

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Budget Estimates 2007-2008

Ordered to be printed 5 December 2007

New South Wales Parliamentary Library cataloguing-in-publication data:

New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Budget estimates, 2007-2008 : / General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3. [Sydney, N.S.W.] : the Committee, 2007. — 32p.; 30 cm. (Report ; no. 19)

Chair: Hon. Amanda Fazio, MLC.

“December 2007”.

ISBN 9781921286162

1. New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3—Appropriations and expenditures.
 - I. Title.
 - II. Fazio, Amanda.
 - III. Series: New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3. Report ; no. 19

DDC 328.94407

How to contact the committee

Members of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Legislative Council

Parliament House, Macquarie Street

Sydney New South Wales 2000

Internet www.parliament.nsw.gov.au

Email Budget.Estimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Telephone 02 9230 3544

Facsimile 02 9230 3416

Terms of Reference

1. That the resolution appointing five general purpose standing committees reflecting Government Ministers' portfolio responsibilities adopted by this House on 10 May 2007 be amended to reflect the changes to Government Ministers' portfolio responsibilities as follows:
 - (a) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
 - Premier
 - Citizenship
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Western Sydney
 - Treasury
 - Infrastructure
 - Hunter
 - The Legislature
 - Roads
 - Commerce
 - (b) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2
 - Education and Training
 - Industrial Relations
 - Assistant finance
 - Central Coast
 - Fair Trading
 - Youth
 - Volunteering
 - Ageing
 - Disability Services
 - Health
 - (c) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3
 - Police
 - Illawarra
 - Attorney General
 - Justice
 - Emergency Services
 - Water Utilities
 - Gaming and Racing
 - Sport and Recreation
 - Local Government
 - Aboriginal Affairs
 - (d) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4
 - Transport
 - Finance
 - Planning
 - Redfern Waterloo
 - Arts

Science and Medical Research
 Women
 Community Services
 Small Business
 Regulatory Reform
 Ports

(e) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Primary Industries
 State Development
 Mineral Resources
 Energy
 Lands
 Rural Affairs
 Regional Development
 Waterways
 Housing
 Tourism
 Climate Change and Environment
 Water.

2. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2007-2008 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.
3. The committees are to consider the Budget Estimates in accordance with the allocation of portfolios to the committees.
4. The committees must hear evidence in public.
5. Not more than two committees are to hear evidence simultaneously.
6. The committees may ask for explanations from Ministers in the House, or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
7. A daily Hansard record is to be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
8. That the Leader of the Government is to provide to each Committee, by Friday 13 July 2007, a schedule outlining the attendance of relevant ministers to appear before each committee, for the committee's consideration.
9. The committees may hold supplementary hearings as required.
10. The committees are to present a final report to the House by Friday 30 November 2007.¹
11. Committee members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee up to two days following a hearing.

¹ Extended to Wednesday 5 December 2007 by resolution of the House Wednesday 28 November 2007, *Minutes of Proceedings, No 32*, 1st Session of the 54th Parliament, 28 November 2007, item 6

12. Questions lodged on notice are subject to standing order 67 and will be published in the Questions and Answers Paper.

Committee Membership

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Trevor Khan MLC	The Nationals	
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Roy Smith MLC	The Shooters Party	
The Hon Helen Westwood MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Other members who attended the hearings

The Hon Charlie Lynn MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Robert Brown MLC	The Shooters Party
Dr John Kaye MLC	The Greens
The Hon Christine Robertson MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Eddie Obeid MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon David Clarke MLC	Liberal Party
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC	The Greens
The Hon Greg Pearce MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Mick Veitch MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Marie Ficarra MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Ian West MLC	Australian Labor Party

Table of Contents

	Chair's Foreword	ix
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
	Referral of the 2007-2008 Budget Estimates	1
	Hearings	1
	Transcripts	1
	Questions on notice	1
Chapter 2	Issues raised during hearings	2
	Water Utilities, Emergency Services	2
	Attorney General, Justice	2
	Local Government, Aboriginal Affairs, Mental Health	3
	Police, Illawarra	5
	Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation	6
Appendix 1	Witnesses	7
Appendix 2	Minutes	9

Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present the report of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 on the 2007-2008 Budget Estimates. The Committee examined the following portfolio areas:

- Police
- Illawarra
- Attorney General
- Justice
- Emergency Services
- Water Utilities
- Gaming and Racing
- Sport and Recreation
- Local Government
- Aboriginal Affairs
- Mental Health.

The Committee would like to thank the Ministers and other witnesses who gave evidence during the inquiry.



The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2007-2008 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On Thursday 28 June 2007, the Legislative Council resolved ‘that the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2007-2008 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.’²
- 1.2 Each Committee was to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the house by Friday 30 November 2007.³

Hearings

- 1.3 The Committee held five public hearings as follows:
- Monday 15 October 2007 – Water Utilities, Emergency Services
 - Friday 19 October 2007 – Attorney General, Justice
 - Friday 19 October 2007 – Local Government, Aboriginal Affairs, Mental Health
 - Monday 22 October 2007 – Police, Illawarra
 - Friday 26 October 2007 – Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation.
- 1.4 A brief summary of the key issues raised during the hearings is contained in Chapter 2.

Transcripts

- 1.5 Transcripts of the hearings are available on the Committee’s web page at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc3.

Questions on notice

- 1.6 Questions taken on notice, and the answers to these questions, are also available on the Committee’s web page.

² *Minutes of Proceedings, No 15*, 1st Session of the 54th Parliament, 28 June 2007, item 45

³ *Minutes of Proceedings, No 15*, 1st Session of the 54th Parliament, 28 June 2007, item 45, para 10

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

This chapter provides a brief summary by portfolio of the key issues raised during the hearings.

Water Utilities, Emergency Services

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolios of Water Utilities and Emergency Services was held on Monday 15 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Impact of the Federal Government's WorkChoices legislation on volunteer numbers in the Rural Fire Service (RFS) and the State Emergency Service (SES), and the possible impact of WorkChoices on paid employees in the NSW Fire Brigade
- Impact of climate change on the RFS, and whether additional resources need to be devoted to the RFS in areas such as the Blue Mountains, which are expected to be subject to longer and more intense fire seasons in the future
- Increase in hazard reduction work being carried out by the RFS, and the implementation of a new Community Protection Reporting System to measure hazard reduction efforts
- Work by the NSW Fire Brigade to help improve fire safety awareness among non-English speaking communities
- Lease of the air scan aircraft by the RFA and its use by the Minister
- Use of recycled water by the NSW Fire Brigade
- Impact of climate change on Sydney's metropolitan water supply, the decision to build the desalination plant as a long-term supplier of water to Sydney, and the cost of the plant and the powering of the plant by green energy
- Impact of the desalination plant on transfers of water from the Shoalhaven, the viability of the Welcome Reef dam proposal and the supply of water to Goulburn
- Algal bloom at Warragamba dam and the quality of the water supply to Sydney
- Dividend payments by Sydney Water to the NSW Government and the future license fee for a water supplier on the central coast
- Impact of the various water recycling and water harvesting programs implemented in metropolitan Sydney to date, together with other programs to reduce demand for water
- Expenditure by Sydney Water on advertising on promoting water restrictions, rainwater tanks and other water saving initiatives.

Attorney General, Justice

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolios of Attorney General and Justice was held on Friday 19 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions - appointment of Crown Prosecutors, reduction in budget
- Review of Privacy Act, appointment of a permanent Privacy Commissioner
- Review of Domestic Violence services, expansion of DV Court Assistance Scheme
- Efficiency of court services, closures, JusticeLink
- Reforming sexual assault laws, sentencing trends, laws and programs relating to sex offenders
- Anti-terrorism laws— preventative detention orders, police powers, review of laws
- Public Purpose Fund, legal aid, regional solicitors scheme
- Child sexual assault within Aboriginal communities
- Office of Commissioner, Department of Corrective Services – staffing issue complaint, establishment of Campbelltown office
- Department of Corrective Services - departmental restructure, consultancy fees, budget
- Parole and non-parole periods and coping with life outside prison
- Photographs of inmates in correctional facilities, visitors to prisons, security at HRMU.

Local Government, Aboriginal Affairs, Mental Health

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolios of Local Government, Aboriginal Affairs and Mental Health was held on Friday 19 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Actions of the Canada Bay Council and decisions of the Local Environment Court
- Inquiry into the Port Macquarie Hastings Council in relation to the Glasshouse Entertainment Centre, including cost and scope of Inquiry
- Number of commissions of inquiry currently underway and pay rates for commissioners
- Cost of local government elections
- Section 94 levies
- Findings of the Allen Report – cost shifting issues and level of local government borrowings, and response of the NSW Government
- Issues associated with the ICAC paper on corruption risks in development application processes
- Local Government Ministerial Advisory Council recommendations and remuneration of the Chair of the Council
- Resource sharing between councils, and asset management strategies

- Safety of children around dogs – the Safe Pets Out There (SPOT) program and the Companion Animal Act
- Progress since release of 2006 paper on ‘Integrated Planning and Reporting’
- Issues associated with responsibility for some State roads handed over to local governments
- Financial viability of councils and the Commonwealth financial assistance grants
- Details of funding under the Mental Health budget, including numbers of mental health beds and community based services such as the Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI)
- Reports of the Sentinel Events Review Committee and government responses to those recommendations
- Risk assessment training in mental health services
- Discharge planning and patient follow-up
- The Hornsby mental health unit and mental health workforce issues
- The number of community mental health caseworkers, their caseloads and rate of turnover
- Capacity of non-government organisations to provide services and support as part of HASI
- Mental health facilities for veterans at Callan Park
- The interaction between police and mental health services and the role of police in situations involving people with mental health issues
- Status of trials of treatment of amphetamine abusers through use of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy and substitution therapy
- Challenges to continuity of care for prisoners and mortality rates for released inmates
- Support for families and carers of people with mental illness
- Telephone counselling services, and the 24/7 mental health help line
- Homelessness and the link to mental illness
- Child sexual assault in Aboriginal communities
- State Plan initiatives to overcome indigenous disadvantage and the ‘Two Ways Together’ program
- Initiatives in response to the ‘Breaking the Silence’ report, the Interagency Plan and process for reviewing implementation
- Current status of legal issues associated with the Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council
- Strategies to increase representation of Aboriginal people in the provision of education services
- Incidence of dementia among remote Aboriginal communities

- Traditional owners of land and mechanisms to recognise ownership of land
- Issues associated with Collingwood House
- Reduction in budget and the conclusion of the 'Aboriginal Community Development Program' (ACDP)
- Incidence of blindness in Aboriginal communities
- ACDP and addressing housing issues.

Police, Illawarra

2.4 A hearing examining the portfolios of Police and the Illawarra was held on Monday 22 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Youth unemployment in Illawarra
- Government Illawarra Advantage Fund
- Wollongong City Centre Plan
- Proposed developments in Moss Vale, Killalea State Park, Sandon Point, Albion Park, Shellharbour and Maldon-Dumbarton
- Deferral of implementation of electronic surveillance and information technology projects within NSW Crime Commission
- Confiscation of criminal proceeds
- Operation Horseshoe
- Provision of criminal investigations briefings to Minister
- Provision of advice to Minister's Office regarding investigation into Milton Orkopoulos MP
- APEC safety and security fence and number of Police officers deployed during APEC
- Registration of antique percussion lock pistols
- Police complaints management
- DNA forensic technology
- Procedures for determining exclusions from NSW State road death toll
- Racial descriptors
- Middle Eastern Organised Crime Squad
- Determination of location for new police stations and commands
- Police identification nameplates
- Police Force response to incidents involving the mentally ill
- Transfer of Commander, Marine Area Command

- Administrative staffing.

Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation

2.5 A hearing examining the portfolios of Gaming and Racing and Sport and Recreation was held on Friday 26 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Age limit for boys' boxing
- Regional Sports Facilities Program
- Promotion of women's sport
- National Plan for Disability Sport
- Safe Shooting grant program
- Increasing children and young people's physical activity
- Inappropriate behaviour by players and supporters at sporting events
- Bidding for major sporting events
- World Youth Day
- Betfair
- One casino policy
- Multi-terminal gaming machines
- Equine influenza compensation package
- State revenue from gambling
- Harm minimisation and problem gambling
- Review of the Gaming Machines Act.

Appendix 1 Witnesses

1. Water Utilities, Emergency Services – Monday 15 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Nathan Rees MP	Minister for Emergency Services and Minister for Water Utilities
Mr Richard Lyons	Director, Office for Emergency Services
Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM	Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service
Commissioner Greg Mullins AFSM	Commissioner, NSW Fire Brigades
Brigadier Philip McNamara CSC	Director General, State Emergency Service
Dr Kerry Schott	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Water
Mr Mark Duffy	Director General, Department of Water and Energy

2. Attorney General, Justice – Friday 19 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon John Hatzistergos MLC	Attorney General and Minister for Justice
Mr Laurie Glanfield	Director General, Attorney General's Department
Mr Bill Grant	Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid Commission of NSW, Attorney General's Department
Commissioner Ron Woodham	Commissioner, Department of Corrective Services
Mr Gerry Schipp	Deputy Commissioner, Corporate Services, Department of Corrective Services
Ms Rhonda Booby	Acting Assistant Commissioner, Services & Programs, Department of Corrective Services
Mr Brian Kelly	Assistant Commissioner, Inner and Outer Metropolitan Regions, Department of Corrective Services

3. Local Government, Aboriginal Affairs, Mental Health – Friday 19 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Paul Lynch MP	Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health)
Mr Gary Payne	Director General, Department of Local Government
Mr Ross Woodward	Deputy Director General, Department of Local Government
Dr Richard Matthews	Deputy Director General, New South Wales Health
Mr Kenneth Barker	Chief Financial Officer, New South Wales Health
Ms Jody Broun	Director General, Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Stephen Wright	Registrar Aboriginal Land Rights Act, Department of Aboriginal Affairs

4. Police, Illawarra – Monday 22 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon David Campbell MP	Minister for Police and Minister for the Illawarra
Commissioner Andrew Scipione	Commissioner, NSW Police Force
Ms Fran McPherson	Executive Director, Corporate Services, NSW Police Force
Commissioner Phillip Bradley	Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission
Commissioner John Pritchard	Commissioner, Police Integrity Commission
Mr Les Tree	Director General, Ministry for Police

5. Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation – Friday 26 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Graham West MP	Minister for Gaming and Racing and Minister for Sport and Recreation
Mr Bob Abdy	Director General, Department of Arts, Sport and Recreation
Mr Andrew Kuti	Director, Department of Arts, Sport and Recreation
Mr Brian Farrell	Chief Executive Officer, Casino Control Authority
Mr Steve Corbett	Director and Chief Executive Officer, Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust
Mr Michael Foggo	Commissioner, Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing
Mr Albert Gardner	Director, Compliance, Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing
Mr John Whelan	Director, Policy, Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing
Mr David Greenhouse	Senior Officer, Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing
Mr John Egan	Director, Programs and Partnerships, NSW Sport and Recreation

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes No. 2

Monday 15 October 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 8.45am

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Dr John Kaye (participating)

Mr Charlie Lynn (*Ajaka*)

Mr Matthew Mason-Cox (*Khan*)

Ms Lee Rhiannon (deliberative meeting only)

Mr Robert Brown (*Smith*)

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Charlie Lynn to substitute for Mr John Ajaka
- Mr Matthew Mason-Cox to substitute for Mr Trevor Khan
- Mr Robert Brown to substitute for Mr Roy Smith

3. Participating members

The Committee noted advice of the following participating member:

- Dr John Kaye

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Simon Luckhurst regarding the matters arising since the death in police custody of Eddie Murray in Wee Waa in 1981 (9 September 2007)
- Email from Dr John Kaye advising he will be a participating member in the GPSC 3 meeting scheduled for 9am, Monday 15 October (25 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitutions for Mr John Ajaka and Mr Trevor Khan (8 October 2007)
- Letter from the Mr Roy Smith advising of Mr Robert Brown's substitution for Mr Roy Smith (9 October 2007)
- Letter from Mr Ross Neilson regarding the time allocated for each of Minister Rees' portfolios (15 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Lee Rhiannon advising that Dr John Kaye will substitute for her in the GPSC 3 meeting for 9am, Monday 15 October 2007 (12 October 2007)

Sent

- Letter to Minister Rees inviting him to appear before the Committee at 9am on Monday 15 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That consideration of the email from Mr Simon Luckhurst be deferred to a later meeting.

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Brown: That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Cross Bench and Government members with 20 minutes allocated to Opposition and Cross-Bench and Government members equally.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Lynn: That the Emergency Services portfolio be examined first for 1 1/2 hours, and the Water Utilities portfolio be examined second for 2 1/2 with a short break between the portfolios.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That Ministers be requested to return answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing within 35 days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk.

Mr Lynn moved that: The motion of Mr Donnelly be amended by omitting the number '35' and replacing it with the number '21'.

Amendment put.

The Committee divided.

Ayes: Brown, Lynn, Mason-Cox
Noes: Donnelly, Fazio, Westwood

Amendment resolved in the negative, on the casting vote of the Chair.

Original question put and passed.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the authority of Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish any documents tabled during the hearing.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Public hearing

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Nathan Rees MP, Minister for Water Utilities and Minister for Emergency Services, was admitted, accompanied by the following officers:

Office for Emergency Services

Mr Richard Lyons, Director

NSW Rural Fire Service

Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM, Commissioner

NSW Fire Brigades

Commissioner Greg Mullins AFSM, Commissioner

State Emergency Service

Brigadier Philip McNamara CSC, Director-General

Sydney Water

Dr Kerry Schott, Chief Executive Officer

Department of Water and Energy

Mr Mark Duffy, Director General

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Water Utilities and Emergency Services open for examination.

The Minister and the officers accompanying the Minister answered questions from members of the Committee.

Minister Rees tabled four plans for future water recycling facilities in Sydney.

Minister Rees tabled an Independent Panel Comment: Progress Report on implementing the Sydney Metropolitan Water Plan.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1:02pm until 8.45am on Friday, 19 October 2007 in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Stephen Frappell

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 3

Friday 19 October 2007

Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9am

1. Members present

Mr John Ajaka

Mr David Clarke (*Khan*)

Ms Amanda Fazio

Ms Sylvia Hale (*Rhiannon*) (absent for deliberative)

Mr Eddie Obeid (*Westwood*)

Ms Christine Robertson (*Donnelly*)

Mr Roy Smith

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Christine Robertson to substitute for Mr Greg Donnelly
- Mr Eddie Obeid to substitute for Ms Helen Westwood
- Mr David Clarke to substitute for Mr Trevor Khan
- Ms Sylvia Hale for Ms Lee Rhiannon

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitutions for Mr Greg Donnelly and Ms Helen Westwood (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitution for Mr Trevor Khan (8 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Sylvia Hale advising she will substitute for Ms Lee Rhiannon

Sent

- Letter to the Attorney General attaching an invitation for him to appear before the Committee at 9am, Friday 19 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

4. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson:

- That the Attorney General portfolio be examined from 9:00am until 11:00am and the Justice portfolio be examined from 11:15am until 1:00pm.
- That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Government, Opposition and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

5. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Attorney General and Minister for Justice was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Attorney General's Department

Mr Laurie Glanfield, Director General, Attorney General's Department

Mr Bill Grant, Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid Commission of NSW

Department of Corrective Services

Commissioner Ron Woodham, Commissioner, Department of Corrective Services

Mr Gerry Schipp, Deputy Commissioner, Corporate Services, Department of Corrective Services

Ms Rhonda Booby, Acting Assistant Commissioner – Offender Management, Department of Corrective Services

Mr Brian Kelly, Assistant Commissioner – Inner and Outer Metropolitan Regions, Department of Corrective Services

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Attorney General and Justice open for examination.

The Attorney General and the officers accompanying the Attorney General answered questions from members of the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

6. Deliberative meeting

Return of answers to QON

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That the Attorney be requested to return answers to questions on notice taken during the hearing within 21 days of the day on which the question is forwarded to the minister by the Committee Clerk.

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr John Ajaka: That the Committee consider whether to hold a supplementary hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of the Attorney General and Justice after the answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing are returned.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1:05 until 4.45pm on Friday 19 October 2007 in Room 814/815.

Rachel Callinan
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 4

Friday 19 October 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4.50pm

1. Members present

Mr Rob Brown (*Smith*)
Ms Amanda Fazio
Ms Marie Ficarra (*Khan*)
Ms Sylvia Hale (*Rhiannon*)
Ms Melinda Pavey (*Ajaka*)
Mr Mick Veitch (*Westwood*)
Mr Ian West (*Donnelly*)

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Mick Veitch to substitute for Ms Helen Westwood
- Ms Melinda Pavey to substitute for Mr John Ajaka
- Ms Marie Ficarra to substitute for Mr Trevor Khan
- Mr Robert Brown to substitute for Mr Roy Smith
- Ms Sylvia Hale to substitute for Ms Lee Rhiannon
- Mr West to substitute for Mr Donnelly

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Ms Helen Westwood (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitutions for Mr John Ajaka and Mr Trevor Khan (8 October 2007)
- Letter from Mr Roy Smith advising that Mr Robert Brown will substitute for him (9 October 2007)
- Email from Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Greg Donnelly (18 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Sylvia Hale advising that Ms Sylvia Hale will substitute for Lee Rhiannon (19 October 2007)
- Letter from Minister Lynch requesting division of time according to portfolio (17 October 2007)

Sent

- Letter to Minister Lynch attaching an invitation for him to appear before the Committee at 5pm, Friday 19 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

4. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Ficarra:

- That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Government, Opposition and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.
- That Local Government be examined from 5:00pm until 6.20pm, Mental Health be examined from 6.20pm until 7.40pm and Aboriginal Affairs be examined from 7.40pm until 9.00pm.

Resolved, on the motion of Melinda Pavey: That answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing be returned within 21 days from the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk.

5. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Paul Lynch MP, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health) was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Department of Local Government

Mr Gary Payne, Director General

Mr Ross Woodward, Deputy Director General

Department of Health

Dr Richard Matthews, Deputy Director General

Mr Ken Barker, Chief Financial Officer

Department of Aboriginal Affairs

Ms Jody Broun, Director General

Mr Stephen Wright, Registrar Aboriginal Land Rights Act

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Local Government, Aboriginal Affairs and Mental Health open for examination.

The Minister and the officers accompanying the Minister answered questions from members of the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

6. Deliberative meeting

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hale: That the Committee hold a further hearing on a date to be determined by the Chair after consulting with Committee members, to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of Local Government, Mental Health and Aboriginal Affairs.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 9.00pm until 4.45pm on Monday 22 October 2007 in Room 814/815.

Simon Johnston

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 5

Monday 22 October 2007

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4:50pm

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Ms Sylvia Hale (*Rhiannon*) (hearing only)

Mr Michael Gallacher (participating)

Mr Trevor Khan (hearing only)

Mr Greg Pearce (participating)

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Substitutions

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from Ms Rhiannon that Ms Hale would be substituting for Ms Rhiannon for the purpose of this meeting.

3. Participating members

The Chair advised that Mr Greg Pearce and Mr Mike Gallacher would be attending the meeting as participating members.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letter from Mr Les Tree, Director-General, Ministry for Police, advising of witnesses appearing alongside Minister Campbell (10 October 2007).
- Letter from Hon Greg Pearce MLC advising Chair of his intention to participate in today's hearing (22 October 2007).
- E-mail from Ms Lee Rhiannon advising of her substitution by Ms Sylvia Hale (22 October 2007).

Sent

- Letter to Minister Campbell attaching an invitation for him to appear before the Committee at 5pm, Monday 22 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ajaka:

- That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Cross Bench and Government members with 20 minutes allocated to each
- That the portfolio area of Illawarra be examined from 5:00pm until 6:00pm and that the portfolio area of Police be examined from 6:00pm until 9:00pm.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the Minister be requested to return answers to questions taken on notice during Budget Estimates hearings within 28 days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the Committee order that that part of today's Committee proceedings during which the Commissioner of the NSW Crime Commission gives evidence not be filmed, broadcast or photographed.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Public hearing

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon David Campbell MP, Minister for Police and Minister for the Illawarra was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

NSW Police Force

Mr Andrew Scipione, Commissioner

Ms Fran McPherson, Executive Director, Corporate Services

NSW Crime Commission

Mr Phillip Bradley, Commissioner

Police Integrity Commission

Mr John Pritchard, Commissioner

Ministry for Police

Mr Les Tree, Director General

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of the Illawarra and Police open for examination.

The Minister and the officers accompanying the Minister answered questions from members of the Committee.

Mr Gallacher tendered the following document:

- NSW Police & Roads & Traffic Authority Procedures for Determining Exclusions from the NSW State Road Death Toll (November 2006).

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

7. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Deliberative meeting**

Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That the Committee accept the following document tendered during the public hearing:

- NSW Police & Roads & Traffic Authority Procedures for Determining Exclusions from the NSW State Road Death Toll (November 2006)

Supplementary hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ajaka: That the Committee consider whether to hold a supplementary hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of the Illawarra and Police after the answers to questions on notice taken during the hearing are received.

8. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 9:05 until 1:15pm on Friday 26 October 2007 in Jubilee Room.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 6

Friday 26 October 2007

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.30pm

1. **Members present**

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Mr Trevor Khan

Mr Charlie Lynn (*Ajaka*)

Ms Lee Rhiannon (after item 5)

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. **Substitute members**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Charlie Lynn to substitute for Mr John Ajaka

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That draft Minutes No.2 be confirmed

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That draft Minutes No.3 be confirmed

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That draft Minutes No.5 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitution for Mr John Ajaka (8 October 2007).

Sent

- Letter to Minister West attaching an invitation for him to appear before the Committee at 1.30pm, Friday 26 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Lynn: That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Cross Bench and Government members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Lynn: That Sport and Recreation be examined from 1:30pm until 2:45pm and Gaming and Racing be examined from 2:45pm until 4:00pm.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the Minister be requested to return answers to questions on notice taken during Budget Estimates hearings within 21 days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Public hearing

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Graham West MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing and Minister for Sport and Recreation was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation

Mr Bob Abdy, Director General

Mr Andrew Kutti, Director

Casino Control Authority

Mr Brian Farrell, Chief Executive Officer

Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust

Mr Steve Corbett, Director and Chief Executive Officer

Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing

Mr Michael Foggo, Commissioner

Mr Albert Gardner, Director, Compliance

Mr John Whelan, Director, Policy

Mr David Greenhouse, Senior Officer

NSW Sport and Recreation

Mr John Egan, Director, Programs and Partnerships

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Gaming and Racing and Sport and Recreation open for examination.

The Minister and the officers accompanying the Minister answered questions from members of the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

7. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Deliberative meeting***Supplementary hearings***

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That the Committee consider whether to hold a supplementary hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of the Gaming and Racing and Sport and Recreation after the answers to questions on notice taken during the hearing are received.

8. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4:05pm *sine die*.

Susan Want

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 7

Friday 23 November 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 10.00am

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Ajaka*)

Mr Trevor Khan

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Substitutions

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from the Opposition Whip that Miss Gardiner would be substituting for Mr Ajaka for the purposes of this meeting.

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That draft Minutes No 4 and No 6 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence received:

- 9 September 2007 – Email from Mr Simon Luckhurst regarding matters arising since the death in police custody of Mr Eddie Murray in Wee Waa in 1981.
- 31 October 2007 – Letter from Mr Les Tree, Director General, Ministry for Police to Committee Secretariat requesting extension to the date on which answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 22 October 2007 are due.
- 6 November 2007 – Letter from Mr Les Tree, Director General, Ministry for Police advising that answers to questions on notice at the public hearing on 22 October 2007 would be provided by the original date on which they are due.
- 12 November 2007 – Letter from the Hon Paul Lynch MP, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health) enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 19 October 2007.
- 14 November 2007 – Letter from the Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Attorney General and Minister for Justice enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 19 October 2007.
- 22 November 2007 – Letter from the Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC, Minister for Roads and Minister for Commerce enclosing answers to questions taken on notice by the Hon David Campbell MP, Minister for Police and Minister for the Illawarra relating to the portfolio area of Police at the public hearing held on 22 October 2007.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

5.1 Publication of answers to questions taken on notice at Budget Estimates hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 22391), the Committee authorises the publication of the answers to questions taken on notice at Budget Estimates 2007-2008 hearings with the exception of those answers for which confidentiality is requested.

5.2 Future inquiry activity

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That the Committee conclude its examination of the portfolio areas of the Illawarra; Attorney General; Justice; Emergency Services; Water Utilities; Local Government; Aboriginal Affairs; and Mental Health.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, request the House extend the reporting date for the reference to General Purpose Standing Committee No 3 relating to the Budget Estimates 2007-2008 and related papers to Wednesday 5th December 2007.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That the Committee defer consideration of the question whether or not to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolio areas of Police; Gaming and Racing; and Sport and Recreation until its meeting to be held on the Tuesday 4th December 2007.

6. ***

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 10:45pm until 2:00pm on Tuesday 4 December 2007 in the Parkes Room.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 8

Tuesday 4 December 2007

The Parkes Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.15pm

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka

Mr Trevor Khan

Ms Lee Rhiannon

Mr Roy Smith

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That draft Minutes No 7 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence received:

- 27 November 2007 – Letter from the Hon Nathan Rees MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Minister for Water Utilities enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 15 October 2007.
- 27 November 2007 – Letter from the Hon Graham West MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing and Minister for Sport and Recreation enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 26 October 2007.
- 28 November 2007 – Letter from the Hon Graham West MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing and Minister for Sport and Recreation enclosing a replacement answer to a question asked by the Hon Trevor Khan MLC and taken on notice at the public hearing held on 26 October 2007.
- 29 November – Letter from the Hon John Hatzistergos, Attorney General enclosing a timeline of the investigations into the death of Mr Eddie Murray in 1981.

4. ***

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the answer to a question taken on notice provided by the Minister for Gaming and Racing on 27 November and subsequently identified by the Minister, in correspondence to the Committee on 28 November 2007, as being incorrect, be removed from Committee inquiry webpage.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 2:29pm until 6:30pm in the Members' Lounge.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 9

Tuesday 4 December 2007

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 6.40pm

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Mr Trevor Khan

Ms Lee Rhiannon

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

2.1 Future inquiry activity

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the Committee conclude its examination of the Police portfolio.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the Committee conclude its examination of the portfolios of Gaming and Racing, and Sport and Recreation.

2.2 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Chair tabled her draft report entitled *Budget Estimates 2007-2008* which having been previously circulated was taken as being read.

The Committee considered the draft report *in globo*.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the draft report be the report of the Committee and presented to the House according to Standing Order 230.

3. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 6.50pm *sine die*.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee