



Tasmanian Audit Office

Report of the Auditor-General No. 10 of 2016-17

Follow up of selected Auditor-General reports:
September 2011 to June 2014

April 2017

Strive · Lead · Excel | To Make a Difference

INTRODUCTION

We conduct audits with the goal of assessing the performance and compliance of State entities. Identifying areas for potential improvement is an essential part of such audits and recommendations are made in support of that objective.

Follow-up audits inform Parliament about the extent to which State entities have acted on recommendations made in previous compliance and performance reports. They also help inform our performance by reference to the relevance of our findings and recommendations.

This follow-up audit was completed to provide Parliament with information about the extent to which State entities acted on recommendations made in four reports tabled between September 2011 and June 2014.

The four reports previously tabled were:

- Report of the Auditor-General No. 1 of 2011–12 *Tourism Tasmania: is it effective?*
- Report of the Auditor-General No. 8 of 2011–12 *The assessment of land-use planning applications*
- Report of the Auditor-General No. 10 of 2012–13 *Hospital bed management and primary preventative health*
- Report of the Auditor-General No. 13 of 2013–14 *Teaching quality in public high schools.*

We consider the degree to which recommendations have been implemented a useful performance measure, both for the audit clients and the effectiveness of the reports. For the purposes of a follow-up audit, we regard an implementation rate of 70 per cent as satisfactory.

OVERVIEW

Overall, our benchmark of 70 per cent was reached with 81 per cent of our recommendations implemented.

Tourism Tasmania: is it effective?

Tourism Tasmania had fully implemented all six of the 2011 recommendations, giving it an overall rate of implementation of 100 per cent, which exceeded our benchmark 70 per cent.

The assessment of land use planning applications

Responses from the Tasmanian Planning Commission and the six selected councils involved in this follow-up audit indicated significant changes to Tasmania's land-use planning application system had occurred since the 2012 report. The overall implementation rate of 82 per cent for recommendations made in the 2012 report exceeded our benchmark of 70 per cent.

Hospital bed management and primary preventative health

Individually, the Tasmanian Health Service (THS) achieved an implementation rate of 58 per cent for its nine recommendations, while the Department of Health and Human Services achieved a rate of 94 per cent for its seven recommendations. The overall implementation rate for all 16 recommendations was 74 per cent, which exceeded our benchmark of 70 per cent. We would have preferred to see a higher rate of implementation by THS and we encourage THS to continue pursuing those recommendations that drive improved performance.

Teaching quality in public high schools

We found the Department of Education had fully implemented three of the seven 2014 recommendations and partially implemented the four remaining recommendations. The overall rate of implementation by the department was 79 per cent, which exceeded our 70 per cent benchmark.

For the full report go to:
<http://www.audit.tas.gov.au/publications/reports-to-parliament/>



Tasmanian Audit Office

Phone (03) 6173 0900
Fax (03) 6173 0999
email admin@audit.tas.gov.au
Web www.audit.tas.gov.au

Launceston Office
Phone (03) 6173 0971

Address Level 8
144 Macquarie Street, Hobart
Postal Address GPO Box 851, Hobart 7001
Office Hours 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday

Address 2nd Floor, Henty House
1 Civic Square, Launceston