



**Parliament of South Australia
Economic and Finance Committee**

Jurisdiction Report 2022

**ACPAC Conference
Perth, Western Australia**

21-23 April 2024

Pursuant to the *Parliamentary Committees Act 1991* (South Australia), the Economic and Finance Committee enquires into matters referred to it under the following general terms of reference:

- any matter concerned with finance and economic development;
- any matter concerned with the structure, organisation and efficiency of any area of public sector efficiency, including how efficiency or service delivery may be enhanced;
- any matter concerned with the functions or operations of a particular public officer or State instrumentality or publicly funded body including whether it should continue to exist or changes should be made to improve efficiency or effectiveness (statutory authorities are excluded from this provision);
- any matter concerned with the regulation of business or other economic or financial activity or whether such regulation should be retained or modified.

The Committee has wide powers to investigate the Executive Branch of Government. It works in cooperation with the Auditor-General and may follow up any matters raised in his reports to Parliament, as well as a broad range of issues at its own initiative.

The current membership of the Economic and Finance Committee of the 55th Parliament post the 20 March 2022 election includes the following Members as follows:

Mr Eddie Hughes MP (Presiding Member)
Ms Nadia Clancy MP
Mr Matt Cowdrey MP OAM
Ms Lucy Hood MP
Mr Stephen Patterson MP
Hon. Tony Piccolo MP
Mr Sam Telfer MP

In the 55th Parliament the Committee completed an inquiry from the 54th Parliament titled an inquiry into Embedded Networks in South Australia. The Committee called for submissions and received and published 14 written submissions. The Committee also conducted seven public hearings. This report was tabled in the House of Assembly on 8 September 2022.

Currently the Committee has two ongoing inquiries, firstly an inquiry into South Australian Housing Availability and secondly an inquiry into Home Care for Children and Young People.

The inquiry into South Australian Housing Availability is exploring the decreasing availability of affordable housing for both purchase and rental in South Australia. Submissions have now closed, and the committee is investigating into the key market barriers faced by the housing industry housing as well as the needs and demand from marginalized groups in South Australia. In response to the decreasing availability of housing, the committee is also currently examining alternative housing options and policy settings required to enable more affordable and available housing.

The inquiry into Home Care for Children and Young People is seeking submissions into the long-term economic and social costs associated with supporting children in and out of home care. The committee is seeking evidence on the long-term economic and social impact of foster and kinship care and the outcomes faced by children and young people in these care situations in comparison to those in non-family based out of home care. The committee is also seeking submissions on the economic and social contributions provided by foster and kinship carers and models for attracting, retaining, and supporting more foster and kinship carers. Submissions for this inquiry are set to close on 19 April 2024.

In addition to its major inquiries, the Committee also held hearings on a variety of matters in relation to its statutory obligations including with the Office of Sport and Recreation about the Sport and Recreation Fund's program expenditure, and with Emergency Service providers to discuss the expenditure funded by the Emergency Services Levy.