

OFFICIAL



Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Report 21 – Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-23

Speaker's Response

Recommendations 2 and 3

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the Workplace Health and Safety Commissioner and the Office of the Legislative Assembly provide the Assembly with an update on progress towards their Memorandum of Understanding, and an expected resolution date, by 30 June 2024.

Speaker's Response

In February 2024, the Speaker and the Acting Work Safety Commissioner entered into an MOU to provide a mutual basis of understanding about:

- the power, privileges and immunities of the Legislative Assembly, its committees, and its members; and
- the important WHS functions performed by the Office of the Work Health and Safety Commissioner (WorkSafe ACT) and its inspectors.

The Speaker will table the MOU in the March sittings.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that, halfway through each Assembly, the Office of the Legislative Assembly offer refresher procedural seminars for all committee members and Chairs, covering issues such as timeliness of government responses, vulnerable witness protocols, handling claims of confidentiality, and conduct of visiting members.

Speaker's Response

The Office is committed to provided ongoing procedural training to members, as demonstrated by the program of 10 procedural seminars provided in 2023. The Office will provide refresher seminars halfway through the Eleventh Assembly, noting that the effectiveness of this training depends on the attendance of members.



Joy Burch MLA
Speaker

15 March 2024