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Three concentric orange arcs are positioned below the text, curving upwards to frame the central circular image.

Guide to the Budget

A guide to the Budget Papers and the Budget process

June 2008





Guide to the Budget

A guide to the Budget Papers
and the Budget process

Useful 2008-09 Budget and Government Web sites

www.budget.tas.gov.au	Contains all Budget Papers.
www.treasury.tas.gov.au	Provides information on major Departmental initiatives, activities and publications.
www.media.tas.gov.au	Contains the Government's Budget related media releases.
www.tas.gov.au	Provides links to the Web sites of a wide range of Tasmanian public and private sector organisations.
www.service.tas.gov.au	Provides a comprehensive entry point to Government services in Tasmania.
www.tasmaniatgether.tas.gov.au	Provides detailed information on Tasmania <i>Together</i> , including the current status of this important initiative.

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1 INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE

A number of changes to the presentation of Budget information are reflected in the 2008-09 Budget Papers. This document is designed to provide readers with an explanation of the changes and an understanding of the Budget framework and process.

To assist readers of the Budget Papers this document contains the following information:

Part 1 - Budget Papers

- Section 2 provides an overview of the 2008-09 Budget Papers;
- Section 3 describes the changes that have been made to the presentation of information in the 2008-09 Budget Papers;
- Section 4 describes the content of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*, and illustrates the major whole-of-government financial statements;
- Section 5 describes the content of Budget Paper No 2 *Government Services*, and illustrates the Output statements and departmental budgeted financial statements;

Part 2 - Budget Framework

- Section 6 describes the structure and composition of the Tasmanian Public Sector, including the General Government Sector;
- Section 7 outlines the 2008-09 Budget framework, including the implications of Australian Accounting Standards and the Uniform Presentation Framework;
- Section 8 explains the Output Methodology, the Budget development cycle and the ongoing monitoring and review of the Budget;
- Section 9 explains the Public Account, including the Consolidated Fund and Special Deposits and Trust Fund;

Part 3 - Supporting Information

- Section 10 identifies other financial publications that are prepared to provide an update on the Government's financial position;
- Section 11 identifies other sources of economic and financial management information that is relevant to Tasmania; and
- Section 12 provides a glossary of the budget and financial terms referred to in the Budget Papers.

PART 1: BUDGET PAPERS

2 THE BUDGET PAPERS

THE BUDGET AND BUDGET PAPERS

The Budget is the financial plan developed by the Government for the coming financial year. The Budget documents set out the Government's plans for the Tasmanian General Government Sector and for each specific entity included within the Tasmanian General Government Sector.

Other documents presented simultaneously to Parliament provide information on many aspects of the State's financial affairs, including the Government's total revenues and expenses, financial assets and liabilities, the cost and funding of Outputs, infrastructure investment, financial relations with the Australian Government, the operations and performance of departments and some State authorities, and the economic outlook and underlying financial trends.

In addition to this document, the following documents currently form the Budget Papers package.

Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills, Nos 1 and 2

The annual Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills are the mechanisms to appropriate funds from the Consolidated Fund for the ongoing activities of government. The Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills provide authority for the expenditure of funds from the Consolidated Fund on Recurrent Services and Works and Services, on a Ministerial portfolio basis, for each department, for the coming Budget year.

Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill No 1 appropriates funds to general government departments, such as the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education, whilst Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill No 2 appropriates funds to independent agencies, including Parliamentary agencies, the Office of the Governor and the Office of the Ombudsman.

Funds are also appropriated for specific purposes through other Acts of Parliament. Funds appropriated in this way are called Reserved by Law funding.

Budget Speech

This document provides the full text of the Treasurer's Second Reading Speech for the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills, which is delivered in the House of Assembly. The Speech explains the Government's economic and financial strategy and outlines key Budget initiatives for the forthcoming Budget year.

Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*

Budget Paper No 1 includes information that explains the context in which the Budget has been developed. It focuses on the financial position of the Tasmanian General Government Sector and provides information on the major strategies of the Government for the coming financial year. Budget Paper No 1 also contains:

- information on the Tasmanian economy and its performance;

- a detailed estimate of revenue and expenses for the coming financial year 2008-09 and for the Forward Estimates period (each of the following three financial years 2009-10 to 2011-12);
- a revised estimate of the revenue and expenses outcome for the current financial year 2007-08;
- an estimate of the State's assets and liabilities for the coming financial year and Forward Estimates period;
- information on Commonwealth-State financial relations; and
- financial information prepared in accordance with the Uniform Presentation Framework using the Government Finance Statistics framework.

A more detailed examination of Budget Paper No 1 is provided in Section 4 of this document.

Budget Paper No 2 *Government Services*

Budget Paper No 2 provides the basis for Parliament's detailed review of the Appropriation Bills. It reports on each agency within the General Government Sector, and provides information on the Outputs delivered by agencies on behalf of the Government.

A more detailed examination of Budget Paper No 2 is provided in Section 5 of this document.

Other Documents Distributed with the Budget Papers

A number of other documents are distributed with the Budget Papers. These documents include fact sheets that provide a summary of information on major Government initiatives. The Tasmanian Government Concessions booklet, which was distributed with the Budget Papers in 2007-08, is now distributed separately.

3 BUDGET PAPER DEVELOPMENTS

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Since the 2007-08 Budget, a number of changes have been made to the presentation of information in Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*, and Budget Paper No 2 *Government Services*. These changes include:

- the presentation of financial information in Budget Paper No 1 in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards Board AASB 1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting*;
- the inclusion of Forward Estimates with Budget year information for the General Government Sector's key financial statements;
- the transfer of Consolidated Fund information to Appendix 1 of Budget Paper No 2; and
- the inclusion of agency Forward Estimate information for Outputs and the three key budgeted financial statements.

Australian Accounting Standards

The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) has issued a Standard that is applicable to reporting of General Government Sectors (GGS). This Standard, AASB 1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting*, harmonises the requirements of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and Government Finance Statistics (GFS) and is applicable from the 2008-09 financial year.

GAAP-GFS harmonisation is intended to provide a single reporting framework for the GGS, replacing the two formats that hitherto have been used in Tasmania and other jurisdictions.

The 2008-09 Budget information shown in Budget Paper No 1 is based on the requirements of AASB 1049. This differs in a number of respects from the information in the 2007-08 Budget Paper No 1, which is based on GFS.

The implementation of AASB 1049 has also resulted in some changes to the presentation and classification of items impacting on the financial statements for the GGS in the 2008-09 Budget Paper No 1. Further information on these changes is provided in Section 7 of this document.

Forward Estimates

In Budget Paper No 1 for 2007-08, the Forward Estimates were presented in a separate chapter (Chapter 9 *Forward Estimates*). The Chapter included details of the three key financial statements (the Operating Statement, Balance Sheet, and Cash Flow Statement) and the Policy and Parameter Statement.

In 2008-09, Budget Paper No 1 includes the Forward Estimates for the three key financial statements and the Policy and Parameter Statement with the relevant Budget year information.

The presentation of information in this manner avoids unnecessary duplication and provides readers with a better focus on the longer term financial information.

Consolidated Fund Estimates

Appendix 2 of Budget Paper No 1 previously provided information on the Consolidated Fund, agency allocations and Reserved by Law items. This information is now provided in Appendix 1 of Budget Paper No 2.

The provision of Consolidated Fund information in Budget Paper No 2 will better enable readers to link the information provided in the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills with the relevant Budget Paper information which relates to agencies.

Budget Paper No 2 *Government Services*

The presentation of agency information in Budget Paper No 2 differs from that which has previously been provided in the Budget Paper.

Budget Paper No 2 had previously focused only on the relevant Budget year. In 2008-09, Budget Paper No 2 now includes both Budget and Forward Estimate information. Accordingly, in addition to the Budget year information, Forward Estimates are provided for agency Outputs and the agency's three key financial statements.

There is also a greater focus on the total cost of the agency's Outputs and the delivery of those Outputs by the agency to achieve the desired Outcomes. Consistent with best practice in other Australian jurisdictions, detailed expense input information has been consolidated. Detailed financial input information continues to be provided on a whole-of-department basis.

4 BUDGET PAPER NO 1 *THE BUDGET*

CONTENTS OF BUDGET PAPER NO 1

Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget* includes information that explains the context in which the Budget has been developed. It focuses on the financial position of the Tasmanian General Government Sector (GGS) and provides information on the financial implications of the major strategies the Government will implement over the Budget and Forward Estimates period.

Budget Paper No 1 also contains:

- information on the Tasmanian economy and its performance;
- a detailed estimate of revenue and expenses for the coming financial year 2008-09 and for the Forward Estimates period (each of the following three financial years 2009-10 to 2011-12);
- a revised estimate of the revenue and expenses outcome for the current financial year 2007-08;
- an estimate of the State's assets and liabilities for the coming financial year and Forward Estimates period; and
- information on Commonwealth-State financial relations.

BUDGETED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The GGS financial statements presented in Budget Paper No 1 are:

- an Income Statement (Chapter 4 *Revenue and Expense Estimates*);
- a Policy and Parameter Statement (Chapter 4 *Revenue and Expense Estimates*);
- a Balance Sheet (Chapter 6 *Assets and Liabilities*); and
- a Cash Flow Statement (Chapter 4 *Revenue and Expense Estimates*).

This Section provides an explanation of the financial statements and illustrates the features of each statement.

Income Statement

The Income Statement presents information on revenue and expenses. This statement is designed to capture the composition of revenues, expenses and the net cost of government activities within a fiscal year. It shows the full cost of resources consumed by the government in achieving its objectives, and how these costs are met from various revenue sources.

The Income Statement reports two major Fiscal Strategy measures: the Net Operating Balance and the Fiscal Balance.

Net Operating Balance

The Net Operating Balance is a measure of the on-going sustainability of the operations of government. It indicates whether the government is generating enough revenue to cover the cost of its operations. A Net Operating Surplus indicates that a government has sufficient revenue to fund its operations and contribute to an increase in its asset base.

Fiscal Balance

The Fiscal Balance indicates whether a sufficient surplus is being generated by the operations of government to fund its capital expenditure needs. It is determined as the difference between General Government revenue over expenses, after allowing for the net addition to non-financial assets such as buildings and infrastructure.

In accordance with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and, more specifically, AASB 1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting*, the Operating Statement will now report two additional measures: the Operating Result and Comprehensive Result.

Operating Result

The Operating Result is similar to the Net Operating Balance in that it is a measure of the sustainability of the operations of government. However, this measure includes movements in asset and liability balances that result from movements in market values rather than as a result of government operations. These gains or losses on assets or liabilities are "unrealised" and are not available to fund government operations.

Comprehensive Result

The Comprehensive Result represents the total change in value of the GGS during a year arising from revenues, expenses and movements in the valuation of assets and liabilities. As such, the Comprehensive Result is equivalent to the total increase or decrease in Net Assets during the year.

The Comprehensive Result is similar to the Operating Result in that it includes unrealised movements in the value of assets and liabilities that impact on net assets. These movements are not available to fund operations and do not arise as a result of government decisions.

Diagram 4.1 provides an example of the new format of the GGS Income Statement.

The GGS Income Statement is presented in Chapter 4 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*.

Diagram 4.1: Income Statement¹

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Revenue from Transactions					
Grants		1 333.3			
Taxation		888.8			
Sales of Goods and Services		500.5			
Fines and Regulatory Fees		50.0			
Interest Income		90.0			
Dividend, Tax and Rate Equivalent Income		150.1			
Other Revenue		88.8			
		3 101.5			
Less Expenses from Transactions					
Employee Expenses		1 777.7			
Superannuation		177.7			
Depreciation		222.2			
Supplies and Consumables		300.0			
Nominal Superannuation Interest Expense		170.0			
Borrowing Costs		18.0			
Grant Expenses		399.9			
Other Expenses		15.0			
		3 080.5			
Equals NET OPERATING BALANCE		21.0			
Plus Other Economic Flows - Included in Operating Result					
Gain/(loss) on Sale of Non-Financial Assets		20.0			
Movement in Investments in GBES/SOCs		133.3			
Movement in Superannuation Liability		(24.0)			
		129.3			
Equals Operating Result		150.3			
Plus Other Economic Flows - Other Movements in Equity					
Revaluations of Non-Financial Assets		111.1			
		111.1			
Equals Comprehensive Result		261.4			
KEY FISCAL AGGREGATES					
NET OPERATING BALANCE		21.0			
Less Net Acquisition/(Disposal) of Non-Financial Assets		10.0			
Equals FISCAL BALANCE		11.0			

These items reflect the various sources of revenue received by the government. Grants largely reflect revenue from the Australian Government, while Taxation reflects State taxes.

These items reflect the various expenditure items incurred by the government. Employee Expenses is the largest single expenditure item.

The Net Operating Balance is a measure of the ongoing sustainability of the operations of government. It is calculated as revenue less expenses from transactions.

The Operating Result is another measure of the sustainability of the operations of government. This measure includes the impact of movements in specific asset and liability balances.

The Comprehensive Result represents all changes in the value of the GGE, that is, the total increase or decrease in Net Assets during a fiscal year.

The Fiscal Balance is a key Fiscal Strategy measure indicating whether a sufficient surplus is being generated to fund the government's capital expenditure.

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

Policy and Parameter Statement

The Policy and Parameter Statement (PPS) is a reconciliation of the major movements in the Net Operating Balance between two points in time. The PPS is presented in Chapter 4 of the Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget* and reconciles the major movements between the 2008-09 Forward Estimates reported in the 2007-08 Budget Papers and the current 2008-09 Budget and Forward Estimates.

Policy Decision

A policy decision reflects a specific decision by the Government that has an impact on the Budget and Forward Estimates and is related to a new policy or represents a change in the Government's existing policy position.

Parameter Adjustment

Parameter adjustments reflect changes to the Budget and Forward Estimates due to the economic environment, the department's operating environment or the timing of a transaction. Parameter adjustments will reflect the impact of demand, cost variations in department service delivery and changes in accounting policies.

Diagram 4.2 provides an example of the GGS PPS.

Diagram 4.2: Policy and Parameter Statement¹

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Net Operating Balance Forward Estimates as per the 2007-08 (A)	6.0			
Budget				
Revenue from Transactions				
Policy Decisions				
Taxation	(5.0)			
Government Business Returns – Special Dividends	12.0			
Road Safety Levy	8.0			
	15.0			
Parameter Adjustments				
Taxation	3.5			
Interest Revenue	0.5			
	4.0			
Total Revenue Variations (B)	19.0			
Expenses from Transactions				
Policy Decisions				
Economic Development – Grants	4.0			
Finance-General – Drought Assistance	(6.0)			
Health and Human Services – Hospital Development	3.0			
	1.0			
Parameter Adjustments				
Depreciation	2.0			
Agency Expenditure	1.0			
	3.0			
TOTAL EXPENSE VARIANCE (C)	4.0			
NET OPERATING BALANCE (D)	21.0			

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

The GGS Policy and Parameter Statement is presented in Chapter 4 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet is a financial snap-shot of assets and liabilities taken at the end of the financial year and discloses the resources over which a government maintains control. By providing information on the type of assets and liabilities held by a government, the statement shows the government's financial position at that point in time.

The major Balance Sheet indicators are Net Debt, Net Financial Liabilities, Net Financial Worth and Net Worth.

Net Debt

Net Debt is a measure used to help judge the overall strength of a government's fiscal position. Net Debt comprises a stock of selected gross financial liabilities less selected financial assets.

Net Financial Liabilities

Net Financial Liabilities comprises total liabilities less financial assets, excluding equity investments in Government Businesses. This is a broader measure than Net Debt, as it incorporates other liabilities such as superannuation.

Net Financial Worth

Net Financial Worth is calculated as financial assets minus liabilities. This measure is broader than Net Debt, as it incorporates provisions made (such as superannuation, but not depreciation and bad debts) as well as ownership of equity.

Net Worth

Net Worth is calculated as total assets (both financial and non-financial) minus total liabilities, shares, and other contributed capital. Net Worth incorporates non-financial assets such as land and other infrastructure assets, which may be sold and used to repay debt. It also incorporates certain financial assets and liabilities not captured by the Net Debt measure, most notably, accrued employee superannuation liabilities, ownership of equities, debtors and creditors.

Diagram 4.3 provides an example of the GGS Balance Sheet.

Diagram 4.3: Balance Sheet¹

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Assets					
Financial Assets ←			These items reflect the various Financial Assets held by the Government. These assets include cash and other financial assets.		
Cash and Deposits		1 555.5			
Investments		45.0			
Equity Investments		3 222.2			
Receivables		150.0			
Other Financial Assets		900.0			
		5 872.7			
Non-Financial Assets ←			These items reflect the various Non-Financial Assets held by the Government. These assets are required by the Government to deliver services and are primarily of a physical nature with a longer-term useful life.		
Land and Buildings		4 555.5			
Infrastructure		4 111.1			
Plant and Equipment		625.0			
Heritage and Cultural Assets		45.1			
Investment Property		9.1			
Intangibles		18.0			
Assets held for Sale		6.0			
Other Non-Financial Assets		20.4			
		9 390.2			
Total Assets		15 262.9			
Liabilities ←			Liabilities reflect the Government's obligations to other parties.		
Borrowings		344.4			
Superannuation		3 777.7			
Employee Entitlements		430.0			
Payables		72.5			
Other Liabilities		134.4			
Total Liabilities		4 759.0			
NET ASSETS ←		10 503.9			
			Net Assets is calculated as Total Assets minus Total Liabilities.		

Diagram 4.3: Balance Sheet¹ (continued)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Equity					
Accumulated Funds		5 894.7			
Asset Revaluation Reserve		3 910.4			
Other Equity		698.8			
Total Equity		10 503.9			
NET WORTH		10 503.9			
NET FINANCIAL WORTH		1 113.7			
NET FINANCIAL LIABILITIES		2 525.2			
NET DEBT		(1 803.5)			

Net Worth is calculated as Total Assets (both financial and non-financial) minus Total Liabilities, shares, and other contributed capital.

Net Financial Worth is calculated as financial assets minus liabilities.

Net Financial Liabilities is calculated as Total Liabilities less Financial Assets, excluding equity investments in Government Businesses.

Net Debt is a measure used to help judge the overall strength of a jurisdiction's fiscal position. Net Debt comprises a stock of selected gross financial liabilities less selected financial assets.

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

The GGS Balance Sheet is presented in Chapter 6 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*.

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement records a government's cash receipts and payments, outlining how a government obtains and uses its cash. The statement categorises cash flows into operating, investing and financing activities.

Within the Cash Flow Statement, cash inflows are positive, whilst cash outflows are identified by a negative sign (parenthesis).

Diagram 4.4 provides an example of the GGS Cash Flow Statement.

Diagram 4.4: Cash Flow Statement¹

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Cash Flows from Operating Activities					
Cash Receipts from Operating Activities					
Grants Received		1 333.3			
Taxation		888.8			
Sales of Goods and Services		500.5			
Fines and Regulatory Fees		50.0			
Interest Received		90.0			
Dividend, Tax and Rate Equivalents		150.10			
Other Receipts		88.8			
		3 101.5			
Cash Payments for Operating Activities					
Employee Entitlements		(1 777.7)			
Superannuation		(177.7)			
Supplies and Consumables		(300.0)			
Borrowing Costs		(18.0)			
Grants and Subsidies Paid		(399.9)			
Other Payments		(15.0)			
		(2 688.3)			
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		413.2			
Cash Flows from Investing Activities					
Cash Flows from Non-Financial Assets					
Purchases of Non-Financial Assets		(55.5)			
Sales of Non-Financial Assets		20.0			
		(35.5)			
Financial Assets (Policy Purposes)					
Equity (Injections)/Withdrawals		2.0			
Net Advances Paid		3.0			
		5.0			

Operating Activities are those activities that relate to the core business of the GGS.

Investing Activities are those activities that relate to the management of assets, including the sale and purchase of fixed assets such as land, buildings and plant and equipment and management of investments.

Diagram 4.4: Cash Flow Statement¹ (continued)

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Budget	Forward	Forward	Forward
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Financial Assets (Liquidity Management Purposes)					
Net Purchase of Investments		5.0			
		5.0			
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		(25.5)			
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities					
Net Borrowing		(22.5)			
		(22.5)			
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held		365.2			
Cash at Beginning of the year		1 190.3			
Cash at End of the Year		1 555.5			
KEY FISCAL AGGREGATES					
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		413.2			
Plus Net Cash from Investments in Non-financial Assets		(35.5)			
Equals CASH SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		377.7			

Financing Activities are those activities that relate to changes in the financial assets and liabilities of the GGS.

Net Increase/Decrease in Cash Held is the sum of net cash flows from all operating investing and financing activities. This measure is consistent with the movement of cash reported in the GGS Balance Sheet.

This item reflects the Cash Surplus/Deficit received from Operating Activities plus proceeds from the sale and purchases of Non-Financial Assets.

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

The GGS Cash Flow Statement is presented in Chapter 4 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*.

5 BUDGET PAPER NO 2

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

CONTENTS OF BUDGET PAPER NO 2

Budget Paper No 2 provides the basis for Parliament's detailed review of the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills. It reports on each department within the GGS, and provides detailed information on the services delivered by agencies on behalf of the Government.

Budget Paper No 2 provides readers with departmental information on:

- major initiatives;
- Output Groups and Outputs;
- infrastructure investment; and
- Budgeted Financial Statements (Income Statement, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement).

A brief description of the information provided in each of these sections is provided below.

Major Initiatives

This section of the chapter lists the major initiatives that will be undertaken by the department over the Budget and Forward Estimates period. The financial impact of Budget initiatives is summarised in a separate table.

Output Information

The Output Methodology is an approach to the management of the total public resources of the State which focuses attention on the Outputs the Government is providing to the community and whether these Outputs are having the intended effect on the Government's policy objectives.

Outputs are goods and services produced by, or on behalf of, a department and provided to customers outside that department. This section of the chapter identifies the Outputs provided by the department and the cost these Outputs over the Budget and Forward Estimates period. The Outputs are listed by Output Group in the Output Group Summary by Ministerial Portfolio.

Diagram 5.1 provides an example of an Output Groups by Ministerial Portfolio table.

Diagram 5.1: Output Groups by Ministerial Portfolio¹

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Minister for the Government Department					
Output Group 1 – Example One					
1.1 Government Services		22 222			
1.2 Primary Government Services		233 333			
1.3 Government Population Services		199 999			
		455 554			
Output Group 2 – Example Two					
2.1 Budget and Finance Services		244 444			
2.2 Human Resources Services		21 000			
2.3 Legal Services		32 000			
		287 444			
Grants and Subsidies			13 222		
Capital Investment Program			7 777		
Special Capital Investment Funds			4 000		
TOTAL			777 997		

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

Output Group Financial Summary

The Output Group Financial Summary table lists the Outputs which comprise the Output Group. The table provides the estimated cost of the Output over the Budget and Forward Estimate period.

The Net Cost of the Output Group is also reflected in the table as the difference between the cost of the Output Group and the revenue which is received by the department in relation to that Output Group.

The level of funding provided to the Output Group by Appropriation (Consolidated Fund and Reserved by Law) is also identified. The difference between the Net Cost of Output Group and the Appropriation is a common occurrence due to the accrual items included in the Net Cost of Output Group and the inclusion of capital funding, such as minor equipment upgrades, in the Appropriation.

Diagram 5.2 provides an example of the Output Group Financial Summary.

Diagram 5.2: Output Group Financial Summary¹

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Output Group Example					
Expenses by Output					
1.1 Government Services		22 222			
1.2 Primary Government Services		233 333			
1.3 Government Population Services		199 999			
		455 554			
Retained Revenue		70 000			
Net Cost of Output Group		385 554			
Appropriation		384 050			

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

Infrastructure Investment

The Capital Investment Program (CIP) and Special Capital Investment Fund (SCIF) sections of Budget Paper No 2 identify the major capital projects which will be undertaken by the department.

The CIP is funded through the Works and Services Appropriation from the Consolidated Fund, whilst the SCIF reflects funding from other sources such as the Economic and Social Infrastructure Fund and the Hospitals Capital Fund.

BUDGETED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Financial information presented in the 2008-09 Budget Papers for each department is prepared in accordance with the principles contained in Australian Accounting Standards.

Budgeted financial information is provided in three separate statements:

- an Income Statement;
- a Balance Sheet; and
- a Cash Flow Statement.

Departmental transactions are separated into controlled or administered. Those transactions/balances that the department can utilise for its own purpose to satisfy its objectives are considered to be controlled. The department may have other responsibilities that it undertakes on behalf of the Government, such as the levying and collection of taxes, fines and fees, and the making of specific grants and transfer payments.

Where the department is unable to make decisions regarding these transactions, they are regarded as administered.

Departmental financial statements now include Forward Estimate information. The inclusion of this Forward Estimate information provides readers with for a longer term focus on the department's financial performance.

Illustrative examples of the three departmental budgeted financial statements are provided below.

Income Statement

The Income Statement reports the operating transactions undertaken by the department. The controlled and administered activities are segregated within the statement.

Operating revenue includes the Consolidated Fund Appropriation to the department, Australian Government funding and non-government funding such as the proceeds from the sale of goods and services.

Operating expenses include, on an accrual basis, employee expenses, depreciation, interest, grants paid to other parties, and other supplies and consumables.

Diagram 5.3 provides an example of a department's Income Statement.

Diagram 5.3: Income Statement¹

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue					
Revenue from Appropriation		1 144 000			
Interest Revenue		1 500			
Grants		38 000			
Sales of Goods and Services		130 000			
Other Revenue		17 000			
		1 330 500			
Less Expenses					
Employee Entitlements		622 222			
Superannuation		67 500			
Depreciation and Amortisation		47 000			
Borrowing Costs		11 000			
Grants and Transfer Payments		165 000			
Supplies and Consumables		377 777			
Other Expenses		51 000			
		1 341 499			
Plus Gains/(Losses)					
Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Non-Financial Assets		(2 000)			
		(2 000)			
Equals NET OPERATING RESULT		(12 999)			

This item reflects Recurrent Services and Works and Services funding that is appropriated to the department from the Consolidated Fund.

These items reflect other revenue sources collected by a department.

These items reflect, on an accrual basis, the cost of all services delivered by a department within a fiscal year.

This item reflects transactions or economic flows such as asset revaluations, revaluation of superannuation liabilities and gains or losses that are not accounted for under operating revenue or expenses.

This item reflects the difference between operating revenue, expenses and gains and losses.

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet is a financial snap-shot of the department taken at the end of the financial year (30 June), and includes financial assets, non-financial assets, and the extent of liabilities such as creditors, borrowings and superannuation. Assets reflect what is controlled by or owed to, the department, whilst liabilities reflect what the department owes to others.

Diagram 5.4 provides an example of a departmental Balance Sheet.

Diagram 5.4: Balance Sheet as at 30 June¹

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Budget	Budget	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Assets					
Financial Assets					
Cash and Deposits		12 222			
Investments		7 777			
Receivables		19 000			
Other Financial Assets		5 500			
		44 499			
Non-Financial Assets					
Land and Buildings		2 011 111			
Plant and Equipment		60 000			
Other Non-Financial Assets		8 500			
		2 079 611			
Total Assets		2 124 110			
Liabilities					
Borrowings		231 000			
Superannuation		19 000			
Employee Entitlements		177 777			
Payables		40 000			
Other Liabilities		15 500			
Total Liabilities		483 227			
NET ASSETS		1 640 833			
Equity					
Accumulated Funds		333 333			
Asset Revaluation Reserve		1 301 500			
Other Equity		6 000			
Total Equity		1 640 833			

These items reflect the various Financial Assets held by the department. These assets include cash and other financial assets.

This item includes assets that are required by the department to deliver services and are primarily of a physical nature with a long-term useful life.

This item includes amounts owing by the department to other parties including suppliers and employees.

This item represents the difference between the department's total assets and total liabilities. Net Assets represents the department's overall financial position at a point in time.

This item is also known as Net Assets and represents the difference between the department's total assets and total liabilities.

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement includes all of the operating, investing and financing transactions undertaken by the department.

Operating transactions are those which relate to the core business of the department; for example the collections of taxes, the distribution of grants and the provision of goods and services. Investing transactions are those that relate to the management of assets, including the sale and purchase of fixed assets such as land, buildings and plant and equipment and management of investments and customer loans.

Financing transactions are those that relate to changes in the financial assets and liabilities of the department and generally reflect the borrowing activity of the department. Activity in this area for departments is restricted and reflects the financing activities for a few departments. Departments are not permitted to undertake borrowings, with the exceptions being Finance-General, which undertakes any borrowing activity for the government, and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism which operates the Loans, Property and Equities Portfolio of Tasmanian Development and Resources, a separate statutory entity managed by that Department. The Department of Health and Human Services also shows financing transactions which reflect the repayment of past borrowings under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement.

Within the General Government Sector, the only other entity with authority from the Treasurer to borrow is the Nominal Insurer, a statutory entity created by the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*. The Nominal Insurer was authorised by the Treasurer to undertake a single occasion borrowing to fund settlement of claims arising from the collapse of HIH Insurance Group.

The controlled and administered activities of a department are segregated within this Statement.

The Cash Flow Statement also includes the GST transactions of a department. The GST flows are shown in the controlled operating activities section on the Cash Flow Statement. In accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, GST is reflected in the Balance Sheet rather than the Income Statement.

Diagram 5.5 provides an example of a departmental Cash Flow Statement.

Diagram 5.5: Cash Flow Statement¹

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	Budget	Budget	Forward	Forward	Forward
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities					
Cash Received					
Appropriation		1 144 000			
Interest Received		1 500			
Grants		38 000			
Sales of Goods and Services		130 000			
GST Receipts		45 000			
Other Receipts		18 000			
		1 376 500			
Cash Paid					
Employee Entitlements		(622 222)			
Superannuation		(67 500)			
Borrowing Costs		(11 000)			
Grants and Transfer Payments		(165 000)			
Supplies and Consumables		(377 777)			
GST Payments		(45 000)			
Other Payments		(53 000)			
		(1 341 499)			
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		35 001			
Cash Flows from Investing Activities					
Sale of Fixed Assets		14 000			
Purchase of Fixed Assets		(42 000)			
Net Customer Loans (Granted)/Repaid		2 500			
		(25 500)			
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		(25 500)			
Cash Flows from Financing Activities					
Net Borrowings		(8 000)			
		(8 000)			
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		(8 000)			
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held		1 501			
Cash at the Beginning of the Year		10 721			
Cash at the End of the Year		12 222			

Operating Activities are those activities that relate to the core business of the department.

Investing Activities are those activities that relate to the management of assets, including the sale and purchase of fixed assets such as land, buildings and plant and equipment and management of investments.

Financing Activities are those activities that relate to changes in the financial assets and liabilities of the department.

Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held is the sum of net cash flows from all operating, investing and financing activities. This measure is consistent with the movement of cash reported in the Balance Sheet.

Note:

1. This table is for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual financial data.

PART 2:

BUDGET FRAMEWORK

6 TASMANIAN PUBLIC SECTOR

COMPOSITION OF THE TASMANIAN PUBLIC SECTOR

The Total State Government Sector comprises the General Government, the Public Non-Financial Corporation, and the Public Financial Corporation Sectors. Entities within the Tasmanian Public Sector are classified according to the nature of activities that they undertake.

General Government Sector

The General Government Sector comprises those agencies of government, the primary function of which is to provide public services which are mainly non-market in nature, for the collective consumption by the community, or which involve the provision of income support and are financed mainly through taxes and other compulsory levies.

This sector includes government departments and a number of other entities including the Inland Fisheries Service, Marine *and* Safety Tasmania, the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, the State Fire Commission, TAFE Tasmania, and the Nominal Insurer (a statutory entity created by the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*).

Table 6.1 identifies the entities within the Tasmanian General Government Sector.

Table 6.1: The Tasmanian General Government Sector

Government Departments	Other Government Agencies	GGs Statutory Authorities
Economic Development and Tourism	House of Assembly	Inland Fisheries Service
Education	Legislative Council	Marine <i>and</i> Safety Tasmania
Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts	Legislature-General	The Nominal Insurer
Health and Human Services	Office of the Governor	Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
Infrastructure, Energy and Resources	Office of the Ombudsman	State Fire Commission
Justice	Tasmanian Audit Office	TAFE Tasmania
Police and Emergency Management	Legislature-General	The Nominal Insurer
Premier and Cabinet		
Primary Industries and Water		
Treasury and Finance		

Government Departments

State Government departments are established by order of the Governor under the provisions of the *State Service Act 2000*, on the recommendation of the Minister responsible. Ministerial responsibility for departments is assigned under the provisions of the *Administrative Arrangements Act 1990*. Government departments are those listed in Schedule 1 of the State Service Act.

Diagram 6.1 illustrates the current Ministerial portfolio and departmental structure of the Tasmanian Government under the *Administrative Arrangements Order (No. 2) 2008*.

In general, departments are engaged in the provision of Outputs (goods and services) to the public, private businesses or other government bodies. Outputs may also include policy advice and the administration of regulations, grants and benefits. Departments provide Outputs in order to achieve Outcomes, which contribute to the accomplishment of the Government's policy objectives in areas such as health, education, law, public safety, the environment and community infrastructure. The Output Methodology is described in greater detail in Chapter 8 of this document.

A department is:

- established by Administrative Order; subject to Ministerial direction under the provisions of the *Public Account Act 1986*, the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990* and the *State Service Act 2000*; and
- required to prepare annual reports to be tabled in Parliament, with financial statements to be prepared on an accrual basis, and is subject to audit by the Auditor-General. The financial statements are required to comply with the relevant Australian Accounting Standards.

Business units within departments (eg the Telecommunications Management Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet) operate within the Public Account, but in a commercial or quasi-commercial environment with charges for services determined on a full cost recovery basis. They may also receive a funding contribution from the Consolidated Fund.

Diagram 6.1: Structure of the Tasmanian Government

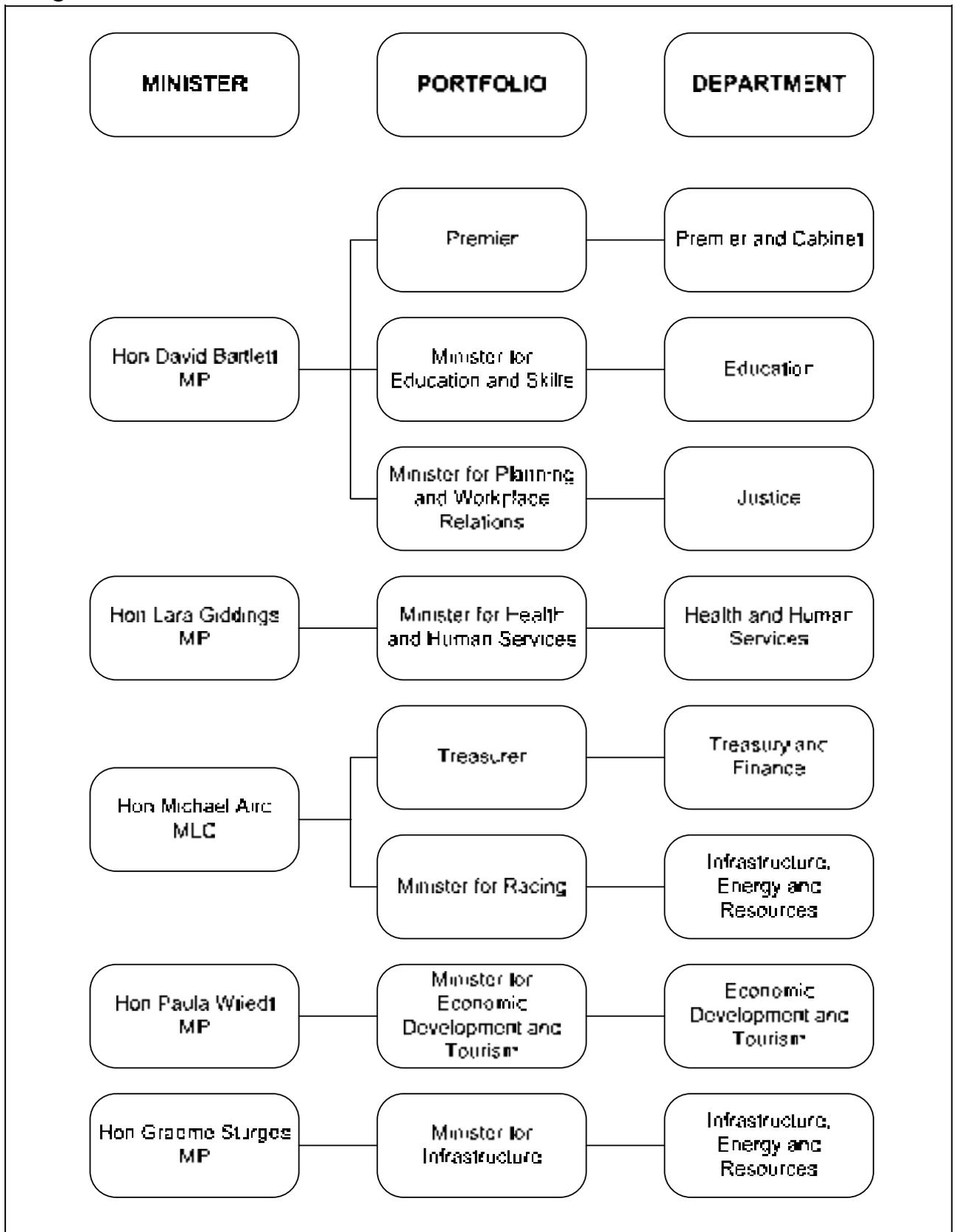
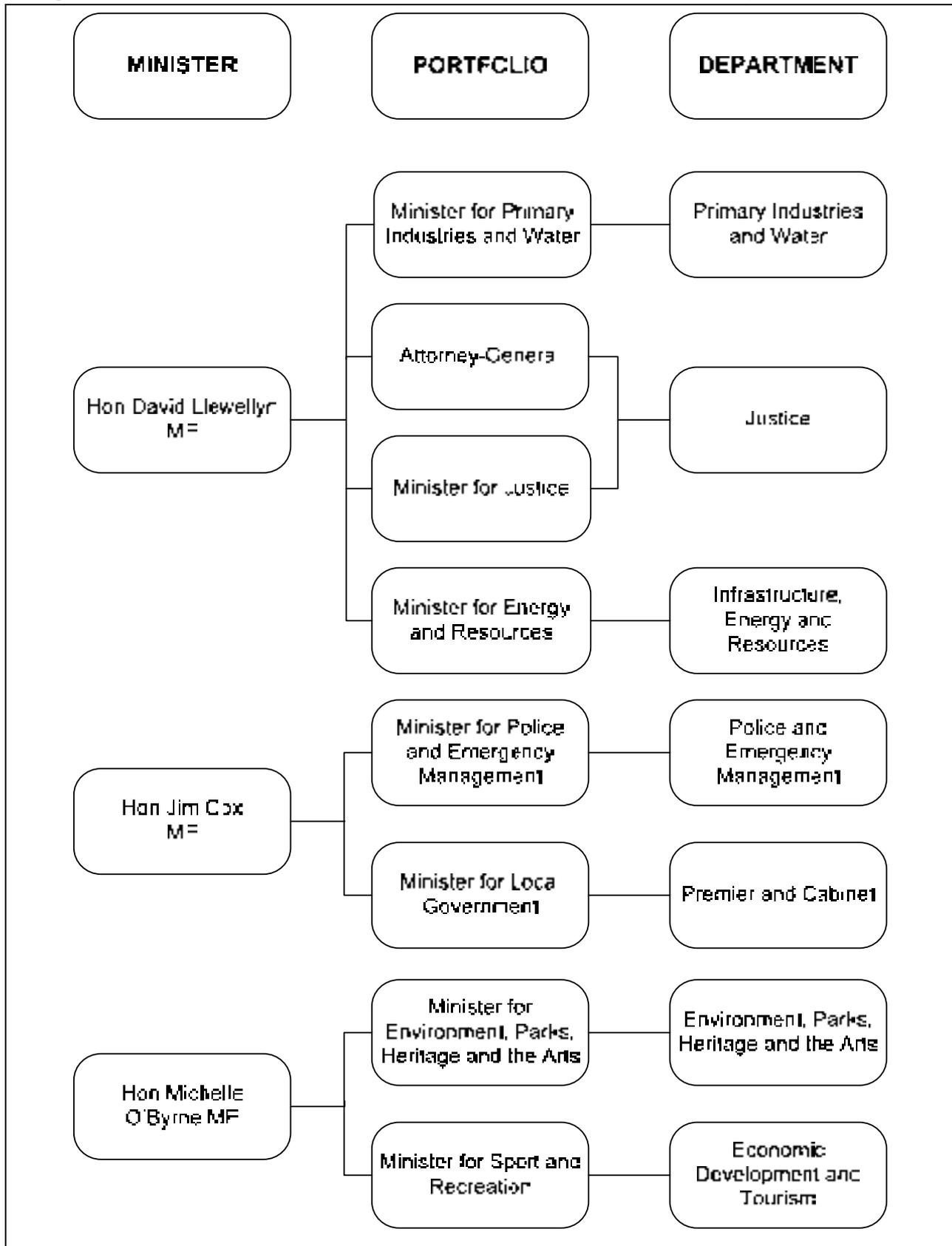


Diagram 6.1: Structure of the Tasmanian Government (continued)



General Government Sector Authorities

These Statutory Authorities are established under specific legislation, which defines the purpose of the authority and the general functions for which it is responsible.

Table 6.2 identifies the current Ministerial portfolio allocations for the GGS authorities.

Table 6.2: General Government Sector Authorities

Statutory Authority	Portfolio Minister	Portfolio Department
Inland Fisheries Service	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Primary Industries and Water
Marine <i>and</i> Safety Tasmania	Hon Graeme Sturges MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
The Nominal Insurer	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Justice
Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens	Hon Michelle O'Byrne MP	Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts
State Fire Commission	Hon Jim Cox MP	Police and Emergency Management
TAFE Tasmania	Hon David Bartlett MP	Education

Public Non-Financial Corporations Sector and Public Financial Corporations Sector

The Public Non-Financial Corporations (PNFC) Sector comprises those entities that aim to cover the majority of their expenses by revenue from the sale of goods and services and which are mainly market, non-regulatory and non-financial in nature. Generally, this sector covers Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) and State-owned Companies (SOCs). These entities have a variety of functions and responsibilities, are established in varying ways and also have different relationships with the General Government Sector.

The Public Financial Corporations (PFC) sector comprises those entities that provide financial services, including a central borrowing authority (the Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation (Tascorp)) and an insurance company (Motor Accidents Insurance Board).

Government Business Enterprises

These entities:

- operate outside the Public Account, principally on the basis of funds derived through their operations, and have no direct impact on Budget expenditure except in circumstances where they receive funding for Community Service Obligations (CSOs), or receive payment for services provided, eg third party motor vehicle insurance provided to agencies;
- may provide returns to the Consolidated Fund in the form of dividends, taxation equivalents, and guarantee fees;
- are subject to their own enabling legislation and the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995*;
- prepare annual reports, with financial statements complying with Australian Accounting Standards which are tabled in Parliament and are subject to audit by the Auditor-General; and

- may receive CSO payments which are reported by the purchasing department as Grants and Subsidies expenditure.

The Treasurer and the relevant Portfolio Minister is responsible for overseeing all GBEs. Table 6.3 indicates the Portfolio Minister responsible for each GBE.

Table 6.3: Government Business Enterprises

Government Business Enterprise	Portfolio Minister	Portfolio Department
Forestry Tasmania	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
Hydro Tasmania	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
Motor Accidents Insurance Board	Hon Graeme Sturges MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority	Hon Michelle O'Byrne MP	Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts
Rivers and Water Supply Commission	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Primary Industries and Water
Southern Regional Cemetery Trust	Hon Graeme Sturges MP	Premier and Cabinet
Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation	Hon Michael Aird MLC	Treasury and Finance
The Public Trustee	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Justice

State-owned Companies

State-owned Companies (SOCs) are established under specific or generic legislation that defines the purpose of the SOC and the general functions for which it is responsible. SOC's are subject to the Corporations Law with two shareholders, the Treasurer and the Portfolio Minister, holding the shares in trust for the Crown.

These entities:

- operate outside the Public Account, principally on the basis of funds derived through their operations, and have no direct impact on Budget expenditure except in circumstances where they receive funding for Community Service Activities (CSAs), changes in equity and in circumstances where they receive payment for services provided, eg electricity provided to agencies;
- provide returns to the Consolidated Fund in the form of dividends to shareholders (the State) and the payment of taxation equivalents and guarantee fees;
- are subject to specific legislation (eg TT-Line Company Pty Ltd is subject to the *TT-Line Arrangements Act 1993*) or generic enabling legislation (eg Aurora Energy Pty Ltd is subject to the *Electricity Companies Act 1997*);
- are subject to Australian Government Corporations Law;
- prepare annual reports, with financial statements complying with Australian Accounting Standards, which are tabled in Parliament and are subject to audit by an auditor appointed by the shareholders, currently the Auditor-General; and
- may receive CSA payments which are reported as Grants and Subsidies expenditure by the purchasing department.

The Treasurer is one of two Shareholder Ministers for each SOC. Table 6.4 details the other Shareholder Minister and the Portfolio Department for each SOC.

Table 6.4: State-owned Companies

State-owned Company	Shareholder Minister	Portfolio Department
Aurora Energy Pty Ltd	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd	Hon Graeme Sturges MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
Metro Tasmania Pty Ltd	Hon Graeme Sturges MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
TOTE Tasmania Pty Ltd	Hon Michael Aird MLC	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
Transend Networks Pty Ltd	Hon David Llewellyn MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
TT-Line Company Pty Ltd	Hon Graeme Sturges MP	Infrastructure, Energy and Resources

Other Entities

Under the Uniform Presentation Framework, the classification of the Tasmanian Public Sector includes only those transactions over which the government exercises control under its legislative or policy framework. Entities such as the Retirement Benefits Fund Board and the University of Tasmania, which owe their existence to Tasmanian legislation, are not controlled by the State Government and, as a result, are not classified within the Tasmanian State Public Sector.

These entities:

- operate outside the Public Account, on the basis of funds derived through their operations or another funding body (such as the Australian Government in the case of the University of Tasmania), and ordinarily have no impact on Budget expenditure;
- are generally subject to their own enabling legislation; and
- prepare annual reports, with financial statements complying with Australian Accounting Standards, which are tabled in Parliament and are subject to audit by the Auditor-General, depending on the provisions of the relevant governing legislation.

In relation to the University of Tasmania, the Government currently participates in joint-funded activities with the University. The activities include the Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute, the Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research and the Centre for Ore Deposit - Special Research Centre.

7 THE BUDGET FRAMEWORK

BUDGET FRAMEWORK

The 2008-09 State Budget has been prepared in accordance with the principles of Australian Accounting Standards and, in particular, AASB 1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting*. The Budget details the accrued revenues and expenses, receipts, payments, assets and liabilities of the General Government Sector (GGS) in a standardised format.

AASB 1049 is based on the harmonised requirements of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and Government Finance Statistics (GFS) with the aim of improving the clarity and transparency of government financial statements. GFS is an accounting framework used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in the preparation of public statistics. These, in turn, are based on international standards set out in the International Monetary Fund's *A Manual of Government Finance Statistics* and the United Nations' *A System of National Accounts*. GAAP is represented by the Australian Accounting Standards developed by the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The GFS classification adopts a nationally consistent format for presenting the financial transactions of governments and government trading enterprises. GFS is an accounting framework that facilitates comparison of financial performance across jurisdictions and is used by financial markets, credit rating agencies and other analysts and commentators.

The following information details the AASB 1049 framework and illustrates the transactions included under AASB 1049 for the GGS.

GGS Budget information:

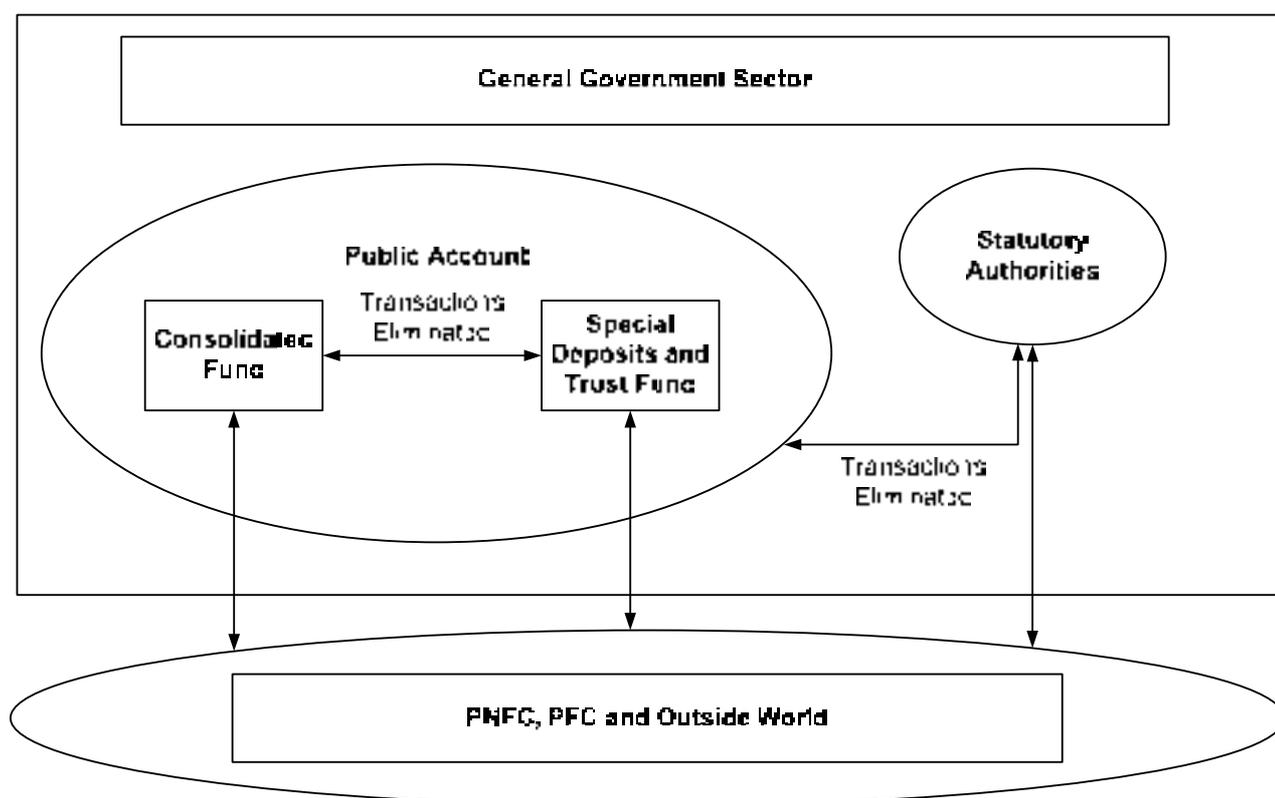
- includes the balances and transactions of both the Consolidated Fund and the Special Deposits and Trust Fund; and
- includes accrual transactions such as depreciation and nominal interest on superannuation.

The framework distinguishes between 'transaction flows' and 'other economic flows'. Transaction flows result directly from a mutually agreed interaction between two parties, for example, the sale of a good or service. The definition of a 'transaction flow' also includes depreciation. This recognises that in the case of depreciation the one party is acting in two roles, as owner of the asset and consumer of the services provided by the asset.

An 'other economic flow' is a change in the volume or value of an asset, or a liability, that does not result from a transaction. This includes a wide variety of events such as the revaluation of assets (holding gains or losses) arising from a change in market prices, and changes in the volume of assets that result from discoveries, depletion and destruction of assets. The impact of all 'other economic flows' are reflected as gains or losses in the GGS Operating Statement. The combination of transaction flows and other economic flows reflects the total change in the value of the GGS.

Diagram 7.1 illustrates the transactions included under AASB 1049 for the GGS. Transactions included are only those with entities outside the GGS, with intra-sector transactions eliminated.

Diagram 7.1: Transactions included in the General Government Sector



UNIFORM PRESENTATION FRAMEWORK

The presentation of a budget based on AASB 1049 is consistent with the Uniform Presentation Framework (UPF), which is a framework adopted by the Australian Loan Council relating to the presentation of budget and financial information across jurisdictions.

The Australian Loan Council is a Ministerial Council - comprising the Australian Government Treasurer as Chair and his/her counterparts from the States and Territories. It was established in 1927 to coordinate public sector borrowings in Australia.

The primary objective of the UPF is to ensure that Australian Government, State and Territory governments provide a common 'core' of financial information in their budget papers. It is recognised that a uniform approach to the presentation of financial data will facilitate a better understanding of individual governments' budget papers and provide for comparisons of each government's financial results and projections.

Following the introduction of AASB 1049, the UPF will continue to be an important framework for ensuring comparability of financial information across jurisdictions. There are a number of areas where the UPF provides either additional information or clearer guidance on the preparation of government financial statements to that provided by AASB 1049. The UPF shall continue to apply to financial statements produced by government in budgets, mid-year budget updates and final budget outcome reports, whereas the new accounting standard applies only to outcome reports.

In addition to requirements for GGS budget presentation, the UPF requires the presentation of outcomes for the Public Non-Financial Corporations Sector and the Public Financial Corporations Sector and budget estimates for the Public Non-Financial Corporations Sector.

8 BUDGET METHODOLOGY, DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

THE OUTPUT METHODOLOGY

The Output Methodology is an approach to the management of the total public resources of the State which focuses attention on the Outputs the Government is providing to the community and whether these Outputs are having the intended effect on the Government's policy objectives.

Outputs are goods and services produced by, or on behalf of, a department and provided to customers outside that department. The Government purchases Outputs from departments in order to achieve policy objectives, or Outcomes.

Outcomes can be segregated into Community Outcomes, Government Policy Priorities and Agency Outcomes.

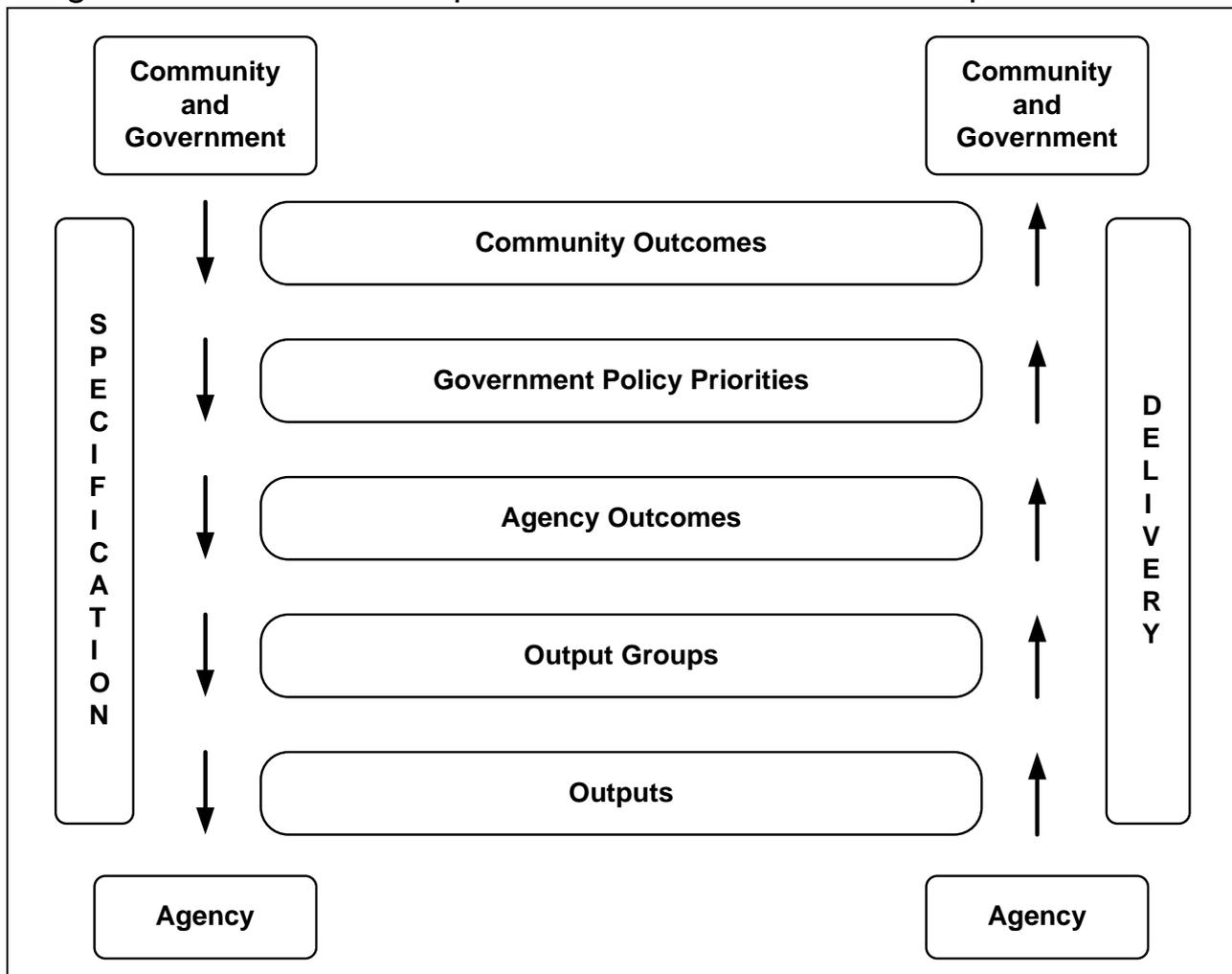
Community Outcomes are those Outcomes that are achieved over the longer term through contributions from all sectors of the Tasmanian community. Through the Tasmania *Together* process for example, the Tasmanian Government has placed a strong emphasis on the development of Community Outcomes. The related benchmarks will assist in determining the extent to which these Outcomes are achieved.

Government Policy Priorities are those policy directions that indicate a change in direction, an area of reform or a change in priority by the Government.

Agency Outcomes are those Outcomes for which an agency is accountable and which contribute to the achievement of both Government Policy Priorities and Community Outcomes.

The Outcome-Output framework is represented diagrammatically in Diagram 8.1.

Diagram 8.1: Relationship Between Outcomes and Outputs



BUDGET DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

The 2008-09 State Budget has been developed in the context of the Government's Fiscal Strategy.

Fiscal Strategy

A Fiscal Strategy provides an effective planning tool for governments and provides clear signals to financial markets, the business sector and the community, of the government's direction in terms of financial management. A credible and achievable Fiscal Strategy is an essential component of prudent contemporary public financial management practice.

A Fiscal Strategy may include, but is not limited to:

- a commitment to maintain Budget surpluses;
- the elimination of debt and other liabilities;
- maintaining a competitive State tax environment; and
- sustainable levels of investment in economic and social infrastructure.

The Government's Fiscal Strategy supports priority initiatives such as *Tasmania Together*, the Industry Development Plan and Partnership Agreements by delivering quantifiable benefits to the community over time in the form of improved service provision, tax cuts and infrastructure development.

Details of the Government's Fiscal Strategy are provided in Chapter 3 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*.

THE BUDGET DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

The development of the State Budget is a continuous process that consists of multiple stages. Stages that make up the Budget Development Cycle include the:

- Development of the Budget;
- Parliamentary Review of the Budget; and
- Monitoring and Review of the Budget.

Further information on these stages of the Budget Development Cycle is provided below.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUDGET

The Budget Papers, presented annually to Parliament, represent the culmination of an extensive process of review and analysis of the Government's finances.

The Budget cycle is a process that commences soon after the passage of the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Acts for the forthcoming Budget year and finishes with the passage of the following year's Appropriation Acts through Parliament.

The Budget process has been developed to take into consideration the outcomes of *Tasmania Together*. Key elements of this process include:

- major Government Policy Priorities such as the Industry Development Plan, Local Government Partnership Agreements and the Fiscal Strategy, which provide a framework for the development of the annual Budget;
- analysis of departmental Budget submission information by Treasury, the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Budget Committee and Cabinet;
- increased focus on department performance both in terms of *Tasmania Together* benchmarks and other agency-related performance indicators; and
- increased focus on the medium to longer term.

The Budget development process is summarised below.

Departmental Forward Estimate allocations form the basis for the development of the Budget. During the Budget year, the Forward Estimates are continually reviewed by departments, Treasury and Budget Committee, to ensure that they reflect current circumstances and Government policy decisions.

In September, Cabinet, based on recommendations provided by Budget Committee, determines the overall framework for the development of the Budget for the following year. At this time, Budget Committee calls for submissions from the community in relation to the Budget for the coming financial year.

In November, members of Budget Committee and Ministers meet with peak community groups to discuss community submissions. This process includes a peak community group roundtable meeting facilitated by the Treasurer. Information received during this community consultation process is required to be addressed by departments during the Budget development process.

In December, agencies prepare Budget submissions for Budget Committee's consideration in February. These submissions include qualitative information such as departments' operating environment, major issues which could be expected to impact on the delivery of departments' Outputs over the forthcoming Budget year and links between Outputs/initiatives and established Outcomes. The financial information required includes detailed financial estimates for both expenditure and revenue. Departments are also required to provide performance information relating to the Outputs produced and where appropriate, established Tasmania *Together* benchmarks.

Based on these submissions and consideration by Budget Committee, Treasury prepares a Budget information submission for Cabinet consideration in May.

In finalising the Budget parameters, Cabinet takes into account agency Budget submissions, discussions between Budget Committee and Ministers, Tasmania *Together* goals and benchmarks, the Government's medium-term Fiscal Strategy targets, input received by the Government through the Budget community consultation processes, the estimated result for the current year, national and State economic forecasts and a range of other factors.

Important amongst these other factors are the recommendations of the Treasurers' Conference in relation to the distribution of GST revenue as required under the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Reform of Commonwealth-State Financial Relations. The Treasurers' Conference comprises the Treasurer of the Australian Government and the Treasurers of the states and territories. Over half of the State's total revenue is received directly from the Australian Government in the form of GST revenue and specific purpose payments. For a detailed discussion of the financial relationship between the State and the Australian Government, refer to Chapter 9 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*.

Once the Budget is finalised by Cabinet, Heads of Agency are advised of the proposed Budget allocation for their department for the Budget year and Forward Estimates for the subsequent three years.

Departmental information for inclusion in Budget Paper No 2 *Government Services* is provided to Treasury by departments in mid May. Treasury then prepares the Budget Papers and related documents for presentation to Parliament by the Treasurer in mid June.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW OF THE BUDGET

The Parliamentary Budget debate and Estimates Committee review process, which occurs following the tabling of the Budget, provides an opportunity for detailed Parliamentary scrutiny of, and debate on, the State's economic and financial position and the Government's overall objectives.

Following the introduction of the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills into Parliament, the Budget is debated simultaneously in the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council. Immediately after the second reading in the House of Assembly and the adjournment of debate in the Legislative Council, both the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council undertake an Estimates Committee process to facilitate the detailed analysis of the Budget by Members of both Houses.

Estimates Committees are required to examine and report on the expenditures proposed in the Appropriation Bills. The Estimates Committee process involves members of the Committee asking Ministers wide-ranging questions on departmental budget allocations and operations. Senior departmental representatives also attend Estimates Committee hearings to provide advice to Ministers.

On the completion of hearings, each Estimates Committee prepares a report for further debate by each Estimates Committee's respective House of Parliament.

When the House has agreed to the Bills, the third reading of the Bills takes place and the Bills are referred to the Legislative Council.

Any requests by the Legislative Council for amendments to the Bills are referred to the House of Assembly. The House of Assembly then considers whether to accept or reject any requests for amendments proposed by the Legislative Council. If the House of Assembly rejects a request, the Legislative Council is provided with an opportunity to consider its position with regard to its request. The current Parliamentary arrangements do not provide any mechanism for resolving a deadlock between the two Houses.

Once both Houses of Parliament have passed the Bills, they are presented to the Governor for Royal Assent.

In the event that the Bills are not passed within the period covered by an existing Consolidated Fund Appropriation Act or a Consolidated Fund Supply Act (where such an Act has been required), further Consolidated Fund Supply Bills can be introduced into Parliament to provide funds for ongoing Government operations, pending the passage of the new Appropriation Acts. The Treasurer may also issue and apply such amounts as needed to meet the current and accruing requirements for the year.

MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE BUDGET

Once the annual Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills have been passed by Parliament, Treasurer's Expenditure Control Authorities (TECAs) are issued to all Ministers under section 14 of the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990* (FMAA). TECAs are, as the name suggests, an authority from the Treasurer allowing Portfolio Ministers to expend funds up to, but not exceeding, the amount appropriated in the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Acts. Ministers then authorise the responsible Head of Agency to incur expenditure not exceeding the limit of their respective TECA.

The Budget monitoring and review process is ongoing throughout the Budget year. The process is undertaken both at the departmental level by departmental management and at a whole-of-government level by Treasury.

As part of the process, departments report to Treasury in a timely manner any variation from Budget estimates. Potential variations in departmental expenditure and revenue are also identified through ongoing discussions between Treasury and departmental officers. This information is used by Treasury to manage the whole-of-government Budget on a continual basis.

In February, the Treasurer publishes an estimated Budget outcome that takes into consideration departmental variations. The estimated Budget Outcome is contained within the Mid-Year Financial Report.

REVIEW AND VARIATION OF THE BUDGET

Situations may arise during the financial year that require variations from the expenditure plans expressed in the Appropriation Acts. For example, essential unforeseen expenditures may result in the initial agency appropriation being exceeded.

The Treasurer may approve the provision of additional funding for necessary increases in expenditure on Outputs, above that appropriated by the Appropriation Acts. In these cases, the Treasurer's Reserve is utilised to provide the additional funding.

The Treasurer's Reserve is established within the Consolidated Fund by section 11 of the *Public Account Act 1986*. This section:

- enables the Treasurer to authorise expenditure for Recurrent Services in excess of amounts appropriated by Parliament where the need for the additional expenditure is deemed to be essential to efficient financial administration and could not reasonably have been foreseen before the introduction of the Appropriation Act into the Parliament; and
- fixes an upper limit on the amount that can be applied from the Treasurer's Reserve.

The components for the calculation of the upper limit of the Treasurer's Reserve consist of:

- a standing appropriation of \$10 million – Finance-General Division: Appropriation to the Treasurer's Reserve (section 11(2)(a));
- an additional amount appropriated in the annual Appropriation Act - Finance-General Division: Treasurer's Reserve – Supplement (section 11(2)(b));
- any surplus or saving in a department's Recurrent Services appropriation which has not been utilised to fund a shortfall within that appropriation (section 11(2)(c));
- additional Australian Government funds which become available after the Budget is finalised (section 11(2)(d)); and
- additional recurrent revenue generated within the Consolidated Fund during a financial year which is in excess of the Budget estimate (section 11(2)(e)).

Funding for additional Works and Services expenditure, in excess of amounts initially appropriated, may be authorised by the Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor-in-Council, under section 12 of the Public Account Act. This section provides for approval of additional funding from the Consolidated Fund, in anticipation of appropriation by Parliament, of an amount deemed necessary in the public interest to provide

for expenditure for Works and Services. New Works and Services expenditure authorised under section 12 is restricted to \$1 million in the relevant financial year.

Any authorised changes to a department's appropriation are implemented through the issuing of a revised TECA to the Minister.

Finally, in cases of emergency, the FMAA provides an authority for additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund, subject to the Treasurer obtaining a supporting report by the Auditor-General and the approval of the Governor-in-Council.

All expenditure in excess of appropriation is tabled in Parliament on a quarterly basis in accordance with section 19 of the Public Account Act. In addition, the total excess expenditure for a financial year is presented in the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statements. In some years, a supplementary Appropriation Bill has been presented to Parliament to appropriate additional available funds for specific community and infrastructure development purposes that were not foreseen at the time of the original Budgets.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW

In addition to the above, Parliament, through the establishment of Committees, also conducts ongoing detailed analysis of the Government's finances and other issues. These Committees may be established by statute, as is the case with the Public Accounts and Public Works Standing Committees, or through a vote of one or both Houses of Parliament. Examples of the latter are the Select Committees into Working Arrangements of Parliament, Industrial Relations and Community Development.

The following Committees are of particular importance to the Budget review process.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts

The Public Accounts Committee is established under the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1970*. The role of the Committee is to inquire into, consider and report to the Parliament on any matter referred to the Committee by either House of Parliament relating to the management, administration or use of public sector finances or the accounts of any public authority or other organisation controlled by the State or in which the State has an interest. The Committee may inquire into, consider and report to the Parliament on any matter arising in connection with public sector finances that the Committee considers appropriate and any matter referred to the Committee by the Auditor-General.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

The Public Works Committee is established under the *Public Works Committee Act 1914*. The Committee comprises members from both Houses of Parliament and reports on proposals for public works costing \$2 million or more of State Works and Services funds. The Committee is provided with plans, specifications and other material relating to the works and may summon witnesses if necessary. The Committee reports back to Parliament on its findings. Public works costing less than \$2 million may, by resolution, be referred to the Committee. The process by which projects are to be referred to the Committee is detailed in the *Procurement Practices Manual*, published by Treasury.

Government Businesses Scrutiny Committees

The House of Assembly and Legislative Council have established committees in recent years to inquire into the operations of selected GBEs, SOCs and State authorities. These committees are held annually and generally commence in December each year.

In December 2007, these committees inquired into the operations of Forestry Tasmania, Hydro Tasmania, Transend Networks Pty Ltd, The Public Trustee, Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd, TT-Line Company Pty Ltd, Motor Accidents Insurance Board, Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority, Rivers and Water Supply Commission, Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation, Aurora Energy Pty Ltd, Metro Tasmania Pty Ltd, and TOTE Tasmania Pty Ltd.

9 THE PUBLIC ACCOUNT

The General Government Sector's financial operations are primarily conducted through the Public Account, established under the authority of the *Public Account Act 1986*. The Public Account comprises two separate Funds, the Consolidated Fund and the Special Deposits and Trust Fund.

THE CONSOLIDATED FUND

The Consolidated Fund is the source of funding for appropriations and Reserved by Law payments.

Consolidated Fund appropriations are provided for two types of expenditure, Recurrent Services, and Works and Services.

Recurrent Services funding is provided by Parliament to meet the cost of the ordinary annual services of the Government. The major expenses are salaries and other departmental operating costs including building services and maintenance, minor works and furniture and equipment purchases. Reserved by Law funds are also made available to departments on a recurrent basis, where there is a legislative requirement for funding to be provided for specific purposes without the necessity for annual appropriation through the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Act. Examples of Reserved by Law expenditure include interest payments on debt, funding for the salary of the Auditor-General and pensions payable under the *Judges' Contributory Pensions Act 1968*.

Consolidated Fund expenditure is further classified as being either Output Expenditure or Grants and Subsidies as follows:

- Output expenditure can be reallocated by a department to other approved purposes and initiatives within the limits of Budget allocation principles. A department has the discretion to apply funds within the Output and, subject to specific restrictions imposed by the Treasurer, may transfer funds from that Output to another of the department's Outputs. While this is the case, Heads of Agency remain responsible for the provision of the agreed level and range of Outputs purchased by the Government. In relation to Works and Services and Reserved by Law funding, departments do not have the discretion to transfer these funds to another Output; and
- Grants and Subsidies expenditure relate to payments or concessions made by the Government to individuals, groups or organisations. Grants and Subsidies expenditure do not represent Outputs of a department, rather it is the administration of these payments that represents an Output of a particular department. Levels of individual Grants and Subsidies expenditure are determined by the Government, having regard to particular policy objectives. These payments are non-discretionary in that a department does not have the discretion to either alter the level of Grants and Subsidies expenditure from that agreed by the Government, or to transfer the funds to Outputs. Examples of Grants and Subsidies expenditure are the funds provided by the Government to private operators, through the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, for student transport services and the funding provided to a large number of community sector organisations, through the Department of Health and Human Services, for community health and support services.

Works and Services

Works and Services funding is provided to meet construction costs and the purchase and maintenance of major capital assets such as roads, public housing, schools and hospitals. Works and Services expenditure is provided under the Capital Investment Program (CIP), incorporating the Building, Roads and Housing Programs. The CIP links investment by the Government in capital and maintenance projects with the corporate and asset management plans of departments and specific Government policy objectives.

Consolidated Fund Revenue

Under the Public Account Act, unless specifically excluded, as provided by that Act or any other Act, all revenue of the State is to be credited to the Consolidated Fund. The Consolidated Fund receives funds from a number of sources, including receipts from:

- the Australian Government for general recurrent purposes such as GST Revenue;
- the Australian Government for specific recurrent purposes such as Health Care, Disability Services and Home and Community Care;
- the Australian Government for specific capital purposes such as Primary and Secondary Education, Technical and Further Education and the National Highway System;
- State Taxation, the major items being Payroll Tax, Duties, Casino related taxes and Licence Fees;
- payments by Government Business Enterprises and State-owned Companies such as dividends, tax equivalents and guarantee fees;
- Departmental Fees and Recoveries such as Land Titles Office fees, drivers licence fees and vehicle registration fees; and
- Resource Rents and Royalties, the major item being mineral royalties.

Consolidated Fund Expenditure

Funds may only be expended from the Consolidated Fund under the authority of an Act of Parliament. These Acts are:

- the annual Consolidated Fund Appropriation Acts and any subsequent Appropriation Act. These Acts are central to the Budget and authorise over 90 per cent of all funding from the Consolidated Fund; and
- other Acts authorising specific items such as the payment of salaries for the Judiciary and Parliamentarians. These appropriations are 'standing items' because they do not need to be passed by Parliament each year. They are referred to as Reserved by Law payments.

Funds also may be appropriated by a Supply Act.

Sections 13 and 14 of the Financial Management Audit Act provide that money may not be drawn from the Consolidated Fund unless under a Treasurer's Expenditure Control Authority, which may be issued to the appropriate Minister. The Minister may then delegate the expenditure authority to the relevant Head of Agency.

Consolidated Fund Surplus

The excess of Consolidated Fund receipts over the expenditure of these funds (net of loan repayments) is the Consolidated Fund Surplus (CFS). A CFS represents funds that are available for the retirement of debt or the accumulation of financial assets. Until 1999-00, when Consolidated Fund expenditure exceeded receipts, the Budget outcome was described as the Net Financing Requirement (NFR). The NFR indicated the magnitude of the deficit required to be funded by new borrowings.

THE SPECIAL DEPOSITS AND TRUST FUND

The Public Account Act provides the Treasurer with the authority to establish specific accounts within the Special Deposits and Trust Fund (SDTF) and to prescribe the purpose for which they may be used and to attach conditions to their operation.

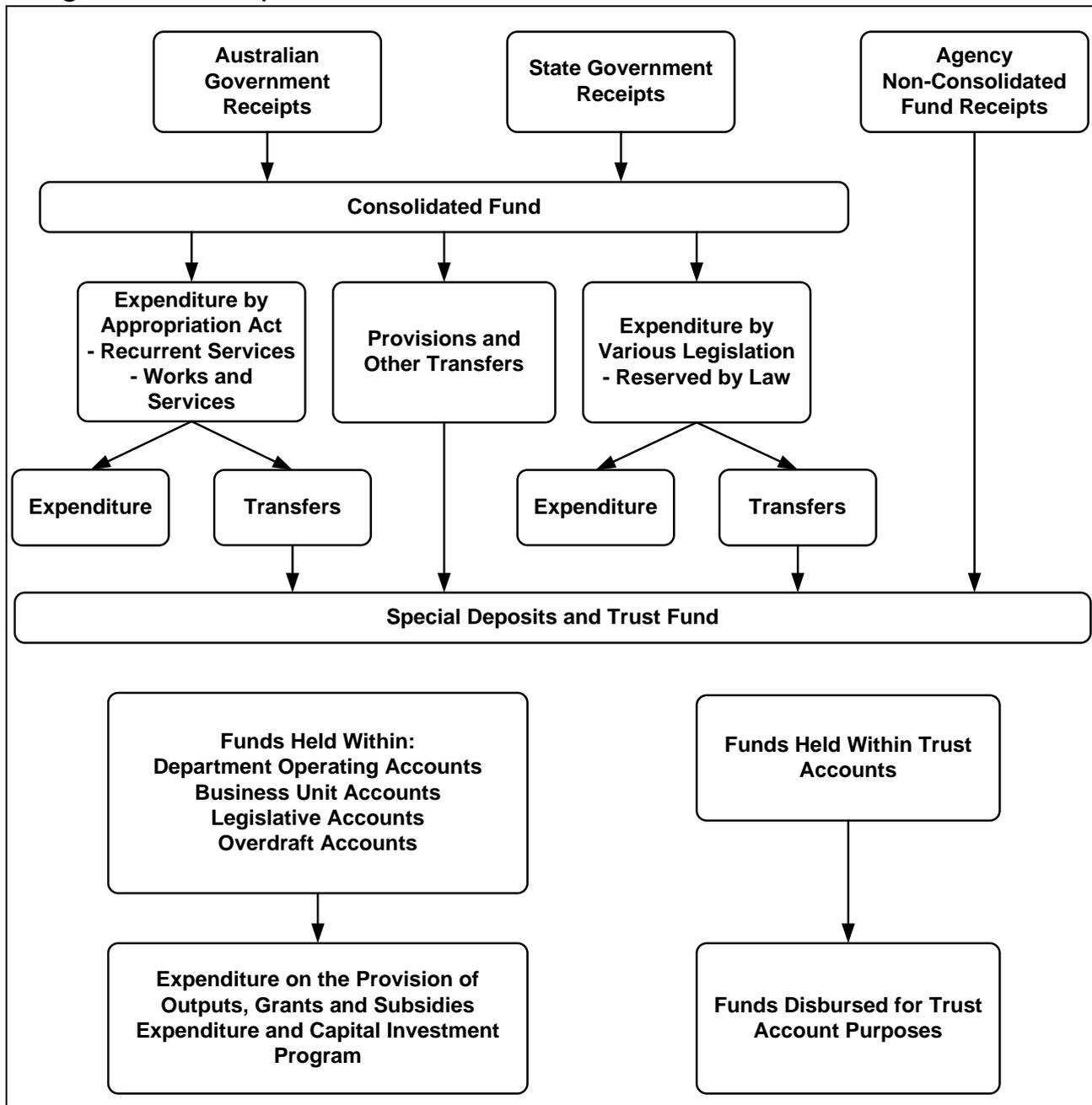
Accounts within the SDTF are classified as Department Operating Accounts, Business Unit Accounts, Legislative Accounts, Trust Accounts or Overdraft Accounts as follows:

- Department Operating Accounts record most transactions including funds appropriated from the Consolidated Fund and departmental revenue that is approved to be retained by the agency;
- Business Unit Accounts are established for commercial and quasi-commercial activities of Government departments. These activities are usually funded from income generated by the Business Unit, on a full cost recovery basis, although some Business Units may receive a contribution from the Consolidated Fund. Examples of Business Units are the Office of the Valuer-General and the Tasmanian Audit Office;
- Legislative Accounts have been created where an Act requires a specific account to be established in the SDTF to record transactions associated with a specific purpose. An example of this type of account is the Crown Lands Administration Fund;
- Trust Accounts are accounts in which funds are held by the Government on behalf of a third party. These funds are not available to the Government to spend for its own purposes. Examples of Trust Accounts are the Jim Bacon Foundation Account and the Supreme Court Suitors Fund Deposit Account; and
- Overdraft Accounts have been established in the SDTF to enable the Government to use cash generated from the SDTF as a temporary source of finance. This amounts to internal borrowings that reduce the Government's requirement to borrow in external capital markets. An example of an Overdraft Account is the Government Car Fleet Account that is used for the purchase of government vehicles.

Details of transactions and balances of accounts in the SDTF are contained in the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statements and departmental Annual Reports.

Diagram 9.1 summarises the operation of the Public Account.

Diagram 9.1: Operation of the Public Account



PART 3:

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

10 OTHER FINANCIAL PUBLICATIONS

During the year, additional financial publications are produced to provide an update on the Government's financial position.

The Mid-Year Financial Report

The Mid-Year Financial Report is prepared in accordance with section 26 of the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990*, which requires the publication of a financial report by 15 February each year for the prior period of six months ending 31 December.

The Mid-Year Financial Report contains:

- an update on progress against the key Fiscal Strategy Measures contained within the Budget Papers;
- an update of the Tasmanian economic aggregate forecasts published in the Budget Papers;
- an Operating Statement, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement for the General Government Sector showing year-to-date results, and original and revised Budget estimates; and
- summarised details of receipts to and expenditure from the Consolidated Fund showing year-to-date results and original and revised Budget estimates.

Preliminary Outcomes Report

The Preliminary Outcomes Report is prepared in accordance with section 26 of the *Financial Management and Audit Act*, which requires the publication of a preliminary outcome financial report for the year ending 30 June each year by 15 August. The reported outcomes are preliminary in nature because they are produced in a short timeframe, and are based on unaudited information.

The Preliminary Outcomes Report contains:

- an update on progress against the key Fiscal Strategy Measures contained within the Budget Papers;
- an Operating Statement, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement for the General Government Sector showing the preliminary outcomes and original Budget estimates; and
- summarised details of the preliminary outcome for the Consolidated Fund.

Treasurer's Annual Financial Report

The Treasurer's Annual Financial Report is prepared in accordance with section 26A of the Financial Management and Audit Act, and is required to be tabled in Parliament by 31 October each year. The report presents the final Budget outcomes, which are audited by the Auditor-General. The report contains:

- an update on progress against the key Fiscal Strategy Measures contained within the Budget Papers with reference to the major Tasmanian economic aggregates;
- an Operating Statement, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement for the General Government Sector showing outcomes and original Budget estimates;
- explanations of any significant variations between the actual results and original Budget estimates; and
- statements reporting on the transactions and balances within the Public Account for the financial year.

In addition, to harmonise the release of financial information, the report also includes the reporting requirements for Loan Council Outcomes required under the Uniform Presentation Agreement (UPF). This includes information regarding the Government Finance Statistics outcomes for the Total State Sector and its component sectors and additional information regarding General Government Expenditure by purpose. Further information regarding the UPF is provided in Chapter 7 of this document.

Auditor-General's Report to Parliament

This Report, on the audit by the Auditor-General of all Government departments and public bodies for the previous financial year, includes a five-year analysis of financial statements and discussion of any issues that arise in the current financial year. The Auditor-General's Report to Parliament must be submitted to Parliament in November each year as required under the provisions of section 57 of the Financial Management and Audit Act.

Annual Reports of Departments, Government Business Enterprises and State-owned Companies

All departments, State authorities, GBEs and SOCs are required to produce annual reports which include the financial statements of the entity, and those of each Board, State authority or other organisation over which they exercise control, for tabling in both Houses of Parliament by 31 October each year. This requirement is provided for under section 27 of the Financial Management and Audit Act, section 36 of the *State Service Act 2000* for departments and section 55 of the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995* for GBEs. The requirement for SOCs to table their financial statements in Parliament is specified within either their enabling legislation or the Constitution for each SOC.

Annual reports also include reference to significant financial outcomes of agencies and reference to economic and other factors that have affected the achievement of operational objectives. The Auditor-General's report on the financial statements is also included in the annual reports.

11 OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

In addition to the sources previously outlined, Treasury has published the following documents that provide information on economic and financial management issues relevant to Tasmania. These documents can be viewed on Treasury's Web site at <http://www.treasury.tas.gov.au>, together with other relevant publications released by the Department.

- *Best Practice Guide for the Administration of Grants in the Tasmanian Public Sector* – this document, first published by Treasury in June 1996, updated September 2001, January 2003 and again in February 2005, provides assistance to State Government departments to facilitate the best practice implementation of grant schemes.
- *Fees and Charges Guidelines* - this document, first published by Treasury in January 1995, updated in May 2006, and again in December 2006, provides assistance to agencies in preparing information about the costing of their goods and services (Outputs) to determine appropriate fees and charges.
- *Strategic Asset Management Framework* – published by Treasury in May 1997 and updated in July 2004, this publication provides guidance to departments in the strategic management of assets.
- *Competition Index* – the report, first published in May 2000 and updated annually, objectively assesses the strengths and constraints of Tasmania as a business location.
- *Tasmania's Population 2003* - an information paper analysing Tasmania's population trends.
- *Long-term Unemployment in Tasmania: A Statistical Analysis* - published in June 2005, this report contains an analysis of Tasmania's long-term unemployment.
- *Demographic Change in Tasmania: challenges and opportunities (Issues Paper)* - published by the Demographic Change Advisory Council (DCAC) in October 2007, this paper highlights the challenges that the State is likely to face due to projected demographic changes. This discussion paper can be located at www.dcac.tas.gov.au.
- *Who is not participating in Tasmania's labour force? (Information Paper No 1)* - published by the DCAC in July 2007, this paper examines the characteristics of Tasmanians not participating in the labour force and some reasons for this non-participation. This information paper can be located at www.dcac.tas.gov.au.
- *Tasmania's Workforce: health impacts on participation and productivity in the face of an ageing population (Information Paper No 2)* - published by the DCAC in March 2008, this paper examines the impact that health status and age can have on labour force participation and productivity levels. This information paper can be located at www.dcac.tas.gov.au.
- *Population Profiles of Local Government Areas (2001 to 2006)* - published by the DCAC in May 2008, these profiles outline the demographic changes that have occurred in each Local Government Area

between the two Census years of 2001 and 2006 and the drivers of that change. These population profiles can be located at www.dcac.tas.gov.au.

In addition, the following documents provide information on economic and financial management issues relevant to Tasmania.

- Australian Bureau of Statistics publications – these cover a wide variety of topics, including population and demographic issues and economic, industry and labour market conditions and provide nationally comparable data on Australian and State Government finances.
- Australian Bureau of Statistics publication 5514.0.055.001 *Australian System of Government Finance Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods*.
- Australian Government Budget Papers – Australian Government Budget Paper No 3 – Australia's *Federal Relations*, provides substantial information on Australian Government payments to State Government and Local Government.
- Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC) Reports – the CGC is an independent body which provides advice on the distribution of general revenue assistance to the states and territories by the Australian Government. Five yearly methodological reviews of relativities are conducted and the Commission publishes annual updates of the relativities (based only on new data available).
- Credit Rating Agency Reports – credit rating reports are produced for Tasmania by major international rating agencies, Standard & Poor's Ratings Group and Moody's Investors Service. These reports provide a broad assessment of the State's current and projected fiscal position.
- Publications of a range of associations and research institutes, including the Institute of Public Administration Australia, the Institute of Public Affairs, Access Economics and the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- *Report on Government Services 2007* – this report, published in January 2008, is the thirteenth report published by the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision. The Review was established by heads of government in 1993 to develop objective and consistent data on the performance of services that are central to the well being of Australians. The services covered by the Review include education, justice, emergency management, health, community services and housing.
- Research papers and regular publications produced by Australian Government entities, such as the Australian Government Treasury's monthly *Economic Roundup* and the monthly issue of *Trends – The Tasmanian Labour Market Review* by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. Uniform Presentation Framework (UPF) – the document incorporates revisions to the UPF agreed to by the Australian Loan Council in March 2008. The UPF is available from www.treasury.gov.au.
- AASB 1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting* is issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Boards. Full details of the accounting standard are available from the AASB website at www.aasb.com.au.

12 GLOSSARY

Accrual Accounting

Accrual accounting recognises revenues and expenses at the time they are earned or incurred, rather than when cash is received or paid.

Advances

Repayable, interest-bearing loans often provided on concessional terms.

Appropriation

An amount that may be expended from the Consolidated Fund under the authority of an Act of Parliament.

Auditor-General

A statutory office, established under the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990*, responsible for the independent review of State financial matters. The Auditor-General reports annually to Parliament on the financial statements of departments and other public bodies.

Australian Accounting Standards

Financial information presented in the Budget Papers is prepared in accordance with the principles contained in Australian Accounting Standards.

Benchmarking

The process of comparing the performance of Government agencies in producing goods and services with other governments or the private sector. This process enables analysis of the effectiveness and efficiency of the production of Outputs relative to best practice in other jurisdictions and the private sector and, in turn, assists the Government in making decisions on the level and range of Outputs purchased from departments.

Budget Committee

A Cabinet Committee that is responsible for considering all Budget related matters and making appropriate recommendations to Cabinet.

Capital Investment Program

The Capital Investment Program (CIP) comprises major capital investment projects for all on-Budget agencies and is funded through the Works and Services section of the Consolidated Fund. The CIP was introduced to link Government investment in capital and maintenance projects with departmental corporate and asset management plans and specific Government policy objectives and Outputs. Details of projects included in the CIP are provided in Chapter 7 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*.

Cash Accounting

Cash accounting recognises receipts and expenditure at the time cash is received or paid.

Chain Volume Measures

Whereas constant price estimates measure real changes in various economic statistics by removing the effect of rising prices through an index composed in terms of a constant base year, chain volume measures provide estimates of real change by factoring in changing price relativities from year to year. Chain volume measures have replaced constant price estimates as the adjustment mechanism preferred by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) for the calculation of real prices.

Commonwealth Grants Commission

An independent body established by the Australian Government to advise on the per capita relativities for distributing general revenue grants among the six states and two territories.

Community Service Activities (CSAs)

CSAs are non-commercial activities undertaken by State-owned Companies under contract with the Government. To qualify as a CSA, the activity must meet similar identification criteria and net cost conditions as Community Service Obligations (CSOs).

Community Service Obligations (CSOs)

CSOs are activities undertaken by a Government Business Enterprise (GBE) that would not be undertaken if it were a commercial entity operating in the private sector. In this regard, the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995* requires that CSOs can only be declared where the function performed, service provided, or concession allowed will result in a net cost to the GBE, is the direct result of a direction given under, or a specific requirement of, an Act of Parliament and would not be performed, provided or allowed if the GBE were a business in the private sector acting in accordance with sound commercial practice.

Competitive Neutrality

A policy under the *Competition Principles Agreement* (see National Competition Policy) to prevent any resource allocation distortions arising out of the public ownership of entities engaged in significant business activities. Competitive neutrality aims to ensure that Government businesses do not enjoy any net competitive advantage simply as a result of their public sector ownership.

Comprehensive Result

The Comprehensive Result represents the total change in value of the General Government Sector during a year arising from revenues, expenses and movements in the valuation of assets and liabilities. As such, the Comprehensive Result is equivalent to the total increase or decrease in net assets during the year.

The Comprehensive Result is similar to the Operating Result in that it includes unrealised movements in the value of assets and liabilities that impact on net assets. These movements are not available to fund operations and do not arise as a result of government decisions.

Concessions

See State Government Concessions.

Consolidated Fund

The Consolidated Fund was established under the *Public Account Act 1986* to receive all taxes and the majority of other revenue received by the Government. All payments from the Consolidated Fund must be authorised by an Act of Parliament.

Consolidated Fund Appropriation Act

An Act that appropriates monies from the Consolidated Fund for expenditure by the Government during the financial year.

Consolidated Fund Surplus (CFS)

The CFS is the excess of Consolidated Fund receipts over the expenditure of these funds (net of loan repayments). A CFS represents funds that are available for the retirement of debt.

Constant Price Terms

Constant price estimates provide a convenient way of measuring real changes in economic time series. Specifically, such estimates measure the change in a series after adjusting values to remove the effects of price movements over time using an index compiled in terms of a constant base year. In Australian Bureau of Statistics series, most measures of real changes are now estimated using chain volume measures.

See also: Chain Volume Measures; Real Terms.

Consumer Price Index

A measure of the change in prices, over time, of a basket of goods and services representing household expenditure patterns. It aims to measure the changes in the cost of living for the average household.

Department Operating Accounts

Accounts within the Special Deposits and Trust Fund that record department-related transactions. These accounts record funds appropriated to departments from the Consolidated Fund and retain certain revenue that has been approved for retention by departments rather than receipt into the Consolidated Fund.

Economic and Social Infrastructure Fund

The Economic and Social Infrastructure Fund was established in the 2003-04 Budget to provide funding for major economic projects and the implementation of social initiatives. Further information on the Economic and Social Infrastructure Fund is provided in Chapter 4 of Budget Paper No 2 *Government Services*.

Equalisation Grants

See Fiscal Equalisation.

Fees

Fees from regulatory services are levies not primarily designed to raise general revenue, but which are associated with the granting of permit or privilege or for the regulation of activity. This distinguishes them from charges for services rendered to clients and receipts from the sale of goods and services provided by public sector agencies.

Financial Agreement Acts 1927 and 1994

These agreements between the Australian Government and state governments established the Loan Council and prescribed a framework for governmental borrowing and sinking fund arrangements.

Financial Year

The financial year runs from 1 July in one calendar year to 30 June in the following year.

Fines

Fines are civil and criminal penalties imposed on law breakers other than penalties imposed by tax authorities.

First Home Owners Scheme

Under the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Reform of Commonwealth-State Financial Relations (IGA), the states and territories were required to establish, administer and fund a First Home Owners Scheme. The scheme provides first home owners a grant of \$7 000 to offset the impact of the GST on house prices.

Fiscal Balance

The Fiscal Balance indicates whether a sufficient surplus is being generated by the ordinary operations of government to fund its capital expenditure needs. It is determined as the difference between General Government revenue over expenses, after allowing for the net addition to the capital stock.

The Fiscal Balance measures the investment–saving balance. A Fiscal Surplus indicates that the Government is saving more than enough to finance all of its capital spending, whilst a Fiscal Deficit indicates that the Government is spending reserves, including previously accumulated surpluses, to fund its capital spending.

In a year in which the Government undertakes major capital works, other things being equal, the Fiscal Balance will be significantly lower than the Net Operating Balance.

Fiscal Capacity

The capacity of a State to meet its financial responsibilities. It reflects the adequacy of the various tax bases available to that State, as well as the existence of any disabilities or advantages faced by that State in the provision of services and the raising of revenues.

Fiscal Equalisation

Also described as horizontal fiscal equalisation, it refers to the principle of allocating financial assistance to the states and territories which, as assessed by the Commonwealth Grants Commission, is designed to provide a jurisdiction with the capacity to provide services at a standard comparable to those of the other jurisdictions on average provided it makes the average revenue raising effort.

Fiscal Strategy

A fiscal strategy is a medium-term financial plan. It sets fiscal goals that form the framework for the development of annual State budgets and financial decision making. For details of the Tasmanian Government Fiscal Strategy for 2008-09, refer to Chapter 3 of Budget Paper 1 *The Budget*.

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)

A measure of staffing levels which converts the total number of hours worked by all staff (including part time and casual staff) to an equivalent number of full-time staff.

Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)

GAAP consists of the rules and principles set in the accounting standards worldwide. In Australia, GAAP refers to Australian Accounting Standards, interpretations, guidance and policies issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

General Government Sector

The Tasmanian Public Sector comprises several different types of entities. These are classified according to the sectors comprising the Uniform Presentation Framework (UPF), namely General Government, Public Non-Financial Corporations (PNFC) or Public Financial Corporations (PFC) Sectors.

The General Government Sector comprises of those agencies of government, the primary function of which is to provide public services which are mainly non-market in nature, for the collective consumption of the community, or which involve the transfer or redistribution of income and are financed mainly through taxes and other compulsory levies. This Sector includes government departments and a number of entities that act outside the Public Account including the Inland Fisheries Service, Marine and Safety Tasmania, the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, the State Fire Commission, TAFE Tasmania, and the Nominal Insurer (a statutory entity created by the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*). The 2008-09 State Budget is based on the General Government Sector.

General Revenue Assistance

Revenue transfers provided by the Australian Government to the states and territories, and local governments, to be used for purposes determined by the recipients. Under the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), general revenue assistance grants are currently provided in the form of GST revenue payments and National Competition policy related payments. National Competition Policy payments will, however, not be continued beyond 2005-06.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

This is a tax imposed by the Australian Government from 1 July 2000 on most goods and services provided in Australia. All of the revenue raised from this tax is distributed to the states and territories using the principle of horizontal fiscal equalisation.

Government Business Enterprises (GBEs)

GBEs are entities which operate outside the Public Account, principally on the basis of funds derived through their operations, and have no impact on Budget expenditure except in circumstances where they receive funding for CSOs or receive payments for services provided. GBEs also may provide returns to the Consolidated Fund in the form of dividends to shareholders (the State) and the payment of taxation equivalents and guarantee fees and are subject to their own enabling legislation and the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995*. GBEs prepare annual reports, with financial statements on a commercial, accrual accounting basis, which are tabled in Parliament and are subject to audit by the Auditor-General as the auditor appointed by the shareholders.

Government Finance Statistics (GFS)

GFS is the accounting framework used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in the preparation of public finance reports. These, in turn, are based on international standards set out in the International Monetary Fund's *A Manual of Government Finance Statistics* and the United Nations' *A System of National Accounts*. The GFS classification adopts a nationally consistent format for presenting the financial transactions of governments.

Governor-in-Council

The Governor acting with the advice of the Executive Council, which consists of two or more Ministers of the Crown, presided over by the Governor.

Grants

Non-repayable, non-interest bearing assistance.

Grants and Subsidies Expenditure

Grants and Subsidies Expenditure is a classification of expenditure that relates to payments or concessions made by the Government to individuals, groups or organisations. These include Community Service Obligations (CSOs) and Community Service Activities (CSAs) payments to Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) and State-owned Companies (SOCs). These payments are determined by the Government and are non-discretionary. In relation to the Output Methodology, these payments are not strictly Outputs, but rather Government purchases the administration of these payments from departments. Details of Grants and Subsidies Expenditure are included in relevant department chapters in Budget Paper No 2.

Gross State Product (GSP)

The total value added in production in the State economy in a year. Broadly, it equals the total value of goods and services produced less the cost of goods and services used in the production process.

GST Administration Costs

Under the IGA, the states and territories are required to meet the costs of administering the GST. These costs are those incurred by the Australian Taxation Office in the collection of the GST.

GST Law

Has the same meaning as defined in the Australian Government's *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*.

Guarantee Fees

Guarantee fees are applied to GBEs and SOCs to compensate for the lower borrowing rates that GBEs and SOCs often receive due to their Government ownership. Guarantee fees apply to effectively increase the borrowing rate that GBEs and SOCs receive up to the market borrowing rate. In line with National Competition Policy principles, guarantee fees remove any competitive advantage that a GBE or SOC may receive in terms of reduced debt costs through Government ownership.

Guaranteed Minimum Amount

Under the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), the Australian Government has guaranteed that no state or territory will be worse off financially under the new Commonwealth-State financial arrangements than they would have been had the National Tax Reforms not taken place. The guaranteed minimum amount is the minimum level of funding required by each state or territory to ensure that the guarantee provisions of the IGA are met.

Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation

See Fiscal Equalisation.

Implicit Price Deflator

An Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) is another means, in addition to the Consumer Price Index, by which changing prices can be measured. The IPD for GSP is a broad measure of price change used in the State accounts. IPD indexes are obtained by dividing a current price value by its corresponding constant price value or chain volume measure.

Intergovernmental Agreement on the Reform of Commonwealth-State Financial Relations (IGA)

This is the agreement signed by the Australian and all state and territory Governments in June 1999, which provided for major changes to Commonwealth-State financial relations. Under the IGA, GST revenue is distributed to the states and territories on a horizontal fiscal equalisation basis. In return, the states and territories forego revenue and accept additional expenditure responsibilities.

Loan Council

A body comprising the Australian, state and territory Treasurers which meets, usually on an annual basis, to determine the Loan Council Allocation for the Australian Government, states and territories for the forthcoming financial year.

Loan Council Allocation (LCA)

A state or territory's Loan Council Allocation is the borrowing level for the jurisdiction endorsed by the Loan Council, based on its estimated combined General Government and PNFC sector deficit, plus a number of memorandum items. Memorandum items are other financing transactions, which for Loan Council purposes, are treated as analogous to borrowings. This measure of the level of financing, therefore, focuses on the call of the public sector on national savings.

National Competition Policy (NCP)

NCP comprises a series of policy initiatives and policy obligations, agreed by all Australian governments that are aimed at promoting free and open competition, where this is in the public benefit, to increase efficiency and productivity throughout the Australian economy. The basis of NCP is three intergovernmental agreements between the Australian and state and territory Governments that were signed on 11 April 1995. These agreements are the *Conduct Code Agreement* (relating to the extension of Part IV of the Commonwealth's *Trade Practices Act 1974* to all businesses), the *Competition Principles Agreement* (relating to the implementation of a series of policy elements designed to improve competition in the Australian economy) and the *Agreement to Implement the National Competition Policy and Related Reforms* (relating to the sharing of the financial benefits expected to flow from the implementation of NCP). At the Council of Australian Governments' meeting held on 10 February 2006, all Australian governments recommitted to NCP.

NCP is not about competition for competition's sake and, in most areas, requires the use of the public benefit test to ensure that all government and community objectives are considered before specific action is taken to facilitate competition in the economy.

NCP payments to the states ceased in 2005-06. Despite the expectation that the economic benefits of the NCP reforms undertaken by the states will continue producing revenue gains at the national level, the Australian Government reallocated funding for NCP payments to water reform, in the form of the Australian Water Fund.

Net Debt

The State's Net Debt is defined as the difference between selected financial assets (claims the Government has on external organisations and individuals) and selected financial liabilities (claims of external organisations and individuals on the Government) held in the form of cash, deposits, non-transferable loans, transferable debt securities (eg Treasury notes and bonds) and finance leases. This definition does not include other financial assets and liabilities such as accounts receivable/payable, assets (such as shares) representing equity in other organisations (including public non-financial corporations), liabilities for unfunded employee entitlements and assets and liabilities in the form of long-term trade credit.

Net Interest Cost Ratio (NICR)

The NICR measures the proportion of the revenue base required to meet the Government's net interest cost burden. The lower the ratio, the greater the Government's flexibility and ability to react to unexpected events.

Net Operating Balance

The Net Operating Balance is the best measure of the on-going sustainability of the ordinary operations of government. It is determined as the excess of revenue over expenses, as defined by the Uniform Presentation Framework (UPF). The Net Operating Balance excludes capital expenditure, but includes non-cash costs such as accrued employee entitlements and depreciation. By including all accruing costs, including depreciation, the Net Operating Balance encompasses the full cost of providing government services.

A Net Operating Surplus indicates that the ordinary operations of government are sustainable and that there are funds available, on an accrual basis, to increase service delivery, increase assets, or to decrease liabilities. A deficit indicates that future adjustments will be required to achieve sustainability; that one-off expenditure may have occurred to meet one-off projects or programs; and/or revenues are not sufficient to meet all expenses for the current year.

Net Operating Result

The Net Operating Result of a department is the excess of operating revenue over operating expenses, calculated in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. It excludes expenditure on the acquisition of capital assets, but includes non-cash expenses such as depreciation and accrued superannuation entitlements. For this reason the Net Operating Result will differ from the figure in the Cash Flow Statement.

A Net Operating surplus indicates that there are funds available, on an accrual basis, to increase service delivery, increase assets, or to decrease liabilities. A deficit indicates that one-off expenditure may have occurred to meet one-off projects or programs, and/or revenues are not sufficient to meet all expenses for the current year.

Nominal Terms

Values expressed in nominal terms are actual values at a point in time and, when values in nominal terms for different goods are compared, some part of any change is likely to be due to price changes. The term is used to contrast with 'real terms'.

Operating Result

See Net Operating Result.

Outcomes

There are three different levels of outcomes.

- Community Outcomes are the long-term, high level objectives sought by the Government for the benefit of the Tasmanian community. These Outcomes are at such a high level that all of the activities of the State Service, along with contributions from the non-government sector of the Tasmanian community, contribute to their achievement;
- Government Policy Priorities are those policy directions which indicate a change in direction, an area of reform or a change in priority; and
- Agency Outcomes are those Outcomes for which an agency can be held accountable, and the achievement of which contributes not only to the Government Policy Priorities but also to the Community Outcomes.

Output

An identifiable good or service produced by, or on behalf of, a department and provided to customers outside the department. The Government purchases Outputs in order to achieve policy objectives or Outcomes.

Output Expenditure

Expenditure over which a department has flexibility to reallocate to other Outputs within the limits of Budget allocation principles.

Output Methodology

A system of operating, budgeting and reporting which focuses attention on the Government's desired policy Outcomes and the level of Outputs required to be provided by the Government in order to achieve those Outcomes.

Public Account

The Public Account was established under the *Public Account Act 1986*. It consists of two separate Funds: the Consolidated Fund and the Special Deposits and Trust Fund.

Public Financial Corporations Sector (PFC)

The PFC Sector comprises those entities that perform central bank functions or have the authority to incur financial liabilities and acquire financial assets in the market on their own account. In Tasmania, there are two organisations in this Sector. These are the Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation and the Motor Accidents Insurance Board.

Public Non-Financial Corporation Sector (PNFC)

The PNFC Sector comprises those entities that aim to cover the majority of their expenses by revenue from the sale of goods and services and which are mainly market, non-regulatory and non-financial in nature. Generally, this Sector covers the State's GBEs and SOCs. These entities have a variety of functions and responsibilities, are established in varying ways and also have different relationships with the Budget.

Real Terms

Statistics measured in real terms remove the effects of rising prices or inflation to facilitate a more accurate measure of changes in value due to quantity changes over time. Such values are now most commonly referred to in terms of constant price estimates or chain volume measures (where changing price relativities are factored in from year to year). Except where otherwise stated, figures in the Budget documents expressed in real terms have been calculated by the ABS using the Gross State Product Implicit Price Deflator (GSP IPD).

Recurrent Services

That part of expenditure from the Consolidated Fund which relates to the 'ordinary annual' expenditures of the Government that are incurred in the production of Outputs. The major components of expenditure are salary and administrative and operating expenses, including building services and maintenance and furniture and equipment purchases. In addition, Recurrent Services include Grants and Subsidies expenditure and Reserved by Law payments.

Reserved by Law Payments

Reserved by Law payments are recurrent expenditures that are made where there is a legislative requirement for funding to be provided for specific purposes without the necessity for a separate appropriation.

Royalty

A payment made for the use of publicly owned resources such as timber, water, fish, minerals or intellectual property.

Special Capital Investment Funds

The Special Capital Investment Funds include the Economic and Social Infrastructure Fund (ESIF), Structural and Performance Initiatives Program (SPIP), Social Infrastructure Fund (SIF), Royal Hobart Hospital Redevelopment Fund and the Better Roads Fund.

Special Deposits and Trust Fund (SDTF)

The SDTF was established under the *Public Account Act 1986*, and comprises separate accounts designated for specific purposes by the Treasurer.

Specific Purpose Payments (SPPs)

SPPs (also known as tied grants) are payments made by the Australian Government to the states and territories, generally under section 96 of the Constitution, for the purposes, and on such terms and conditions, as may be specified by the Australian Government. All SPPs of a recurrent nature are in the form of grants, while a small amount of assistance of a capital nature takes the form of advances. SPPs generally require the state to provide cash or in-kind funding to support the activity undertaken under the SPP.

State Capital Program

The State Capital Program comprises the capital programs of State authorities, Government Business Enterprises, State-owned Companies and the capital expenditure programs of Government departments. Details of the State Capital Program are provided in Chapter 7 of Budget Paper No 1 *The Budget*. It provides information on the whole General Government Sector capital expenditure in Tasmania.

State Debt

The total of debt incurred by the State under the Financial Agreement and borrowings through Tascorp.

State Final Demand (SFD)

SFD is the sum of all spending on goods and services by those individuals and organisations that comprise the Tasmanian public and private sectors (excluding spending on intermediate goods which are further processed within the State). SFD therefore comprises consumption (C), investment (I) and government consumption (G).

SFD does not take into account exports. However, it does take into account the imported components of household consumption spending (C), public and private investment (I) and Government consumption spending (G).

State Government Concessions

A State Government Concession is a reduction, discount, subsidy, rebate or waiver/exemption provided by a State Government agency on the value of goods or services (associated fees) to an individual, family or household based on one or more of the following eligibility criteria:

- low income;
- in recognition of age or service to the country or community; and
- special needs or disadvantages.

Eligibility is usually, but not always, linked to the production by the recipient of a specified concession card to indicate their inclusion in one of the above groups.

State-owned Company (SOCs)

SOCs operate outside the Public Account, principally on the basis of funds derived through their operations and are subject to Corporations Law. They have no impact on the Consolidated Fund except in circumstances where they receive payment for services provided by the SOC to the Government, or provide dividends, taxation equivalents or guarantee fees to the Government.

Statutory Authority

Statutory authorities are each established under enabling legislation which defines the purpose for which they are established and the general functions for which they are responsible. Government Business Enterprises are a specific category of statutory authority which are subject to the *Government Business Enterprises Act 1995* in addition to their own enabling legislation.

Statutory Office

A position established under an Act of Parliament, for example the office of Auditor-General.

Supply Act

The purpose of a Supply Act is to appropriate funds for payments necessary for the ongoing business of the Government during the period between the first day of each financial year and the passing of the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bills. It lapses when the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Act is passed.

Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation (Tascorp)

Tascorp acts as the State's central borrowing authority for the Government and raises funds for State authorities, GBEs and SOCs. It also provides an investment facility for these entities.

Taxation

A compulsory levy or impost which the Government imposes on transactions, inputs, documents, property and certain activities for the purpose of raising revenue. A tax does not carry a specific entitlement to goods and services. Taxes do not include royalties charged for the use of State resources or fees charged for the provision of certain Government goods or services.

Taxation Equivalents

Taxation equivalents are tax-like payments that are required to be paid to the Tasmanian Government by Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) and State-owned Companies (SOCs), in line with National Competition Policy principles, to compensate for GBEs and SOCs being exempt from Commonwealth income tax. Taxation equivalents are applied to ensure that GBEs and SOCs are not placed at a competitive advantage due to their exemption from this tax.

Territorial Revenue

Revenue arising from the sale, rent or other use of Crown land or property rights.

Treasurers' Conference

Under the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Reform of Commonwealth-State Financial Relations (IGA), the Treasurers' Conference is established, comprising the Australian Government Treasurer and the Treasurers of the states and territories. The detailed responsibilities of this forum are provided in the IGA.

Treasurer's Reserve

An appropriation to the Treasurer to provide funds to meet expenditure which could not have been reasonably foreseen at the time of preparation of the Budget. The Treasurer's Reserve is comprised of a statutory amount of \$10 million, as provided for under the *Public Account Act 1986*, together with any additional amount appropriated.

Trend

The trend series gives the underlying movements in the data once the seasonal and irregular influences have been removed. The trend figure for a given month is a weighted average of the seasonally adjusted data for that month and the six months before and after. In the case of the most recent six months, a slightly different method is used because data for the full six months after the month in question may not be available.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics considers that trend estimates provide the best guide to underlying movements in series and are more suitable than either the seasonally adjusted or original data for most business decisions and policy advice.

Uniform Presentation Framework (UPF)

The UPF was first established by the Australian Loan Council in May 1991. The Council revised the UPF in March 2008 to take into account the development of AASB 1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting* by the Australian Accounting Standards Board. This primary objective of the UPF is to ensure that the Australian, State and Territory governments present their budgets on a standard, comparable basis. It was recognised that a more uniform approach to the presentation of budgets, forward estimates and outcomes would facilitate understanding of individual government's financial results and projections.

Vertical Fiscal Imbalance

An imbalance between the expenditure responsibilities of each tier of government and the own-source revenue resources available to that tier. Australia is characterised by significant vertical fiscal imbalance, since the Australian Government raises around 73 per cent of national tax revenues but has direct responsibility for only approximately 58 per cent of all public sector outlays.

Works and Services

That part of Consolidated Fund expenditure relating to the construction, purchase and maintenance of major capital assets such as roads, public housing, schools, hospitals and equipment. Works and Services expenditure is reflected in the Roads, Housing and department's Capital Investment Programs and the appropriation of funds to the Economic and Social Infrastructure Fund.



Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

CONTACT DETAILS

Department of Treasury and Finance
GPO Box 147

Hobart Tasmania 7001 Australia

Telephone: +61 3 6233 3100

Website: <http://www.budget.tas.gov.au>