# PARLIAMENTARY INSPECTOR OF THE CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



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#### **TO:** The Parliament of Western Australia

I hereby present the Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2024 pursuant to section 203 of the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003* and section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*. The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

MATTHEW ZILKO SC PARLIAMENTARY INSPECTOR

12 September 2024



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#### INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report is made pursuant to section 203 of the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003* (WA) (the CCM Act). Part 13 of the CCM Act creates the office of the Parliamentary Inspector, and sections 195 and 196 set out its functions and powers.

I am responsible for auditing the operation of the CCM Act; overseeing the activities of the Corruption and Crime Commission (Commission); dealing with any misconduct on the part of the Commission and its officers; assessing the effectiveness and appropriateness of the Commission's procedures; informing the Parliament of issues that arise in exercising my functions and powers; and assisting the Joint Standing Committee on the Corruption and Crime Commission (Joint Standing Committee) to perform its functions. These activities naturally keep me in regular contact with the Commission. I am pleased to report that notwithstanding occasional differences of opinion between our offices, we continue to have a positive working relationship.

I am very ably supported by my Principal Advisor Sarah Burnside, and we both benefit greatly from administrative, accounting, human resources, IT, secretarial and budgetary services we receive from the Department of Justice.

Pursuant to section 193 of the CCM Act, the Hon John Chaney SC is the Acting Parliamentary Inspector and is able to perform my functions when I am absent or conflicted. I appreciate his contribution to the work of the office during such periods.

As noted above, one of my functions involves reporting to and assisting the Joint Standing Committee. The Committee is chaired by Matthew Hughes MLA with the Hon. Dr Steve Thomas MLC as Deputy Chair and also includes the Hon. Klara Andric MLC and the Hon. Mia Davies MLA. Over the past year, the Committee has again been well-served by its longstanding and hardworking research officers, Suzanne Veletta and Jovita Hogan.

Both Mr Hughes and Ms Davies have advised that they do not intend to stand for re-election in 2025 so I take this opportunity to publicly thank them for their contributions to the Committee and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Although my office's role is very specific, fortunately it is not unique. Each mainland integrity commission in Australia, which since 1 July 2024 includes the Commonwealth, has a body tasked with scrutinising its operations and reporting to the relevant Parliament. Every year the Inspectors who carry out this role meet to discuss issues raised in the course of their work. To this end, we met in Darwin last month, and I was once again grateful to have the opportunity to share the knowledge and experiences of the Inspectors of other Australian Parliaments.

This is my fourth Annual Report as Parliamentary Inspector. Once again, it has been a busy year, which has been dominated by two major investigations that were the subject of reports tabled in the Parliament. I will refer to both of these matters in more detail later in the report.

2024 is the twentieth anniversary of the Commission's existence. It also, of course, marks twenty years that the office of the Parliamentary Inspector has been in operation to scrutinise and oversee the Commission. By any measure this function is little understood but important work and I pay tribute to my predecessors in the role of Parliamentary Inspector: Malcolm McCusker AO KC, the Hon Christopher Steytler AO KC, and the late Hon Michael Murray AM KC.

#### THE WORKLOAD OF THE OFFICE

The work of my office is diverse, but it is broadly divided into two categories: my investigative function and my audit function.

My investigative function derives from section 195(1)(c) of the CCM Act, which enables me to assess the effectiveness and appropriateness of the Commission's procedures. Each matter which requires me to carry out this function is recorded as a separate investigation.

Most investigations originate in complaints made to my office, usually about a decision that the Commission has made. When I receive such a complaint, I request the Commission's file on the allegations the complainant has made and assess the procedures it has used in dealing with them. If I form the view that the procedures used by the Commission were free from error and its conclusions were open on the available materials, then the matter is closed from my perspective, and I write to the complainant to outline the reasons for my decision. If I am not satisfied on these counts, I will either seek clarification from the Commission as to its reasoning, or request that it reassess an allegation.

My audit function is enumerated in sections 195(1)(aa), (a) and (cc) of the CCM Act, which provide that I am to audit the operation of the Act itself and the Commission's operations under both the Act and other Western Australian legislation.

#### **Investigative work**

During the reporting period 58% of the office's work was devoted to investigations. I undertook 102 new investigations and finalised 94. These numbers are lower than in the previous reporting period; during the 2022-23 financial year, I undertook 140 new investigations and finalised 147. Of the files closed in 2023-24, 85 were opened in the reporting period, and nine were commenced in previous financial years.

The overall reduction in investigations can be attributed in large part to a change in the way the Commission provides me with notifications pursuant to section 196(4) of the CCM Act and the protocol between our offices. Section 196(4) of the CCM Act requires the Commission to notify me of any allegation that concerns, or may concern, one of its officers. This has previously been interpreted very broadly, so I had been receiving a number of unnecessary notifications, including emails which contained vague accusations of corruption on the part of the Commission from complainants who had been advised that there was no, or insufficient, evidence to support their complaints. As I observed in my 2022-23 Annual Report, many of these outbursts are in truth no more than expressions of a person's disagreement with the outcome of their complaint to the Commission.

As a result of the increasing frequency of these responses from unhappy complainants, in November 2023 the Commissioner and I agreed that the Commission would trial a new approach whereby only communications that provide at least some detail of the alleged corruption will be notified pursuant to section 196(4) of the CCM Act. This is working well and allows me to focus on more important and substantive allegations.

The nature and the number of investigations undertaken in 2023-24 were as follows:

• There were 73 complaints about some aspects of the Commission's assessment or investigation of allegations of serious misconduct. This was 7 more complaints than were received in the 2022-2023 financial year.

- The Commission notified me of 15 allegations made about it or one of its officers, in accordance with our agreed protocol, pursuant to section 196(4) of the CCM Act. This was 48 fewer than during 2022-23, for the reasons outlined on the previous page.
- One file was commenced by me on my own motion. It has since been referred to the Public Sector Commission to be dealt with and I retain a watching brief over it.
- The office received 12 allegations that were classed as miscellaneous, which was two more than were received in 2022-23. These included instances where a complainant had not yet lodged allegations with the Commission so my function in section 195(1)(c) was not enlivened, situations where a complainant withdrew their complaint before I proceeded with a review, and communications from individuals who did not articulate a comprehensible complaint.

#### **Audit work**

During the reporting period 42% of the office's work was devoted to my audit function. This year, I carried out my auditing function in four principal ways.

First, every time I reviewed a Commission file for the purpose of assessing its procedures, I was effectively conducting a miniaturised audit on the exercise of those procedures.

Second, in 2023-24, the two major investigations my office carried out, which were the subject of reports tabled in Parliament, involved extensive auditing of Commission materials.

Third, pursuant to a longstanding agreement with the Commission, each quarter my office is provided with documentation relating to all uses of its extraordinary powers during the previous three months.

Fourth, following discussions with the Commission in October 2022, I am also provided with the closure reports prepared by the Commission at the conclusion of each of its investigations.

As noted above, the CCM Act additionally provides that I am to audit the operation of the CCM Act itself. This type of auditing effectively occurs in the course of my ordinary work, and where I find aspects of the Act that seem to me to warrant amendment, I draw these to the attention of the legislature.

For example, in 2022 I reported to the Parliament on the CCM Act's definition of 'public officer' and in 2023 I tabled a report on a difference of opinion between my office and the Commission as to whether it could decide not to form an opinion of serious misconduct notwithstanding that the definition of serious misconduct was met. This latter issue may ultimately necessitate amendments to the CCM Act to clarify the position.

#### REPORTS TABLED IN THE PARLIAMENT IN 2023-24

Corrigendum: the Corruption and Crime Commission's 2019 Report on the WA Commissioner in Japan

Several years ago, the Commission carried out an investigation into allegations regarding Mr Craig Peacock, who was at the time the WA Trade Commissioner in Japan. The Commission found that Mr Peacock had engaged in serious misconduct, including by knowingly and deliberately receiving an overpayment from his employer totalling some \$500,000. On 12 March 2019, the Commission tabled a report on its investigation in the Parliament.

In May 2023, Mr Peacock contacted my office to request that I review the procedures the Commission had used in conducting its investigation and framing its report. The Commission duly supplied me with its files, which were substantial. It was clear that the general finding of serious misconduct was supported by the evidence. However, there were three things that concerned me.

First, although Mr Peacock had offered in writing to enter into a repayment plan with the State Government (as his employer) as soon as he was notified of the overpayment, this was not referred to in the Commission's report. I considered that, even if this offer was regarded as self-serving by the Commission, as it apparently was, it was a relevant factor that ought to have been included in the report in fairness to Mr Peacock.

Second, the Commission's report had concluded that following its investigation, Mr Peacock was 'jobless, without a Japanese visa and without any realistic prospects'. This was inaccurate. Moreover, it was prejudicial, as it tended to imply that Mr Peacock had been stripped of his ability to live and work in Japan. This was not the case. When his employment as trade commissioner was terminated, Mr Peacock's official visa ceased. He then applied to the Japanese government for a spouse visa, as he is married to a Japanese national. His application was granted.

Third, and most seriously, the Commission's report speculated that Mr Peacock (who is not an Australian resident for tax purposes) may have been evading tax in Japan. Although the report acknowledged that tax evasion fell outside the Commission's jurisdiction and made no findings on the issue, the language it used was injudicious. The Report stated that it was 'possible Mr Peacock should have been paying tax in Japan on his income as Commissioner' and that he was 'possibly evading tax'. Given that tax evasion is a criminal offence, that statement was tantamount to suggesting that Mr Peacock had possibly committed a crime.

I interviewed individuals who had previously been employed in Japan as trade commissioners for Western Australia and New South Wales, both of whom advised that as they had held official passports and official visas at the time, they had not been required to pay tax in Japan. I also made enquiries with the Japanese Embassy in Canberra, which directed me to the Japanese consulate in Perth.

The Japanese Vice Consul confirmed in writing that according to Article 9(viii) of the *Income Tax Act and Article 24 of the Order for Enforcement of the Income Tax Act of Japan*, income tax is not imposed on salaries paid by a local government of a foreign state to a person who works for that local government if they do not have Japanese nationality or permanent residency in Japan and are engaged in work for the foreign local government that is not intended to generate profit. Mr Peacock fell within these parameters in that he had neither Japanese nationality nor permanent residency in Japan.

Accordingly, it appeared that Mr Peacock had been correct when he told the Commission that he was not required to pay Japanese income tax during his time as the WA trade commissioner, and that by implying that this was untrue, the Commission had made a material error.

Ordinarily, these are the kinds of matters that a person named in a Commission report would address when they were given the opportunity to comment prior to the report being tabled, as the CCM Act requires. However, in this case Mr Peacock had not made any representations to the Commission on the draft report, in large part due to his own health concerns at the time.

When my review was complete, I wrote to the Commission and suggested that it table a short supplementary report withdrawing any imputation that Mr Peacock had engaged in tax evasion and acknowledging that he had offered to enter into a repayment plan. The Commission declined to do so and emphasised that its focus in discussing the issue of taxation had been on the 'many lies' it alleges Mr Peacock had told third parties about his tax obligations. The Commission also explained that its statement that Mr Peacock was 'possibly evading tax in both Japan and Australia' was made 'in the context where the Report states the Commission cannot determine this issue and it is a fact that Mr Peacock did not pay tax in Japan or in Australia'.

I was not persuaded by this logic. If Mr Peacock's tax liability was immaterial and the sole purpose of raising the issue was to cast doubt on his credibility, it was unnecessary to state that he was 'possibly evading tax' or to suggest that 'taxation authorities in Japan and Australia may take an interest in his finances'. The Commission's explanation also appeared to suggest that it is acceptable practice for it to speculate publicly that a person may have 'possibly' committed a crime, in circumstances where it does not know whether or not this is the case.

As the Commission had not taken up my suggestion that it table a short supplementary report clarifying the position, I prepared my own, which I tabled on 28 November 2023.

#### Going Rogue: Serious Misconduct by a Commission Officer

My report *Going Rogue* was tabled by the Joint Standing Committee on 21 March 2024. This represented the conclusion of a lengthy investigation that began in January 2023, when I received a notification of allegations relating to a Commission officer pursuant to section 196(4) of the CCM Act. The officer, whom I referred to as LC in my report, had been employed at the Commission for many years. During the relevant period she was its Human Source Coordinator, a role which required her to oversee the work of Human Source Handlers.

Human Sources are individuals who provide ongoing intelligence regarding crime or corruption to an integrity or law enforcement body. For example, Human Sources may be public officers who have become aware that their colleagues may be engaging in misconduct, or ordinary members of the public who find themselves privy to information about potential corruption. Human Source handling comes with inherent risks for both the source and the handler, and within the Commission specific policies and procedures governed these interactions.

Despite having been instrumental in developing these policies and procedures, LC deliberately departed from them on innumerable occasions between early 2020 and early 2023. Her breaches included deliberately failing to record all of her interactions with a source, disclosing her real name instead of using her assumed identity in communicating with that source, and meeting the source unaccompanied. The motivation for these breaches was not material but emotional: LC had become romantically entangled with the Human Source, who, for the purpose of not compromising his identity, I referred to simply as X.

In February 2023 the Commission determined that it was necessary to conduct an investigation into possible serious misconduct by LC. Although I could have removed the serious misconduct allegation to my own office and investigated it myself, I had no concerns regarding the Commission's ability to deal with it fairly and impartially. I oversaw the investigation, attended all of the compulsory examinations that were held, and was given full access to all exhibits and transcripts of evidence.

If the Commission had been left to report on misconduct engaged in by one of its own former officers, there would inevitably have been a perception of bias. In the circumstances, I decided that I would make any findings that were necessary and would also table them in the Parliament. Therefore, at the close of the investigation in November 2023, I wrote to the Commission to formally remove the matter to my office for determination in accordance with section 196(5) of the CCM Act. I then reviewed all of the data generated by the investigation.

Once LC realised that she had feelings for X, she should at the very least have declared a conflict of interest and ceased to act as his handler. Instead, the weight of the evidence demonstrated that LC had used her position within the Commission, and the resources provided to her in carrying out this role, to pursue an extensive and intimate relationship with X. This had involved a high degree of dishonesty on her part, including adopting a pseudonym, deceiving her colleagues, and only recording excerpts of her phone calls with X in order to give the impression that their conversations were shorter than they had been.

In fact, LC spent many hundreds of hours communicating with X, using Commission time and resources to do so while failing to record or document these interactions. In 2022 alone, LC and X spent 437 hours and 36 minutes talking to each other. These conversations should have been recorded in their entirety. However, LC recorded only 28 hours and 53 minutes.

The investigation revealed remarkably poor judgment on LC's part. Notably, although she had been allocated an assumed identity for use in interacting with the Commission's Human Sources (in accordance with relevant policy and procedure) she disclosed her first name and maiden name to X. She also became enmeshed in his life: X introduced her to several of his friends and associates, with whom she socialised using a pseudonym that X had suggested. In time, she became friendly enough with them to exchange birthday and Christmas gifts. She actively concealed these activities from her colleagues.

In my report, I made five findings of serious misconduct against LC, including that she disclosed official information to X without authorisation. As well as providing X with the first names of three of her colleagues, which exposed them to the risk of being fully identified by third parties, LC passed on intelligence reports to him without first seeking authorisation to do so. Most seriously, she informed X of the name and location of a person who had made an anonymous allegation of corruption to the Commission.

From the details summarised above, it is evident that during LC's inappropriate relationship with X, she was effectively living a double life, and it is alarming that her behaviour apparently went unnoticed by her colleagues and managers for three years.

The investigation revealed that LC took pains to hide her activities from her workmates, which may explain why she was able to continue for so long. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that her persistent breaches of policy and procedure did not take place in any ordinary public sector workplace, where employees might be unfamiliar with the insidious nature of corruption and misconduct. On the contrary, she was employed by Western Australia's leading integrity body, and yet it took several years for her repeated acts of serious misconduct to be discovered and acted upon. Accordingly, my report recommended that the Commission:

- undertake a full internal inquiry into how so many breaches of policy, procedure and its Code of Conduct took place over this period;
- report to the Parliament by the end of 2024 as to the outcomes of that inquiry and the procedural changes it proposes to adopt as a result; and
- not recommence using Human Sources in any of its operations until the above recommendations have been implemented.

The Commission has accepted these recommendations and has advised that this inquiry is ongoing. When it tabled *Going Rogue* in the Parliament, the Joint Standing Committee recommended in its own report that the Commission provide it with a copy of its review of the inquiry by 30 September 2024 rather than the end of the calendar year as I had proposed.

My Annual Report is required to be tabled in the Parliament by 19 September 2024. At the date of its tabling the Commission had not concluded its report on the outcomes of the internal inquiry referred to above. Therefore, I am currently unable to comment on the efficacy of any procedural changes that the Commission proposes to adopt as a result of that inquiry.

The outcome of the Commission's internal inquiry will be addressed in my next Annual Report, if not before.

#### CASES DURING THE 2023-24 REPORTING PERIOD

#### **Body worn cameras**

During my time as Parliamentary Inspector, I have often had occasion to emphasise the value of body worn cameras. By providing an objective account of disputed events, the resulting footage makes it much easier to determine the truth or otherwise of an allegation made against either a member of the public or a serving police officer, as the case may be. This is useful to police officers themselves, the Commission, and my office. From time to time, however, I still encounter a file in which this footage is unavailable.

One such case involved an allegation of excessive use of force. The complainant advised that he had been walking through Northbridge late one Saturday night when he saw a police vehicle. He approached it and (by his own admission) swore at the officers in the vehicle before continuing to walk away from the car. One of the officers called the complainant back to speak to him about his behaviour. What happened next was disputed: the complainant and the officer each alleged that the other had instigated a physical conflict.

The complainant was arrested, and he alleged that he was assaulted in the course of his arrest. Unfortunately, there was limited evidence available to verify or rebut this assertion because neither of the arresting officers switched their body-worn cameras on until *after* the arrest. The officers subsequently explained that the situation had escalated so rapidly that there was no time to deploy the cameras.

While that may have been the case, in my view it would have been appropriate for the officer who called the complainant back to turn on his body-worn camera immediately given that he had prolonged what had been, up until that point, a fleeting and uneventful encounter. Moreover, at that stage it could not be suggested that there was no opportunity to activate his camera.

Fortunately, the lack of body worn camera footage of the arrest was not critical in this instance. I found no flaw in the Commission's procedures and its conclusion that there was insufficient evidence of police misconduct was open to it. Nevertheless, the absence of footage was in my view unsatisfactory. The police officers in this case were in a busy entertainment district on a Saturday night, and it was highly likely that they would encounter members of the public in a state of inebriation. Notwithstanding this volatile environment, they had not switched on their cameras. Further, they failed to take this simple step even after they had decided to pursue an encounter with a person who was clearly acting impulsively and irrationally.

I once again suggest that it is in everyone's interest that body worn cameras be switched on during all interactions between a police officer and a member of the public. This should be done as soon as the interaction becomes a possibility, not a probability.

#### Complaints regarding convictions

From time to time, I receive complaints about the way in which the Commission has dealt with allegations regarding judges or magistrates. In these instances, both the Commission and my office will explain that the CCM Act strictly limits our abilities to deal with complaints about judicial officers.

Section 27(3) of the CCM Act provides that the Commission cannot receive a complaint about a judicial officer unless the allegation relates to the offence of judicial corruption in section 121 of the *Criminal Code* (happily, an extremely rare offence) or is of a kind that, if established, would

constitute grounds for removal from office. As such, vague accusations of bias or unfairness on the part of a judicial officer do not fall within the Commission's remit, or mine.

During the past twelve months, I received two lengthy complaints which not only raised allegations of judicial bias or incompetence but sought my assistance in having court verdicts overturned. In both cases, the complaint was made by a close family member of an individual who had been convicted of serious offences. The complainants made allegations of misconduct by investigating police officers as well as by the judges who had presided over the respective trials.

The complainants provided a significant volume of documentation setting out their allegations, and the sincerity of their concern was palpable. However, in both cases I had to explain that it is not my role, nor that of the Commission, to interfere with a verdict reached by a court. Moreover, as their complaints effectively expressed disagreement with the verdict and provided no evidence of serious misconduct, let alone judicial corruption, I concluded in both instances that the Commission's decision not to carry out an investigation had been appropriate.

It bears repeating that a person who considers that they have been convicted on flawed evidence, or as a result of judicial error or misdirection, is best served by seeking legal advice as to the merits of an appeal to a higher court. I appreciate that appeals can be expensive and are certainly time-consuming. Nevertheless, they are the remedy that our legal system provides, and there is no other.

#### Complaints about planning and development

In my 2022-23 Annual Report, I noted that my office had received several requests to review the Commission's handling of allegations about local governments. This trend has continued, with a number of complaints in 2023-24 relating to individual building approvals, major development approvals, and zoning matters.

These complaints were often extraordinarily detailed, and I have no doubt the complainants' concerns were genuine. However, none of the allegations could be substantiated because the core issue was, simply, that a complainant disagreed with a decision made by their local government or a planning body.

In the absence of any corrupt or criminal conduct, dissatisfaction with a course of action pursued by these entities will not fall within the Commission's jurisdiction. This is because that jurisdiction is limited to serious misconduct. Relevantly, the CCM Act defines serious misconduct to include all police misconduct as well as instances where a public officer:

- corruptly acts or fails to act in the performance of his office or employment; or
- corruptly takes advantage of his office or employment as a public officer to obtain a benefit for himself or for another person or to cause a detriment to another person; or
- while acting or purporting to act in his official capacity, commits an offence punishable by two or more years' imprisonment.

As the definition makes clear, except as regards police officers, there must be an element of corruption or criminality for an allegation to be one of serious misconduct.

Relevantly, one complaint I received in the last year related to a particular development project. The complainant made multiple distinct allegations, but their overall concern was that the development would be of no or limited benefit to ratepayers or would even be detrimental overall. This assessment may or may not have been correct, but the wisdom of the development was irrelevant, because there was no corruption. That is, there was no evidence whatsoever that any individual public officer had sought to corruptly gain a benefit from the project.

In writing to the complainant, I noted that a decision made by a local council (or any other public officer) may be unwise, unpopular, expensive, or ill-considered, but that without corruption or criminality it would fall outside my remit and that of the Commission.

Similarly, in recent months I have had occasion to advise complainants that breaches of policy, procedure, or codes of conduct will not, absent corruption or criminality, be sufficient to constitute serious misconduct. For example, breaches of policy and procedure which are attributable to laziness, incompetence, or carelessness on the part of a local government or planning officer will not, without more, be actionable by the Commission or by me.

#### **LEGISLATIVE ISSUES – UPDATES**

#### **Reform of the CCM Act**

As advised in my earlier Annual Reports, I have previously been consulted by the Department of Justice, which is developing proposals for the modernisation of the CCM Act. In my submissions, I raised concerns about the CCM Act's restrictions on the disclosure of official information, which inhibit my ability to provide clear explanations to complainants. I also made other suggestions, including that it would be appropriate for the Commission to be given the ability to deal with allegations of minor misconduct made against its own officers. Finally, I pointed to the limits of the Commission's serious misconduct jurisdiction and the possibility that instances of negligence, maladministration, or noncompliance with statute law may fall outside the jurisdiction of the various Western Australian integrity and regulatory agencies.

I understand it was intended that a Bill to amend the CCM Act would be introduced in the life of the current Parliament. It seems however that other legislative requirements have taken precedence and therefore reform of the CCM Act will be dealt with by the new Parliament.

#### Proposed amendments to the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* (Cth)

In my 2022-23 Annual Report, I raised an issue that has affected my office for many years: the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* (Cth) (TIA Act), which sets out the framework within which investigatory bodies can lawfully intercept telephone communications, does not make sufficient provision for oversight of those bodies.

The TIA Act lists my office as an 'eligible authority' but provides that the only 'permitted purpose' for which I may deal with lawfully intercepted material is when I am exercising my function in section 195(1)(b) of the CCM Act (ie, dealing with a matter of misconduct on the part of the Commission, an officer of the Commission or my own officers). As a result, if I am reviewing a file from the Commission which does *not* relate to this function, any lawfully intercepted material must be redacted. This is, of course, highly undesirable. Moreover, I am completely unable to scrutinise the Commission's use of telephone intercepts.

I am pleased to advise that the Commonwealth Government has introduced a Bill which, among other things, addresses these issues. Schedule 5 of the Crimes and Other Legislation Amendment (Omnibus No. 1) Bill 2024 (Bill), contains amendments to address the issues affecting my office and its equivalents elsewhere in Australia. However, initially the Bill did not go far enough, as its changes to the definition of 'permitted purpose' were not echoed in the definition of 'prescribed investigation'. The TIA Act still defined a 'prescribed investigation' to mean 'dealing with a matter of misconduct in the performance of the Parliamentary Inspector's functions'. There was a risk that this definition could be interpreted as referring only to investigations that involve possible misconduct on the part of the Commission, its officers, or my officers, which would exclude my other statutory functions from this category.

Accordingly, I made a submission on the Bill in which I suggested that it would be more appropriate to define a 'prescribed investigation' as an 'investigation that the Parliamentary Inspector is conducting in the performance of the Parliamentary Inspector's functions under the CCM Act'. The Bill was recently reviewed by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security, which recommended, among other things, that an amendment in these terms be made. Pleasingly, the Commonwealth Government has accepted that recommendation. The amended Bill has just been passed by the House of Representatives, and I will provide a further update in next year's Annual Report.

#### **ADDITIONAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS 2023-2024**

#### 1. Record-keeping

The office complies with section 19 of the *State Records Act 2000* which requires every State Organisation to have a record-keeping plan approved by the State Records Commission and confirmation that the organisation and its employees comply with that plan.

The office's Record-Keeping Plan was submitted to the State Records Office on 23 March 2023 as an addendum to the Department of Justice's Record Keeping Plan (RKP 2023011). This arrangement reflects the fact that, although the office is a separate and independent entity under the CCM Act, it largely adopts the Department's policies and procedures in relation to records and information management.

The State Records Commission approved RKP 2023011, including the PICCC Record-Keeping Plan, at its meeting on 2 May 2023. In accordance with section 28 of the *State Records Act 2000*, the Plan is to be reviewed within five years of its approval date, and a report of the review must be submitted to the State Records Office by 2 May 2028.

The office uses the Department of Justice's Electronic Document and Records Management Systems (EDRMS) database as its official record-keeping system for administrative files. Investigation files and audit files are not currently captured or stored on EDRMS. This is because of the confidential nature of the information contained within these files. The office has a register of audit files, which is maintained on a secure server.

#### 2. WA Multicultural Policy Framework

The office is included within the multicultural plan developed by the Department of Justice.

#### 3. Workforce Inclusiveness and Diversity

The office is included within the diversity plan managed by the Department of Justice.

#### 4. Compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes

The office is not an office in the public service but complies with public sector standards. Ethical conduct and integrity are fundamental to the work of the office.



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT 2024

#### Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission

To the Parliament of Western Australia

## Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### **Opinion**

I have audited the financial statements of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission (Parliamentary Inspector) which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- notes comprising a summary of material accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, the financial statements are:

- based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the operating results and cash flows of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission for the year ended 30 June 2024 and the financial position as at the end of that period
- in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (applicable to Tier 2 Entities), the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions.

#### **Basis for opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Responsibilities of the Parliamentary Inspector for the financial statements

The Parliamentary Inspector is responsible for:

- keeping proper accounts
- preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (applicable to Tier 2 Entities), the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions
- such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Parliamentary Inspector is responsible for:

- assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern
- disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Western Australian Government has made policy or funding decisions affecting the continued existence of the Parliamentary Inspector.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website. This description forms part of my auditor's report and can be found at <a href="https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors">https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors</a> responsibilities/ar4.pdf

## Report on the audit of controls

#### **Opinion**

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission. The controls exercised by the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission are those policies and procedures established to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with the State's financial reporting framework (the overall control objectives).

In my opinion, in all material respects, the controls exercised by the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the controls within the system were suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives identified as at 30 June 2024, and the controls were implemented as designed as at 30 June 2024.

#### The Parliamentary Inspector's responsibilities

The Parliamentary Inspector is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining controls to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Treasurer's Instructions and other relevant written law.

#### **Auditor General's responsibilities**

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3150 Assurance Engagements on Controls issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the controls design to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including an assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### **Limitations of controls**

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.

## Report on the audit of the key performance indicators

#### **Opinion**

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission for the year ended 30 June 2024 reported in accordance with *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions (legislative requirements). The key performance indicators are the Under Treasurer-approved key effectiveness indicators and key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators report of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission for the year ended 30 June 2024 is in accordance with the legislative requirements, and the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Parliamentary Inspector's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2024.

## The Parliamentary Inspector's responsibilities for the key performance indicators

The Parliamentary Inspector is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such internal controls as the Parliamentary Inspector determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Parliamentary Inspector is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate, having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 904 Key Performance Indicators.

#### **Auditor General's responsibilities**

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the entity's performance and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 904 for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments, I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

# My independence and quality management relating to the report on financial statements, controls and key performance indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQM 1 Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality management including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

#### Other information

The Parliamentary Inspector is responsible for the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but not the financial statements, key performance indicators and my auditor's report.

My opinions on the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators do not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and key performance indicators or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive it, I will read it and if I conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, I may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

# Matters relating to the electronic publication of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission for the year ended 30 June 2024 included in the annual report on the Parliamentary Inspector's website. The Parliamentary Inspector's management is responsible for the integrity of the Parliamentary Inspector's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Parliamentary Inspector's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the annual report. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to contact the entity to confirm the information contained in the website version.

## Mark Ambrose

Mark Ambrose Senior Director Financial Audit Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia Perth, Western Australia 11 September 2024

## **Key Performance Indicators**

### Certification of Key Performance Indicators for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

I hereby certify that the Key Performance Indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Office of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Office of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

Matthew Zilko SC 9 September 2024



#### PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT

For the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

#### **OUTCOMES AND SERVICES**

#### RELATIONSHIPS TO GOVERNMENT GOALS

Broad government goals are supported at agency level by specific outcomes. Agencies deliver services to achieve these outcomes. The following table illustrates the relationship between the agency's service and desired outcome, and the government goal it contributes to.

Government Goal	Desired Outcome	Service
Sustainable Finances:  Responsible financial management and better service delivery	An informed Parliament on the integrity of the Corruption and Crime Commission.	Evaluation of the effectiveness and appropriateness of Corruption and Crime Commission operations.

#### **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

The Parliamentary Inspector is required under Section 61 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and Treasurer's Instruction TI 904, to disclose key performance indicators in the annual report.

The following performance indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the Key Performance Indicators. Explanations are provided where there is a significant variation of more than 10% between 2023-24 actual results and budget targets or between actual results of current year and prior year.

#### **KEY EFFECTIVENESS INDICATOR**

	2021-22	2021-22	2022-23	2022-23	2023-24	2023-24
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Number of reports completed and tabled in Parliament within target timeframes *	1	1	1	1	1	1

<sup>\*</sup> These targets refer to the tabling of the office's Annual Report each year. The Parliamentary Inspector is also empowered to report to Parliament on any matters arising in the exercise of his functions, and in 2023-24 he provided two such reports. These additional reports were tabled in Parliament on 28 November 2023 and 21 March 2024. They are not included in the above table as there was no target timeframe for them.

The Parliamentary Inspector seeks to achieve the outcome of an informed Parliament on the integrity of the Corruption and Crime Commission. The indicator is measured by determining if the Parliamentary Inspector met the statutory annual reporting requirements contained in section 203 of the Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003 i.e.

#### 203. Annual report to Parliament

- (1) The Parliamentary Inspector is to prepare, within 3 months after 30 June of each year, a report as to his or her general activities during that year.
- (2) The Parliamentary Inspector is to cause a copy of a report prepared under this section to be laid before each House of Parliament, or dealt with under section 206, within 21 days of the preparation of the report.
- (3) This section does not limit Part 5 of the Financial Management Act 2006 and the report required under this section may be prepared and dealt with in conjunction with the report required under that Part.

This measure is a key indicator of performance because timeliness of reporting is essential if the Parliament is to base decisions on the information provided by the Parliamentary Inspector.

#### **KEY EFFICIENCY INDICATORS**

	2021-22 Target	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Target	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Target	2023-24 Actual
Average cost per investigation/case	\$5,500	\$3,688	\$5,500	\$3,018	\$4,475	\$4,795
Cost of the audit function as a percentage of total cost of operations	38%	41%	41%	40.5%	40%	42%

#### AVERAGE COST PER INVESTIGATION/CASE

The average cost per investigation/case is calculated by determining the total cost of the investigation function and dividing it by the number of investigations closed for the period. During the 2023-24 financial year, 94 investigations/cases were closed, compared to 147 investigations/cases in 2022-23.

The total cost of the investigation function is calculated by determining the percentage of salaries devoted to the investigation function and then applying that percentage to the total expenditure of the Parliamentary Inspector for the period. The number of specific investigations conducted and completed by the Parliamentary Inspector is recorded electronically. Each investigation is commenced by receipt of a written complaint and recorded in a register of complaints. When the investigation is completed, it is recorded as closed. The number of investigations is drawn from this information.

The average cost per investigation/case is \$4,795. This is slightly higher than expected and reflects the fact that fewer investigations/cases were undertaken during this period, and were then closed, as a result of the change in policy discussed below.

By way of explanation, section 196(4) of the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003* requires the Corruption and Crime Commission (Commission) to notify the Parliamentary Inspector whenever it receives an allegation that may concern one of its officers. Each time such a notification is received, it becomes a separate investigation/case. The obligation to provide these notifications had previously been interpreted very broadly, so that each time a dissatisfied complainant sent the Commission an email accusing its officers of some wrongdoing, the Parliamentary Inspector was formally notified, leading to the creation of a new file. In 2022-23, the Commission provided 63 notifications pursuant to section 196(4) of the Act, most of which could be very quickly dealt with as the complainant had provided no evidence whatsoever of any misconduct by any Commission officer.

On 23 November 2023, the Commissioner and the Parliamentary Inspector agreed that the Commission would be more selective in the matters referred to the Parliamentary Inspector pursuant to section 196(4) of the *Corruption, Crime and Misconduct Act 2003* and the protocol between the two offices and would only notify the Parliamentary Inspector of allegations which provided at least a basic level of detail. As a result, in 2023-24, only 15 notifications were provided pursuant to section 196(4) of the Act. This explains why fewer investigations/cases were commenced, and closed, in 2023-24 and therefore why the average cost per investigation was higher.

## COST OF THE AUDIT FUNCTION AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL COST OF OPERATIONS

The cost of the audit function as a percentage of the total cost of operations is calculated by determining the percentage of total Parliamentary Inspector salaries devoted to the audit function and then applying that percentage to the total expenditure of the Parliamentary Inspector for the period. For example, if 50% of salaries cost is devoted to the audit function then it is considered that 50% of the total cost of the Office is devoted to the audit function.

During the 2023-24 financial year, the audit function represented 42% of the work of the office, and therefore 42% of the total cost of operations was devoted to the audit function. This is very close to the target of 40% and reflects a long-running trend in the life of the office.

## Disclosures and legal compliance

#### **Certification of financial statements**

For the reporting period ended 30 June 2024

The accompanying financial statements of the Office of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the reporting period ending 30 June 2024 and the financial position as at 30 June 2024.

At the date of signing we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included within the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Matthew Zilko SC Accountable Authority

9 September 2024

Rodolfo Montilva

A/Chief Finance Officer

9 September 2024



#### **Financial statements**

The Office of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission has pleasure in presenting its audited general purpose financial statements for the reporting period ended 30 June 2024 which provides users with the information about the Office's stewardship of resource entrusted to it. The financial information is presented in the following structure:

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#### **Primary financial statements**

## Statement of comprehensive income

#### For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Natas	2024	2023
	Notes	\$	\$
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expenses	2.1(a)	474,062	465,575
Supplies and services	2.2	148,871	136,504
Depreciation expenses	4.1	30,461	30,461
Accommodation expenses	2.2	96,870	91,240
Other expenses	2.2	26,785	21,746
Total cost of services		777,049	745,526
Net cost of services		777,049	745,526
Income from State Government			
Service appropriation	3.1	753,000	729,000
Resources received	3.1	120,596	109,630
Total income from State Government		873,596	838,630
Surplus for the period		96,547	93,104
Total comprehensive income for the period		96,547	93,104

The Statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



#### **Primary financial statements**

## Statement of financial position

#### As at 30 June 2024

	Negar	2024	2023
	Notes	\$	\$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	872,080	746,918
Receivables	5.1	2,429	2,833
Other current assets	5.3	278	10,330
Total Current Assets		874,787	760,081
Non-Current Assets			
Receivables	5.1	12,577	17 <u>44</u>
Amounts receivable for services	5.2	387,000	355,000
Property, plant and equipment	4.1	35,538	65,999
Total Non-Current Assets		435,115	420,999
Total assets		1,309,902	1,181,080
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	5.4	23,024	12,194
Employee related provisions	2.1(b)	134,125	118,356
Total Current Liabilities		157,149	130,550
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee related provisions	2.1(b)	13,969	8,293
Total Non-Current Liabilities		13,969	8,293
Total liabilities		171,118	138,843
Net assets		1,138,784	1,042,237
Equity			
Contributed equity		160,000	160,000
Accumulated surplus		978,784	882,237
Total equity		1,138,784	1,042,237

The Statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



**Primary financial statements** 

## Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Contributed equity	Accumulated surplus	Total equity
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2022	160,000	789,133	949,133
Surplus	( <del>**</del>	93,104	93,104
Total comprehensive income for the period		93,104	93,104
Balance at 30 June 2023	160,000	882,237	1,042,237
Balance at 1 July 2023	160,000	882,237	1,042,237
Surplus	X <del></del>	96,547	96,547
Total comprehensive income for the period	S=	96,547	96,547
Balance at 30 June 2024	160,000	978,784	1,138,784

The Statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



#### **Primary financial statements**

#### Statement of cash flows

#### For the year ended 30 June 2024

	<b>N</b> 1. 4	2024	2023
	Notes	\$	\$
Cash flows from the State Government			
Service appropriation		721,000	697,000
Net cash provided by the State Government		721,000	697,000
Utilised as follows:			
Cash flows from operating activities			
Payments			
Employee benefits		446,641	427,603
Supplies and services and other expenses		51,389	57,385
Accommodation		95,039	92,741
GST payments on purchases		13,456	14,574
Receipts			
GST receipts from taxation authority		9,642	8,345
Other receipts		1,045	26,422
Net cash used in operating activities		595,838	557,536
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		125,162	139,464
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		746,918	607,454
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period		872,080	746,918

The Statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the financial statements

#### Notes to the financial statements

#### 1. Basis of preparation

The Office of the Parliamentary Inspector of the Corruption and Crime Commission of Western Australia (the Office) is a WA Government entity and is controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent. The Office is a not-for-profit entity (as profit is not its principal objective). A description of the nature of its operations and its principal activities have been included in the 'Overview' which does not form part of these financial statements. These annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the Accountable Authority of the Office on 9 September 2024.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements constitute general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, the Framework, Statement of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board as applied by Treasurer's instructions. Several of these are modified by Treasurer's instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording. The Act and Treasurer's instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), the Framework, Statement of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

#### Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars applying the accrual basis of accounting and using the historical cost convention. Certain balances will apply a different measurement basis (such as the fair value basis). Where this is the case the different measurement basis is disclosed in the associated note. All values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

#### Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except that the:

- (a) amount of GST incurred by the Office as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is recognised as part of an asset's cost of acquisition or as part of an item of expense; and
- (b) receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of cash flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

#### Contributed equity

AASB Interpretation 1038 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to, transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 Contributions by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

#### Comparative information

Except when an AAS permits or requires otherwise, comparative information is presented in respect of the previous period for all amounts reported in the financial statements. AASB 1060 provides relief from presenting comparatives for Property, Plant and Equipment reconciliations. Comparative information is, where appropriate, reclassified to be comparable with amounts presented in the current financial year.

#### Notes to the financial statements

#### Judgements and estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements and estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements and/or estimates are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Notes to the financial statements

#### 2. Use of our funding

#### Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Office's funding is applied and the accounting policies that are relevant for an understanding of the items recognised in the financial statements. The primary expenses incurred by the Office in achieving its objectives and the relevant notes are:

		Notes
Employee benefits expenses		2.1(a)
Employee related provisions		2.1(b)
Other expenditure		2.2
2.1 (a) Employee benefits expenses	2024	2023
	2024	2023 \$
Employee benefits	426,080	424,758
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	47,982	40,817
Employee benefits expenses	474,062	465,575
Add: AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits (not included in employee benefits expense)	<b>'e</b> :	::=:
Less: Employee Contributions (per the statement of comprehensive income)	*	•
Total employee benefits provided	474,062	465,575

**Employee Benefits** include wages, salaries and social contributions, accrued and paid leave entitlements and paid sick leave, and non-monetary benefits recognised under accounting standards for employees.

**Superannuation** is the amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of comprehensive income and comprises employer contributions paid to the West State Superannuation Scheme, the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB), or other Superannuation Funds.

**AASB 16 non-monetary benefits** are non-monetary employee benefits, predominantly relating to the provision of vehicle and housing benefits that are recognised under AASB 16 and are excluded from the employee benefits expense.

**Employee Contributions** are contributions made to the Office by employees towards employee benefits that have been provided by the Office. This includes both AASB 16 and non-AASB 16 employee contributions.

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 2.1(b) Employee related provisions

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Current		
Employee benefits provisions		
Annual leave <sup>(a)</sup>	47,381	45,978
Long service leave <sup>(b)</sup>	74,630	63,278
	122,011	109,256
Other provisions		
Employment on-costs (c)	12,114	9,100
Total current employee related provisions	134,125	118,356
Non-current Non-current		
Employee benefits provisions		
Long service leave <sup>(b)</sup>	12,600	7,371
Other provisions		
Employment on-costs (c)	1,369	922
Total non-current employee related provisions	13,969	8,293
Total employee related provisions	148,094	126,649

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of annual leave and long service leave for services rendered up to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

(a) **Annual leave liabilities** are classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

The provision for annual leave is calculated at the present value of expected payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

(b) Long service leave liabilities are unconditional long service leave provisions and are classified as current liabilities as the Office does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Office has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

The provision for long service leave is calculated at present value as the Office does not expect to wholly settle the amounts within 12 months. The present value is measured taking into account the present value of expected future payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date. These payments are estimated using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement, and discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

(c) **Employment on-costs** involve settlements of annual and long service leave liabilities which gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance premiums, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses', Note 2.2 and are not included as part of the Office's 'Employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'.

	2024	2023
Employee on-costs provision	\$	\$
Carrying amount at start of period	10,022	6,681
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised	3,461	3,341
Carrying amount at end of period	13,483	10,022

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 2.1.1 Employee related provisions (continued)

## Key sources of estimation uncertainty - long service leave

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Several estimates and assumptions are used in calculating the Office's long service leave provision. These include:

- expected future salary rates;
- discount rates;
- · employee retention rates; and
- expected future payments.

Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision. Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of long service leave liabilities is recognised as employee benefits expense.

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 2.2 Other expenditure

	2024 \$	2023
		\$
Supplies and services		
Communications	348	311
Consumables	7,177	6,916
Consultants and contractors <sup>(a)</sup>	20,750	19,646
Services received free of charge (note 3.1)	120,596	109,630
Total supplies and services expenses	148,871	136,504
Accommodation expenses		
Rental Office	96,870	91,240
Total accommodation expenses	96,870	91,240
Other expenses		
Insurance for Property, Liability, Workers Compensation, Miscellaneous	9,155	7,633
Travel expenditure	12,809	7,365
Other expenses	4,821	6,748
Total other expenses	26,785	21,746
Total other expenditure	272,526	249,490

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes audit fee.

**Supplies and services expenses** are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. The carrying amounts of any materials held for distribution are expensed when the materials are distributed.

Rental expenses are for Government Office Accommodation under a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation.

Repairs, maintenance and cleaning costs are recognised as expenses as incurred.

Other operating expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations.

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 3. Our funding sources

#### How we obtain our funding

This section provides additional information about how the Office obtains its funding and the relevant accounting policy notes that govern the recognition and measurement of this funding. The primary income received by the Office and the relevant notes are:

	Notes
Income from State Government	3.1

#### 3.1 Income from State Government

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Appropriation received during the period:		
- Service appropriation <sup>(a)</sup>	753,000	729,000
Total service appropriation	753,000	729,000
Resources received from other public sector entities during the period:(b)		
- Services received free of charge:		
- Department of Justice: Financial, human resources and information		
technology services	107,268	96,485
- Department of Finance: Lease accommodation services	13,328	13,145
Total resources received	120,596	109,630
Total Income from State Government	873,596	838,630

- (a) **Service Appropriations** are recognised as income at the fair value of consideration received in the period in which the Office gains control of the appropriated funds. The Office gains control of the appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited in the bank account or credited to the holding account held at Treasury.
- (b) Resources received from other public sector entities is recognised as income equivalent to the fair value of assets received, or the fair value of services received that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated.

## **Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations**

#### For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2024
	Budget Estimate	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Delivery of Services				
Item 70 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	450,000	450,000	450,000	-
Amount Authorised by Other Statutes				
- Corruption, Crime and <b>M</b> isconduct Act 2003	303,000	303,000	303,000	-
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	753,000	753,000	753,000	ã
Total consolidated account appropriations	753,000	753,000	753,000	

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 4. Key assets

This section includes information regarding the key assets the Office utilises to gain economic benefits or assets the Office utilises for economic benefit or service potential or provide service potential. The section sets out both the key accounting policies and financial information about the performance of these assets.

	Notes
Property, plant and equipment	4.1

## 4.1 Property, plant and equipment

	Leasehold Improvement \$	Office equipment \$	Total \$
Year ended 30 June 2024	·	•	•
1 July 2023			
Gross carrying amount	304,612	8,227	312,839
Accumulated depreciation	(238,612)	(8,227)	(246,839)
Carrying amount at start of period	65,999	0	65,999
Depreciation	30,461	0	30,461
Carrying amount at end of period	35,538	0	35,538
Gross carrying amount	304,612	8,227	312,839
Accumulated depreciation	(269,074)	(8,227)	277,301

### Initial recognition

Items of property, plant and equipment, costing \$5,000 or more are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired for no cost or significantly less than fair value, the cost is valued at its fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of property, plant and equipment costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of comprehensive income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The cost of a leasehold improvement is capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the remaining term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement.

#### Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, items of property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

#### Notes to the financial statements

#### **Useful lives**

All property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

Asset	Useful life
Leasehold improvement	10 years or the remaining useful life, whichever is lower
Office Equipment	5 years

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments should be made where appropriate.

#### Impairment

Non-financial assets, including items of property, plant and equipment, are tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised.

Where an asset measured at cost is written down to its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised through profit or loss.

If there is an indication that there has been a reversal in impairment, the carrying amount shall be increased to its recoverable amount. However, this reversal should not increase the asset's carrying amount above what would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised in prior years.

#### Notes to the financial statements

#### 5. Other assets and liabilities

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Office's controlled operations and includes other assets utilised for economic benefits and liabilities incurred during normal operations:

	Notes
Receivables	5.1
Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)	5.2
Other current assets	5.3
Payables	5.4

#### 5.1 Receivables

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Current		
GST receivable	2,429	2,833
Total current	2,429	2,833
Non-current		
Accrued salaries account <sup>a)</sup>	12,577	1=
Total non-current	12,577	
Total receivables at end of the period	15,006	2,833

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a)</sup> Funds held in the special purpose account for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a reporting period that occurs every 11 year. This account is classified as non-current for the year before the 27<sup>th</sup> pay year.

Accrued salaries account contains amounts paid annually into the Treasurer's special purpose account. It is restricted for meeting the additional cash outflow for employee salary payments in reporting periods with 27 pay days instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account.

The Office does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements as security for receivables.

## 5.2 Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Non-current	387,000	355,000
Total Amounts receivable for services at end of period	387,000	355,000

Amounts receivable for services represent the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

The amounts receivable for services are financial assets at amortised cost, and are not considered impaired. (i.e. there is no expected credit loss of the Holding Account).

#### 5.3 Other current assets

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Prepayments	278	10,330
Total other current assets at end of period	278	10,330

Other non-financial assets include prepayments which represent payments in advance of receipt of goods or services or that part of expenditure made in one accounting period covering a term extending beyond that period.

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 5.4 Payables

	2024	2023	
	\$	\$	
Current			
Trade payables	11,196	1,208	
Accrued salaries	11,829	10,986	
Total payables at end of period	23,025	12,194	

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Office becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as settlement is generally within 20 days.

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the reporting period. The Office considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

## 6. Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cash flows of the Office:

	Notes
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1

## 6.1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	872,080	746,918
Balance at end of period	872,080	746,918

For the purpose of the Statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalent assets comprise cash on hand which is subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 7. Financial instruments and contingencies

This note sets out the key risk management policies and measurement techniques of the Office.

	Notes
Financial instruments	7.1
Contingent assets and contingent liabilities	7.2

## 7.1 Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	872,080	746,918
Financial assets at amortised cost <sup>(a)</sup>	387,000	355,000
Total financial assets	1,259,080	1,101,918
Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost <sup>(b)</sup>	23,025	12,194
Total financial liability	23,025	12,194

<sup>(</sup>a) The amount of Financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) (statutory receivable).

## 7.2 Contingent assets and liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities and contingent assets as at 30 June 2024 (2023: nil).

<sup>(</sup>b) The amount of Financial liabilities at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory payable).

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 8. Other disclosures

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or other pronouncements for the understanding of this financial report.

	Notes
Events occurring after the end of the reporting period	8.1
Key management personnel	8.2
Related party transactions	8.3
Related bodies	8.4
Affiliated bodies	8.5
Remuneration of auditors	8.6
Supplementary financial information	8.7

## 8.1 Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

There were no events occurring after the end of the reporting period.

#### 8.2 Key management personnel

The Office has determined key management personnel to include senior officers of the Office.

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for the accountable authority and senior officers of the Office for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

	2024	2023
Compensation of members of the accountable authority		
Compensation Band (\$)		
300,001 - 350,000	1	1
Compensation of senior officers Compensation Band (\$)		
100,001 - 150,000	1	1
	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Total compensation of senior officers	474,062	465,575

Total compensation includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Office in respect of senior officers.

#### Notes to the financial statements

#### 8.3 Related party transactions

The Office is a wholly owned public sector entity of the State of Western Australia.

Related parties of the Office include:

- all Cabinet ministers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- all senior officers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- other agencies and statutory authorities, including related bodies, that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements (i.e. wholly-owned public sector entities);
- associates and joint ventures of a wholly-owned public sector entity; and
- the Government Employees Superannuation Board.

#### Material transactions with related parties:

Outside of normal citizen type transactions with the Office, there were no other related party transactions that involved key management personnel and/or their close family members and/or their controlled (or jointly controlled) entities.

#### 8.4 Related bodies

The Office had no related bodies during the financial year (2023: nil).

#### 8.5 Affiliated bodies

The Office had no affiliated bodies during the financial year (2023: nil).

#### 8.6 Remuneration of auditors

Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit for the current financial year is as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Auditing the accounts, controls, financial statements and key performance		
indicators	22,300	20,250

## 8.7 Supplementary financial information

There were no losses of public moneys or other public property through theft or default during the financial year (2023: nil).

There were no write offs of public money or other public property during the financial year (2023: nil).

There were no gifts of public property during the financial year (2023: nil).

#### Notes to the financial statements

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## 9. Explanatory Statements

This section explains variations in the financial performance of the Office.

#### 9. Explanatory statement

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Office undertaking transactions under its own control, as represented by the primary financial statements.

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2024, and between the actual results for 2024 and 2023 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key major variances which vary more than 10% from their comparative and that the variation is more than 1% of the:

- 1. Estimate and actual results for the current year:
  - Total Cost of Services of the estimate for the Statement of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (i.e. 1% of \$895,000); and
  - Total Assets of the estimate for the Statement of financial position (i.e. 1% of \$1,064,000).
- 2. Actual results for the current year and the prior year actual:
  - Total Cost of Services for the previous year for the Statements of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (i.e. 1% of \$745,526); and
    - Total Assets for the previous year for the Statement of financial position (i.e. 1% of \$1,181,080)

## 9.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income Variances

	Variance Note	Estimate 2024 \$	Actual 2024 \$	Actual 2023 \$	Variance between actual and estimate \$	Variance between actual results for 2024 and 2023 \$
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense		523,000	474,062	465,575	(48,938)	8,487
Supplies and services	1	208,000	148,871	136,504	(59,129)	12,367
Depreciation		32,000	30,461	30,461	(1,539)	3#3
Accommodation expenses		93,000	96,870	91,240	3,870	5,630
Other expenses	2	39,000	26,785	21,746	(12,215)	5,039
Total cost of services		895,000	777,049	745,526	(117,951)	31,523
Net cost of services		895,000	777,049	745,526	(117,951)	31,523
Income from State Government		**			1761 206	
Service appropriation		753,000	753,000	729,000	( <b>-</b> )	24,000
Resources received	3 A	142,000	120,596	109,630	(21,404)	10,966
Total income from State					<u> </u>	
Government		895,000	873,596	838,630	(21,404)	34,966
Surplus for the period		2#	96,547	93,104	96,547	3,443
Total comprehensive income for period_	the		96,547	93,104	96,547	3,443

#### Major estimate and actual (2024) variance narratives:

- Supplies and services were lower than estimates by \$59,129 (28%) due to lower resources received free of charge, and lower expenditure than budgeted on professional services such as contractors and temporary staff who were not needed.
- 2 Other expenses were lower by \$12,215 (31%) mainly due to lower than budgeted insurance costs and reclassification of rental car bay expense to Accommodation expenses.
- 3 Resources received free of charge were lower by \$21,404 (15%) mainly due to a lower than expected cost of corporate services provided by the Department of Justice.

#### Notes to the financial statements

## Major actual (2024) and comparative (2023) variance narratives:

A Resources received free of charge were higher by \$10,966 (10%) mainly due to increase in overhead costs for corporate services provided by the Department of Justice.

## 9.2 Statement of Financial Position Variances

					Variance between estimate	Variance between actual results
	Variance notes	Estimate 2024	Actual 2024	Actual 2023	and actual	for 2024 and 2023
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Assets						
Current Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		607,000	872,080	746,918	265,080	125,162
Receivables		2,000	2,429	2,833	429	(404)
Other assets	4	35,000	278	10,330	(34,722)	(10,052)
Total current assets		644,000	874,787	760,081	230,787	114,706
Non-current assets						
Amounts receivable for services		387,000	387,000	355,000	55)	32,000
Property, plant and equipment	В	33,000	35,538	65,999	2,538	(30,461)
Receivables		***	12,577	200	12,577	12,577
Total non-current assets		420,000	435 <u>,</u> 115	420 <u>,</u> 999	15 <u>,</u> 115	14,116
Total assets		1,064,000	1,309,902	<u>1,181,080</u>	245 <u>,</u> 902	128,822
Liabilities						
Current Liabilities						
Payables		10,000	23,024	12,194	13,024	10,830
Employee Related Provisions	5 C	100,000	134,125	118,356	34,125	15,769
Total current liabilities		110,000	<u>157,149</u>	130,550	<u>47,149</u>	26,599
Non-current liabilities						
Employee Related Provisions	6 D	5,000	13,969	8,293	8,969	5,676
Total non-current liabilities		5,000	13,969	8,293	8,969	5,676
Total liabilities		115,000	171,118	138,843	56,118	32,275
Net assets		949,000	1,138,784	1,042,237	189,784	96,547
Equity						
Contributed equity		160,000	160,000	160,000	-	•
Accumulated surplus		789,000	978,784	882,237	189,784	96,547
Total Equity		949,000	1,138,784	1,042,237	189,784	96,547

## Major estimate and actual (2024) variance narratives:

- 4 Other assets were lower by \$34,722 (99%) due to timing of payments for rental and insurance, which resulted in lower prepayments than budgeted.
- 5 Employee provisions were higher by \$34,125 (34%) due to less leave taken.
- 6 Employee provisions were higher by \$8,969 (179%) due to less leave taken.

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## Notes to the financial statements

## Major actual (2024) and comparative (2023) variance narratives:

- B Property, plant and equipment is lower by \$30,461 (46%) due to depreciation.
- C Employee provisions are higher by \$15,769 (13%) due to higher leave balances at the end of the 2023-24 financial year.
- D Employee provisions are higher by \$5,676 (68%) due to higher leave balances at the end of the 2023-24 financial year.

#### Notes to the financial statements

## 9.3 Statement of Cash Flows Variances

	Variance notes	Estimate 2024	Actual 2024	Actual 2023 \$	Variance between actual and estimate	Variance between actual results for 2024 and 2023
Cash flows from State Governmen	<u> </u>	\$	\$	<u> </u>	Ф	\$
	•					
Service appropriation		721,000	721,000	697,000		24,000
Net cash provided by State						
Government		721,000	721,000	697,000	-	24,000
Cash flows from operating activities	es					
Payments						
Employee benefits	7	523,000	446,641	427,603	(76,359)	19,038
Supplies and services and other			<b>-</b>		(50.011)	( <b>5</b> 000)
expenses	8	105,000	51,389	57,385	(53,611)	(5,996)
Accommodation		93,000	95,039	92,741	2,039	2,298
GST payments on purchases		16,000	13,456	14,574	(2,544)	(1,118)
Receipts						
GST receipts from taxation authority		16,000	9.642	8.345	(6,358)	1.297
Other receipts	Е	10,000	1,045	26,422	1,045	(25,377)
Net cash used in operating		=======================================	1,010	20, 122	1,010	(20,011)
activities		721,000	595,838	557,536	(125,162)	38,302
Net increase in cash and cash						
equivalents		•	125,162	139,464	125,162	(14,302)
Cash and cash equivalents at the		607,000	746,918	607 AEA	139,918	120.464
beginning of the period  Cash and cash equivalents at the e	and of the	007,000	140,810	607,454	138,810	139,464
period	and or the	607,000	872,080	746,918	265,080	125,162

## Major estimate and actual (2024) variance narratives:

## Major actual (2024) and comparative (2023) variance narratives:

E Actual receipts are lower than previous year as previous year leave balances were transferred.

<sup>7</sup> Actual Employee benefits payments are lower than estimates by \$76,359 (15%) as there was very little use of the services of Acting Parliamentary Inspectors during the financial year.

<sup>8</sup> Actual supplies and services are lower by \$53,611 (51%) due to lower expenditure than planned in professional services and external purchases and reclassification of rental expense for car bays to Accommodation expenses.