

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE CHIEF MINISTERS PORTFOLIO

(INCORPORATING THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE)

Public Accounts Committee Report No 12

**REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT NO 4, 1998 - ANNUAL
MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1998**

The resolution of appointment of the committee requires, inter alia, that it examine all reports of the Auditor-General which have been laid before the Assembly.

Auditor-General's Report No 4, 1998 is the Auditor-General's annual report for the 1997-98 year and was presented to the Assembly on 24 September 1998.

This annual report was considered by the Select Committee on Estimates 1998-99 as part of its examination of agency annual and financial reports for 1997-98. The Auditor-General appeared before that committee during its public hearing on 9 November 1998 and responded to questions asked by that committee in relation to Audit Office activities and the accounts of the ACT.

While the Estimates Committee discussed a number of matters with the Auditor-General it specifically drew attention in its report to delays in finalising the financial statements of the Office of Financial Management due to difficulties with the audits of the various joint ventures involving the ACT. That committee noted the Auditor-General's view that there is a need for senior management to be more involved in the audit processes, a view which this committee supports.

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts in the previous Assembly exercised its statutory function in relation to the Auditor-General's budget for the 1997-98 year and, in carrying out that function, the committee had the opportunity to consult with the Auditor-General on the agency performance audit program for the forthcoming year which is outlined in the Auditor's annual report. This committee also has statutory responsibilities in relation to the Auditor-General's budget and has consulted with the Auditor-General on the indicative audit program for the 1998-99 year.

Ted Quinlan MLA
Chair
December 1998