



Select Committee on the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid

DEPARTMENT / AGENCY QUESTIONNAIRE, SEPTEMBER 2023

The Inquiry

On 2 August 2023, the Legislative Council resolved to establish a select committee to investigate and report on the 2026 Commonwealth Games and the progress of the regional infrastructure build. An interim report is due by April 2024 and a final report is due by April 2025.

Terms of Reference

A Select Committee of nine members be appointed to inquire into, consider and report on the 2026 Commonwealth Games and the progress of the regional infrastructure build, including but not limited to —

- (a) the potential failures in governance, probity and procurement processes in the Victorian Government's bid, contract, and termination of the 2026 Commonwealth Games;
- (b) the impacts of the contract termination of the Commonwealth Games on Victoria's reputation, business community, tourism, and major events;
- (c) the Victorian Government advice received from government departments, councils, agencies, consultants, and contractors;
- (d) the potential of undue influence by the executive on the independence of the public service;
- (e) the timeline, progress and budget of the Victorian Government's regional infrastructure and housing build;
- (f) the impact on community, social, amateur, and professional sport in Victoria;
- (g) any other relevant matter.

Questionnaire to relevant departments and agencies

This questionnaire seeks information about how the terms of reference affects each department or agency including budget allocations, infrastructure projects and assets, and other key economic, financial management and emerging issues.

Please answer all questions that may be applicable to your department/agency and advise if some, or all questions are not applicable.

Timeline and format

Responses to this questionnaire are due by **5.00pm on Monday, 2 October 2023**. It is essential that the Committee receive responses by this date to allow sufficient time to consider them before public hearings which are likely to commence in early October 2023. The completed questionnaire should be sent (in the format received) to: commonwealthgames@parliament.vic.gov.au

1) What progress had been made in implementing the major initiatives/programs for the department/agency relevant to the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Please identify a minimum of ten initiatives/programs.

Major milestone/initiative	Objective	Financial Output (to date)	Allocated Budget	Activities undertaken
Support for planning decisions.	Provide advice on biodiversity matters to inform planning decisions.	N/A	N/A	Assessing and advising on biodiversity matters including native vegetation requirements for the purposes of planning decisions.
Climate positive Commonwealth Games	Provide advice on options to deliver a climate positive legacy from the 2026 Games.	N/A	N/A	Executive membership of Commonwealth Games Interdepartmental Committee and Environmental Sustainability Advisory Working Group; officer-level engagement with Office of the Commonwealth Games
No further initiatives identified				

2) Budget Paper No. 5: Statement of Finances provides a comprehensive operating statement that details each department’s revenue and expenses on an accrual basis reflecting the cost of providing its output.

Please provide a line-item breakdown of departmental/agency expenditure for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Line Item	Budget (\$ million)	Expenditure (\$ million)	Description
Nil identified			

3) For all programs (output initiatives, including grants) with total funding of equal to or greater than \$2.5 million that will now be cancelled, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) expenditure in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 (and where relevant, future years including any projected or actual contract termination costs)
- d) details of how the program was to be funded (i.e. through new output appropriation, Commonwealth funding, internal reprioritisation etc.)
- e) evidence of the need for the program, and Government’s role in delivering it
- f) evidence of the program’s progress
- g) evidence of the program being delivered within or outside of scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices
- h) information about the nature of the impact of the program ceasing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts.

DEECA response: Nil identified

4) For all programs (output initiatives, including grants) with total funding of equal to or greater than \$2.5 million where funding is to be continued, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) expenditure in the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24 (and where relevant, future years)
- d) details of how the program will be funded (i.e. through new output appropriation, Commonwealth funding, internal reprioritisation etc.)
- e) evidence of the continued need for the program, and Government’s role in delivering it
- f) evidence of the program’s progress toward its stated objectives and expected outcomes, including the alignment between the program, departmental objectives and any government priorities

- g) evidence of the program being delivered within its scope, budget, expected timeframe and in line with appropriate governance and risk management practices
- h) extent and level of efficiencies realised in the delivery of the program
- i) information about the nature of the impact of the program continuing and what strategies have been identified to minimise any negative impacts
- j) evidence that the further funding reflects the actual cost required to deliver the program

DEECA response: Nil identified

5) For grant programs announced as part of the 2026 Commonwealth Games expenditure, please provide the following:

- a) name of the program
- b) objective/s of the program
- c) estimated expenditure in 2022-23 and forward estimates
- d) actual expenditure as at 1 August 2023
- e) source of funding
- f) number of applications received and number of total eligible applicants as at 1 August 2023
- g) number of successful applicants
- h) the status of the program
- i) outcomes achieved as at 1 August 2023
- j) performance measures associated with the grant programs
- k) any budget allocation for the program in the 2023-24 budget

DEECA response: Nil identified

6) For the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years, please identify all output(s) for which the department/agency received additional funding through the Treasurer's Advances for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, why additional funding was required and where it is reported.

DEECA response: Nil identified

7) Please list the internal departmental/agency performance measures relevant to the 2026 Commonwealth Games including:

- a) description/purpose of the measure
- b) the target
- c) how it was set
- d) the latest measure outcome

DEECA response: Nil identified

8) Please provide the department's/agency's (actual/expected/forecast) headcount and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff numbers and recruitment costs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games for the financial years ending 30 June 2022, 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2024:

- a) broken down into employee classification codes
- b) broken down into categories of on-going, fixed term or casual

- c) according to their gender identification
- d) employees identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or having a disability.

DEECA provided in-kind resourcing to support planning assessments for Commonwealth Games projects. No specific roles were recruited for Commonwealth Games. Please note that approval coordination for the Commonwealth Games was through the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) State Planning Concierge and dedicated DTP resources were committed to this function.

9) Please provide the number and total value of employee termination payments as of 1 August 2023 relevant to employees working on the Commonwealth Games.

DEECA response: Nil identified

10) Please provide an organisational executive chart for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, relevant for your department/agency as of 1 June 2022, 1 January 2023 and 1 August 2023.

DEECA response: Nil identified

11) What were the main identified gaps in the department's/agency's capability and capacity to deliver the 2026 Commonwealth Games?

DEECA response: Nil identified

12) Please provide an itemised list for the 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years of the department/agency expenditure on consultants and contractors for the 2026 Commonwealth Games, including the following:

- a) Name of consultant/contractor
- b) Project title
- c) Contract cost
- d) Start date
- e) End date
- f) Description
- g) Buying for Victoria website URL
- h) Report to Government finalised (Yes/No)
- i) URL to the finalised report (if public)

DEECA response: Nil identified

13) Please provide a list of 2026 Commonwealth Games advertising expenditure for the department/agency in 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24, including the following:

- a) Total expenditure

- b) Breakdown of expenditure by medium (for example, radio/TV/print/social media etc.)
- c) Campaign title and date
- d) Objectives and outcomes

DEECA response: Nil identified

14) Please provide a list of 2026 Commonwealth Games booked advertising for the department/agency in 2023-24 and across the forward estimates, including the following:

- a) Total expenditure
- b) Breakdown of expenditure by medium (for example, radio/TV/print/social media etc.)
- c) Campaign title and date
- d) Objectives and outcomes

DEECA response: Nil identified

15) What impact, if any, did funding issues from local government or the Federal Government have on the department's/agency's Commonwealth Games budget and expenditure?

DEECA response: Nil identified

16) Please provide a list of financial delegation powers for your department/agency including executive names or positions and value of delegation power.

DEECA's financial delegation powers are outlined in its financial delegations instrument.

For the period in question, the more significant financial delegation limits (in excess of \$200,000) were: Executive Directors \$500,000; Deputy Secretaries / Chief Executive Offices \$1 million; the Secretary \$10 million. Approvals greater than \$10 million have required Ministerial approval.

The abovementioned limits were available to any staff holding positions at these levels (i.e. multiple staff members).

17) Regarding the 2026 Commonwealth Games, which relevant and interested community groups and stakeholders did the department/agency consult or engage with? Please detail the budget expenditure related to and the final outcomes of consultation.

DEECA response: DEECA undertook early engagement with water entities through preliminary meetings in relation to their involvement, specifically regarding initial planning and preparatory work started by water entities on new athlete village sites.

18) Please provide a list of all interstate and international travel for department/agency staff related to the 2026 Commonwealth Games, including:

- a) Name of traveller(s)
- b) Destination (s)
- c) Date of travel
- d) Number of official travel days (include day of departure and day of return)
- e) Purpose of travel
- f) Benefit of travel to the State of Victoria
- g) Funding source (please detail the internal account code or external organisation)
- h) Expenses – Air fares (including taxes and fees)
- i) Expenses - Accommodation (including taxes and fees)
- j) Expenses - Other expenses (including surface travel and travel allowances)
- k) Expenses - Total cost
- l) Expenses - Are the above costs final and complete?

DEECA response: Nil identified

19) Please detail the extent of departmental/agency interactions with the First Nations People of Victoria in preparation for the 2026 Commonwealth Games

DEECA response: Nil identified

END