

FACTSHEET ON SELECT COMMITTEES

1. Select Committees are committees of MPs which are created by Parliament.
2. Select Committees are created for various purposes. The Standing Orders of Parliament create a number of Standing Select Committees to perform various functions.¹ Parliament can send a Bill to be considered by Select Committee after the Bill has received its Second Reading.² Parliament can also appoint a Select Committee to examine policy issues.³
3. The composition of a Select Committee reflects the balance between the Government and Opposition benches in Parliament. NMPs do not sit on Select Committees unless Parliament specifically provides for them to do so.
4. The Standing Orders of Parliament regulate the procedure and proceedings in a Select Committee. For example, the Standing Orders provide for the quorum and the voting rules in a Select Committee.
5. A Select Committee can hold public hearings and examine witnesses, if authorised by the Standing Orders or by Parliament.
6. After a Select Committee completes its work, it will present its report to Parliament. The report will set out any evidence received by the Committee, as well as the Committee's decisions or recommendations. The reports presented by Select Committees are publicly available.
7. More information on Select Committees can be found at Parliament's website: www.parliament.gov.sg.

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¹ For example, the Public Accounts Committee, the Estimates Committee, the Standing Orders Committee, and the Public Petitions Committee.

² For example, the Cross-Border Railways Bill was referred to a Select Committee after its Second Reading.

³ For example, the Select Committee on Land Transportation Policy.