

# **Premier's Circular**

Number:	2010/02
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## **TITLE**

STATE GOVERNMENT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

## **BACKGROUND**

The development of an accurate, publicly accessible database of 'State Government Boards and Committees' will improve transparency and facilitate effective monitoring by Government. This is consistent with the Government's objectives of promoting efficiency within the public sector and making Government more responsive to the needs of Western Australians.

## **POLICY**

Following the '2009-10 Review of Government Boards and Committees,' the Government has established a new approach to establishing and managing State Government Boards and Committees.

A 'Board or a Committee' is an entity that has one or more external members who receive remuneration for their services (other than reimbursements for travel expenses). The term 'external members' excludes those on the public payroll, including all current State, Commonwealth and Local Government employees; current and retired judicial officers; and current employees of public academic institutions. A former Member of Parliament is eligible to sit on a Board or Committee if twelve or more months have passed since being in the Parliament.

All establishments, abolitions (including those due to expiration), changes in name and appointments to Boards and Committees are matters for Cabinet consideration.

Ministers and agencies are encouraged to continue to utilise interdepartmental working groups, drawing upon external advice and engaging in other forms of consultation that do not involve the establishment of a Board or Committee.

The authority to remunerate State Government Boards and Committees derives from statutory provision or endorsement by Cabinet. The rate of any remuneration is to be recommended by the Public Sector Commissioner or, where provided by statute, the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.

To ensure transparency, the Public Sector Commission (PSC) is developing a publicly accessible database of all State Government Boards and Committees. The database will include information on the purpose, membership, remuneration and term of operation of each Board and Committee. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC) is responsible for providing information for updating the database

following Cabinet or Executive Council decisions establishing, abolishing, changing the name of, or making appointments to a Board or Committee.

Members of the public interested in serving on a Board or Committee are able to register their interest and lodge their Curriculum Vitae on DPC's website. This information will be available to Ministers' Offices for their consideration.

Guidelines for the reimbursement of travel expenses are contained in *Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2009-20*. Principles for good governance of Boards and Committees are published on PSC's website.

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**PREMIER**

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Other relevant Circulars:	Public Sector Commissioner's Circulars 2009-20
Circular/s replaced by this Circular:	Public Sector Commissioner's Circulars 2009-31