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Machinery of Government changes to Western Australian departments have affected the operations of some organisations referred to in the June 2001 Review Report.

Since the review report was submitted, the Department of Minerals and Energy (which changed to Department of Mineral and Petroleum) has amalgamated with the Department of Industry and Technology to form the new Department of Industry and Resources. Similarly, the Office of the Valuer-General no longer exists as a separate entity, as it has been integrated within the Department of Planning and Infrastructure. Family and Children's Services has been renamed the Department for Community Development.

The operations of the SDAs have largely been unaffected by Machinery-of Government changes, as there is provision in the SDAs for functions to transfer automatically to a new department. However, there could be a problem if a function is transferred to a department with whom there is no existing SDA, as the service could not continue to be provided without an established agreement.

The SDA regime has been in operation now for over a decade and most of the Commonwealth's priority services for the Territories are being met. There is a sound working relationship between the Commonwealth and the Government of Western Australia for service provision and most of the logistics have been worked out. The production and circulation of the annual performance report of State agency services by DoTaRS enables comparisons to be made over the years (if not with other "comparable" regions) and ensures greater transparency.

The State has a vested interest in assisting the Commonwealth to the best extent possible with respect to the Territories, because the perception of the general public of Western Australia is that the Territories are part of WA. The State, therefore, is implicated in any actions the Commonwealth might choose to take and appreciates open communication with the Commonwealth on matters which affect service delivery in the Territories.