

# Queensland Audit Office tabling protocols 2019



## **Tabling protocols**

#### General principle

Reports to parliament are tabled on parliamentary sitting days. The Auditor-General may table on a non-sitting day where there are limited or no sitting days within 14 days of report finalisation. The same principle would also apply during periods of parliamentary recess.

#### Caretaker period

If a proposed audit report under s.64 has been issued for comment and responses have been received prior to the calling of an election (State or Local Government), these reports will be tabled during the caretaker period. If an election has been called prior to the lapse of the 21-day comment period, these reports will be tabled after the election.

Exception to this principle:

- 1. If the caretaker period exceeds 45 days, the Auditor-General may elect to table the report as planned.
- 2. If the report contains information requested by parliament or of significant public interest, the Auditor-General may elect to table the report as planned.

#### Estimates hearings period

Parliament does not sit during estimates hearings. An audit report will not be tabled during the estimates hearing period. The estimates hearing period is considered final once the portfolio committee reports are tabled.

Exception to this principle:

1. If the report contains information requested by parliament or of a significant public interest, the Auditor-General may elect to table the report.

#### Significant public interest

Information of significant public interest is a matter of judgement and the following is a non-exhaustive list of public interest matters which the Auditor-General may consider:

- matters of public concern and importance
- the proper administration of government
- open justice
- public health and safety
- the prevention and detection of crime and fraud
- the economic wellbeing of the state or local government.



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