant standing committee appointed during the previous Assembly;
- (13) each committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources;
- (14) the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders;
- (15) each general-purpose committee shall consist of three members, nominated by each of the three whips, with the chair of each such committee agreed by the members of that committee; and
- (16) nominations for membership of these committees be notified in writing to the Speaker within two hours following conclusion of the debate on the matter.

Committee	Primary Wellbeing Indicator/s	Areas of Responsibility
Administration and Procedure	Governance and institutions	As outlined in standing order 16
1. Planning, Transport and City Services	Access and Connectivity, Housing and Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · City Renewal Authority · Suburban Land Agency · Planning and Land Management (excluding parks and conservation) · Transport · City Services including waste and recycling · Housing (excluding service provision) · Building and Construction <p><i>(amended 4 August 2022)</i></p>

Committee	Primary Wellbeing Indicator/s	Areas of Responsibility
2. Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity	Environment and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Climate Change · Climate Action · Environment · Heritage · Water and energy policy and programs · Emissions reductions · Environment and ecological sustainability · Commissioner for the Environment · Environment Protection Agency · Parks and conservation <p><i>(amended 4 August 2022)</i></p>
3. Economy and Gender and Economic Equality	Economy, Living Standards and Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Chief Minister's responsibilities · Economic development and diversification · Tourism · Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety · Social impacts and outcomes of economic polices including gender considerations (excluding Office for Women) · Minister of State Responsibilities (excluding Justice and Community Safety Directorate reporting areas) · Business and Better Regulation · Arts <p><i>(amended 22 April 2021)</i></p>
4. Education and Community Inclusion	Education and Life-long Learning and Identity and Belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Early Childhood Development · Education · Youth Affairs · Skills · Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs · Multicultural Affairs · Disability · Women (including the Office for Women) · Seniors · Veterans · LGBTIQ+ · Sport and Recreation

Committee	Primary Wellbeing Indicator/s	Areas of Responsibility
5. Justice and Community Safety	Safety and Governance and Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · ACT Electoral Commission · ACT Integrity Commission · ACT Ombudsman · Gaming · Minister of State (Justice and Community Safety reporting areas) · Emergency management and the Emergency Services Agency · Policing and ACT Policing · Corrective Services · Attorney-General · Consumer Affairs · Human Rights · Victims of Crime · Access to justice and restorative practice · Public Trustee and Guardian · Scrutiny of bills and subordinate legislation <p><i>(amended 5 April 2022)</i></p>
6. Public Accounts	Governance and Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · ACT Auditor-General · Treasury including taxation and revenue · Office of the Legislative Assembly · Accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the ACT and its authorities · All reports of the Auditor-General which have been presented to the Assembly <p><i>(amended 22 April 2021 and 5 April 2022)</i></p>
7. Health and Community Wellbeing	Health and Social Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Health and health system · Justice Health · Mental Health · Homelessness and housing services · Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence · Families · Community Services