



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 5

Budget Estimates 2022-2023



Report 60

December 2022

5

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Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger
Communities

Budget Estimates 2022-2023

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Budget Estimates 2022-2023

“December 2022”.

Chair: Hon. Robert Borsak, MLC



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Terms of reference

The Budget Estimates resolution and schedule was agreed to by the House on 22 June 2022, referring the Budget Estimates and related papers for 2022-2023 to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report and is reproduced, as amended on 10 August 2022, as follows¹:

- (1) That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2022-2023 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report.
- (2) That, further to the resolution of the House of 16 November 2021 adopting the 2022 sitting calendar, the 2022- 2023 initial budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Monday 22 August 2022

PC 5 Attorney General
PC 1 Treasurer, Energy

Day Two: Tuesday 23 August 2022

PC 3 Education and Early Learning
PC 7 Environment and Heritage

Day Three: Wednesday 24 August 2022

PC 6 Metropolitan Roads, Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence

Day Four: Thursday 25 August 2022

PC 7 Local Government
PC 3 Skills and Training, Science, Innovation and Technology

Day Five: Friday 26 August 2022

PC 6 Transport, Veterans, Western Sydney
PC 1 Finance, Employee Relations

Day Six: Monday 29 August 2022

PC 5 Corrections
PC 7 Planning, Homes

Day Seven: Tuesday 30 August 2022

PC 4 Customer Service and Digital Government
PC 5 Families and Communities, Disability Services

Day Eight: Wednesday 31 August 2022

PC 6 Regional Transport and Roads
PC 5 Deputy Premier, Regional NSW, Police

Day Nine: Thursday 1 September 2022

PC 1 Enterprise, Investment and Trade, Sport
PC 5 Multiculturalism, Seniors

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 22 June 2022, pp 3481-3482, as amended *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 10 August 2022, p 3563.

Day Ten: Friday 2 September 2022
 PC 5 Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery
 PC 4 Lands and Water, Hospitality and Racing

Day Eleven: Monday 5 September 2022
 PC 4 Agriculture and Western NSW
 PC 1 Aboriginal Affairs, Arts, Regional Youth, Tourism

Day Twelve: Tuesday 6 September 2022
 PC 2 Women, Regional Health, Mental Health
 PC 6 Infrastructure, Cities and Active Transport
 PC 1 The Legislature

Day Thirteen: Wednesday 7 September 2022
 PC 4 Small Business and Fair Trading
 PC 2 Health
 PC 1 Premier

- (3) That for the purposes of the 2022-2023 initial budget estimates hearings:
- (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon session, if required,
 - (b) the portfolio of The Legislature be examined concurrently by Opposition, Crossbench and Government members from 9.30 am until 12.30 pm.
- (4) That, further to the resolution of the House of 16 November 2021 adopting the 2022 sitting calendar, the 2022-2023 supplementary budget estimates hearings be held over five days from 24 October to 28 October 2022.
- (5) That for the purposes of the 2022-2023 initial and supplementary budget estimates hearings:
- (a) the committees must hear evidence in public,
 - (b) the committees may ask for explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure,
 - (c) ministers be invited to appear for the morning sessions only unless requested by committees to appear also for the afternoon session,
 - (d) witnesses, including ministers, may not make an opening statement before a committee commences questions,
 - (e) members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two business days following a hearing, and
 - (f) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after they have been circulated to committee members.
- (6) That the committees present a final report to the House by 23 December 2022.

On 21 September 2022, the Budget Estimates resolution and schedule, as it relates to the Corrections hearing, was varied by the House as follows²:

- (1) That this House notes that:
 - (a) on Wednesday 22 June 2022, the House adopted a schedule of initial budget estimates hearings for 2022-2023 over 13 working days from Monday 22 August to Wednesday 7 September 2022, and
 - (b) the following hearing was unable to be conducted as scheduled by Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities due to the unavailability of the Minister:

Day Six: Monday 29 August 2022
PC 5 Corrections

- (2) That in view of the inability of Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities to conduct this hearing, the committee be authorised to undertake the hearing on a date of its choosing under the same arrangements as originally agreed to by the House on Wednesday 22 June 2022.

According to a resolution of Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities, the Corrections hearing was rescheduled to Monday, 24 October 2022.

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 September 2022, p 3645.

Committee details

Committee members

The Hon Robert Borsak MLC	Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	<i>Chair</i>
Ms Sue Higginson MLC	The Greens	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Lou Amato MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Scott Barrett MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Peter Poulos MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Adam Searle MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens
The Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens
Mr Justin Field MLC	Independent
The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Rose Jackson MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Taylor Martin MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Rob Roberts MLC	Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party
The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Mick Veitch MLC	Australian Labor Party

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Gareth Perkins	Administration Officer
Holly McDonald	Working in the Legislative Council program
Daisy D'Souza	Working in the Legislative Council program
Rhia Victorino	Director

Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023. This annual inquiry into the Budget Estimates ensures parliamentary oversight of the Budget, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Legislative Council.

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities is responsible for the scrutiny of the following portfolio areas:

- Attorney General
- Corrections
- Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police
- Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery
- Families and Communities, Disability Services
- Multiculturalism, Seniors.

The key evidence gathering mechanism of this inquiry is through the conduct of public hearings. This report lists the key issues raised during the hearings. Transcripts, tabled documents and additional answers provided after the hearings are published on the [inquiry's webpage](#).

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the ministers and their officers who assisted the committee during this important inquiry. I am grateful to my fellow committee members and the secretariat staff for their contributions to the inquiry process.



Hon Robert Borsak MLC
Committee Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

The inquiry into Budget Estimates is one of the key mechanisms for parliamentary committees to scrutinise government expenditure, performance and effectiveness. It holds ministers and government officials to account and provides a greater level of transparency to the public.

The inquiry is conducted annually by the Legislative Council's Portfolio Committees. Each committee examines the budget estimates of its responsible portfolios, with ministers and senior public servants as the primary witnesses. The evidence taking process of the inquiry consists of answers provided during public hearings, including answers to questions on notice, and answers to post-hearing written questions (known as supplementary questions). There is no provision for written submissions.

Budget Estimates 2022-2023

- 1.1 On 16 November 2021 and 22 June 2022, the Legislative Council resolved that hearings for Budget Estimates 2022-2023 be held over 13 days from 22 August to 7 September 2022, and supplementary hearings be scheduled over five days from 24 to 28 October 2022.³
- 1.2 The Budget Estimates resolution and schedule was subsequently agreed to by the House on 22 June 2022, referring the Budget Estimates and related papers for the 2022-2023 financial year to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report by Friday 23 December 2022.⁴
- 1.3 Following changes to the administration of the government, the hearing schedule was amended by the House on 10 August 2022 to reflect the changed ministerial responsibilities.⁵
- 1.4 On 21 September 2022, the Budget Estimates resolution and schedule was further varied by the House to facilitate the postponement of the initial hearing of Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities into the Corrections portfolio, due to the unavailability of the Minister.⁶
- 1.5 The budget estimates resolution establishing the inquiry, which sets out the rules for the inquiry, is reproduced on page iv.

Hearings

- 1.6 The committee held six public hearings as follows:
 - Monday 22 August 2022: Attorney General
 - Tuesday 30 August 2022: Families and Communities, Disability Services
 - Wednesday 31 August 2022: Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police

³ *Minutes*, Legislative Council, 16 November 2021, p 2713; and *Minutes*, Legislative Council, 22 June 2022, pp 3481-3482.

⁴ *Minutes*, Legislative Council, 22 June 2022, pp 3481-3482.

⁵ *Minutes*, Legislative Council 10 August 2022, p 3563.

⁶ *Minutes*, Legislative Council, 21 September 2022, p 3645.

- Thursday 1 September 2022: Multiculturalism, Seniors
- Friday 2 September 2022: Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery
- Monday 24 October 2022: Corrections.

Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions

- 1.7 Transcripts of the hearings, questions taken on notice, supplementary questions and answers to these questions are available on the Budget Estimates webpage at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Attorney General

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Attorney General was held on Monday 22 August 2022. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Response to Operation Tusk
- Bail law reforms
- Coercive control laws
- Age of criminal responsibility
- Response to Special Commission of Inquiry into the drug 'Ice'
- Backlog of cases before the courts.

Families and Communities, Disability Services

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolios of Families and Communities, Disability Services was held on Tuesday 30 August 2022. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Child protection matters, including:
 - intervening in Family Court orders
 - at-risk reports
 - Provision of out-of-home care, including from non-government organisations
 - 'Family Is Culture' report recommendation implementation update
 - response to the 'Voices of Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care 2021' report
- Social housing, including accessibility, wait lists, evictions and transitioning out of social housing, leasing subsidies and programs, homelessness services and programs
- The increase in youth crime, the increase in the representation of First Nations children in detention, and the increase in the number of children held on remand
- Youth justice programs, including 'A Place to Go', 'Youth on Track', youth detention centres' practices and safety measures
- Data collection by the Department and transparency of that data to the public and Parliament
- Response to the Northern New South Wales floods in 2022, including evacuation centres, temporary accommodation, and housing solutions

- NSW Ageing and Disability Commission, including funding of the Commission and its Official Community Visitor program, disability services and facilities at Tomaree Lodge and Stockton Centre.

Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolios of Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police was held on Wednesday 31 August 2022. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Operation of the Future of Coal framework
- Cybersecurity issues in regional New South Wales and the NSW Government response
- Use of drone technology in regional New South Wales
- Review of customer service at the Firearms Registry
- NSW Police implementation of protest laws at various protest events
- Role of the Firearms Registry regarding the inquest into the deaths of John, Jack and Jennifer Edwards
- Issues relating to the operation of the Child Offenders Register
- Recommendations made by the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission regarding strip searches, and the status of the implementation of these recommendations
- Implementation of recommendations made by the Special Commission of Inquiry into the drug 'Ice'
- Money laundering in New South Wales casinos
- Critical minerals strategy and exploration in New South Wales
- Functions of the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation
- Instances of needle and drink spiking in Newcastle, and any relevant NSW Police response
- Potential legislation regarding encrypted devices.

Multiculturalism, Seniors

2.4 A hearing examining the portfolios of Multiculturalism, Seniors was held on Thursday 1 September 2022. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Funding arrangements for the NSW Ageing and Disability Commission
- Aged Crime Prevention Officers
- NSW Growing Regions of Welcome (GROW) pilot program
- NSW Religious Communities Advisory Council

- Anti-racism strategies
- Diversity of NSW Government workforce.

Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery

2.5 A hearing examining the portfolios of the Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery was held on Friday 2 September 2022. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Recommendations of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau report into the large air tanker crash that killed three Americans on 23 January 2020 during Black Summer fire operations
- Implementation of recommendations from reports into the 2022 NSW Floods and the readiness of the emergency services for large scale floods
- Data on bullying complaints and complaints handling in the emergency services
- Workers compensation injuries and mental health in the emergency services
- Placement and planning of fire and rescue services in response to demographic changes
- Future of Resilience NSW, including the role of Mr Shane Fitzsimmons.

Corrections

2.6 A postponed hearing examining the portfolio of Corrections was held on Monday 24 October 2022. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Operation and conditions of correctional facilities, including impact of current flooding events, contraband in prisons, Goulburn Correctional Centre, and impacts of and response to COVID-19
- Inspection of New South Wales prisons by United Nations OPCAT inspectors
- Infrastructure strategy and projects, and minimum standards in prisons
- Corrections employees, including staffing and recruitment, workplace complaints of sexual harassment and bullying, workers compensation claims, violence in prisons, and People Matter survey results
- Aboriginal people in custody, including Closing the Gap supports and policy responses, prevention and support programs, and rates of incarceration
- Deaths in custody
- Safety and welfare issues relating to inmates, including violence in prisons, access to medical services and support, prisoners with disability or additional medical needs, and Emu Plains Mother and Babies Unit
- Rehabilitation programs, recidivism, orders and parole.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
Monday 22 August 2022 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Mark Speakman SC MP	Attorney General
	Mr Michael Tidball	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Paul McKnight	Deputy Secretary, Law Reform and Legal Services, Department of Communities and Justice
	Ms Anne Campbell	Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
	Ms Monique Hitter	Acting Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid NSW
	Ms Karen Smith	NSW Crown Solicitor, NSW Crown Solicitor's Office
	Mrs Karen Wallace	Acting Deputy Secretary, Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery, Department of Communities and Justice
Ms Kathryn Boyd	Deputy Secretary, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet	
Tuesday 30 August 2022 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC	Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services
	Mr Michael Tidball	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
	Ms Anne Campbell	Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
	Ms Simone Czech	Deputy Secretary, Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services, Department of Communities and Justice

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Mr Brendan Thomas	Deputy Secretary, Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr James Toomey	Acting Deputy Secretary, Housing, Disability and District Services, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Paul O'Reilly	Executive Director, Youth Justice, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Robert Fitzgerald	NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner
Wednesday 31 August 2022 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Paul Toole MP	Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police
	Ms Rebecca Fox	Acting Secretary, Regional NSW
	Ms Georgina Beattie	Chief Executive Officer, Mining, Exploration and Geoscience, Regional NSW
	Mr Chris Hanger	Deputy Secretary, Regional Development & Programs, Regional NSW
	Mr David Witherdin	Deputy Secretary, Commercial; Chief Executive, Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation, Regional NSW
	Ms Karen Webb	Commissioner, NSW Police Force
	Mr David Hudson APM	Deputy Commissioner, Investigations and Counter Terrorism, NSW Police Force
	Mr Scott Whyte	Assistant Commissioner, Police Prosecutions & Licensing Enforcement Command, NSW Police Force

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Mr Peter Bodor QC	Assistant Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission
Thursday 1 September 2022 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Mark Coure MP	Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Seniors
	Mr Michael Tidball	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Joseph La Posta	Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
	Ms Melinda Norton	Director, Disability Reform, Royal Commission and Seniors, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Robert Fitzgerald	NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner
Friday 2 September 2022 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Steph Cooke MP	Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery
	Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM	Commissioner, Resilience NSW
	Commissioner Paul Baxter	Commissioner, Fire and Rescue NSW
	Commissioner Carlene York APM	Commissioner, NSW State Emergency Service
	Commissioner Rob Rogers AFSM	Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service
Monday 24 October 2022 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP	Minister for Corrections
	Mr Brendan Thomas	Deputy Secretary, Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Michael Tidball	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Kevin Corcoran	Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Sandra Crawford	Assistant Commissioner, Community Corrections, Corrective Services NSW
	Mr Leon Taylor	Assistant Commissioner, Corrections Industry & Capacity, Corrective Services NSW
	Ms Jennifer Galouzis	Assistant Commissioner, Offender Management and Programs

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 60

Wednesday 20 July 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Room 1254, Parliament House, Sydney, 2.00 pm

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Mr Amato (via webex)

Ms Higginson

Mr Moselmane

Mr Poulos

Mr Secord (substituting for Mr Searle)

2. Apologies

Mr Barrett

3. Committee membership

The committee noted that on Tuesday, 28 June 2022, Ms Higginson was elected as a member of the committee in place of Ms Faehrmann, resigned.

4. Election of Deputy Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chair.

Mr Moselmane moved: That Ms Higginson be elected Deputy Chair of the committee.

There being no further nominations, the Chair declared Ms Higginson elected Deputy Chair.

5. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Poulos: That draft minutes no. 59 be confirmed.

6. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 14 July 2022 – Email from Ms Katerina Paneras, Executive Officer, NSW Ageing and Disability Commission, to Budget Estimates secretariat, requesting on behalf of the Ageing and Disability Commission, Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM, that he appear before the committee at the Budget Estimates hearings on 24 August 2022 and 7 September 2022.

7. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted that the Budget Estimates timetable for 2022-2023 was agreed to by the House, with hearings commencing at 9.30 am and concluding by 5.15 pm. Below is a table of Portfolio Committee No. 5 hearings:

Date	Portfolio
Monday 22 August 2022	Attorney General
Wednesday 24 August 2022	Families and Communities, Disability Services

Monday 29 August 2022	Corrections
Wednesday 31 August 2022	Deputy Premier, Regional NSW, Police
Friday 2 September 2022	Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery
Wednesday 7 September 2022	Multiculturalism and Seniors

The committee noted that it is anticipated that the portfolios being examined by the committee on Wednesday 24 August 2022 (Families and Communities, Disability Services) and Monday 29 August 2022 (Corrections) will be swapped to facilitate the appearance of witnesses.

7.1 Allocation of question time and total hearing time

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, will be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon session, if required.

7.2 Witness requests

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That for the portfolio of Attorney General the committee invite the following witnesses:

- Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, Attorney General
- Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Paul McKnight, Deputy Secretary, Law Reform and Legal Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Anne Campbell, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Monique Hitter, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid NSW
- Ms Karen Smith, NSW Crown Solicitor
- Mr Paul O'Reilly, Acting Deputy Secretary, Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Kathryn Boyd, Deputy Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That for the portfolio of Families and Communities, Disability Services the committee invite the following witnesses:

- Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities and Minister for Disability Services
- Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Simone Czech, Deputy Secretary, Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr James Toomey, Deputy Secretary, Housing, Disability and District Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Anne Campbell, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Paul O'Reilly, Executive Director, Youth Justice, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Brendan Thomas, Deputy Secretary, Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Robert Fitzgerald, NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That for the portfolio of Corrections the committee invite the following witnesses:

- Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections
- Mr Brendan Thomas, Deputy Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Kevin Corcoran, Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW
- Ms Sandra Crawford, Assistant Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW
- Mr Luke Grant, Deputy Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW
- Mr Carlo Scasserra, Assistant Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That for the portfolio of Deputy Premier, Regional NSW, Police the committee invite the following witnesses:

- Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional NSW, Minister for Police
- Commissioner Karen Webb, Commissioner, NSW Police Force
- Mr Gary Barnes, Secretary, Regional NSW
- Commissioner Michael Barnes, Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission
- Mr David Hudson APM, Deputy Commissioner, Investigations and Counter Terrorism, NSW Police Force
- Mr Scott Whyte, Assistant Commissioner, Police Prosecutions & Licensing Enforcement Command
- Ms Georgina Beattie, Deputy Secretary, Mining, Exploration and Geoscience
- Mr Chris Hanger, Deputy Secretary, Public Works Advisory and Regional Development Group
- Ms Rebecca Fox, Deputy Secretary, Regional Precincts

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That for the portfolio of Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery the committee invite the following witnesses:

- Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience
- Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM, Commissioner, Resilience NSW
- Commissioner Paul Baxter, Commissioner, Fire and Rescue NSW
- Commissioner Carlene York APM, Commissioner, NSW State Emergency Service
- Commissioner Rob Rogers AFSM, Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service
- A/Commissioner Megan Stiffler, A/Commissioner, Fire and Rescue NSW
- A/Commissioner Daniel Austin, A/Commissioner, NSW State Emergency Service
- Deputy Commissioner Damien Johnston, Deputy Commissioner, Corporate Services, NSW State Emergency Service
- Mr David Witherdin, CEO, Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That for the portfolio of Multiculturalism and Seniors the committee invite the following witnesses:

- Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism and Seniors
- Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Joseph La Posta, Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
- Ms Tanya Smyth, Director, Women NSW, Seniors and Carers, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Robert Fitzgerald, NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner

The committee noted that where a witness no longer occupies a position, invitations will be made based on the position.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Poulos: That the committee submit any further witness requests to the secretariat by 5.00 pm, Friday 22 July 2022.

7.3 Witness appearance time

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution ministers are invited to appear for the morning sessions only, 9.30 am to 12.45 pm, unless requested by the committee to appear also for the afternoon session.

7.4 Recording of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That all Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearings be recorded and that these recordings be placed on the inquiry webpage as soon as practicable after the hearing.

8. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 2.06 pm, *sine die*.

Rhia Victorino

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 61

Monday 22 August 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.16 am

1. Members present

Ms Higginson, *Acting Chair* (until 11.59 am, from 12.38 pm)

Mr Searle, *Acting Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Ms Boyd (participating from 11.15 am until 11.59 am and from 12.38 pm until 12.50 pm; substituting for Ms Higginson from 11.59 am to 12.38 pm)

Mr Moselmane

Mr Poulos

2. Apologies

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Mr Barrett

3. Election of Acting Deputy Chair

Ms Higginson took the Chair.

The Chair called for nominations for Acting Deputy Chair for the duration of the hearing and for the remainder of Budget Estimates 2022-23 when the Deputy Chair is absent, or when the Deputy Chair is acting in the role of Chair.

Mr Poulos moved: That Mr Searle be elected Acting Deputy Chair.

There being no further nominations, the Chair declared Mr Searle elected Acting Deputy Chair for the duration of the hearing and for the remainder of Budget Estimates 2022-23 when the Deputy Chair is absent, or when the Deputy Chair is acting in the role of Chair.

4. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Poulos: That draft minutes no. 60 be confirmed.

5. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 2 August 2022 – Email from Office of Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, to Budget Estimates secretariat returning witness list for a Budget Estimates hearing on 22 August 2022

- 4 August 2022 – Email from Ms Katerina Paneras, Executive Officer, NSW Ageing and Disability Commission, to Budget Estimates secretariat, confirming Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM's attendance at Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearings on 24 August 2022 and 7 September 2022
- 8 August 2022 – Email from Kit Hale, Office of the Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, Minister for Flood Recovery, returning witness list for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 2 September 2022
- 8 August 2022 – Email from Mr Angus Webber, Office of Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Minister for Police, to Budget Estimates secretariat returning witness list for a Budget Estimates hearing on 31 August 2022
- 8 August 2022 – Email from Mr John Brazier, Office of Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, Minister for Disability Services, to Budget Estimates secretariat returning witness list for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 24 August 2022
- 8 August 2022 – Email from Mr Clayton Hopper, Office of Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, Minister for Seniors, to Budget Estimates secretariat returning witness list for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on Wednesday 7 September 2022
- 9 August 2022 – Email from Mr Mitchell Potts, Office of Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, to Budget Estimates secretariat returning witness list and noting witness changes for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing for 29 August 2022
- 12 August 2022 – Email from Mr John Brazier, Office of Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, Minister for Disability Services, to Budget Estimates secretariat returning witness list for a rescheduled Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 30 August 2022.

Sent:

- 28 July 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, issuing witness invitation requests for a hearing on 22 August 2022
- 28 July 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, Minister for Disability Services, issuing witness invitation requests for a hearing on 24 August 2022
- 28 July 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, issuing witness invitation requests for a hearing on 29 August 2022
- 28 July 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier of New South Wales, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Minister for Police, issuing witness invitation requests for a hearing on 31 August 2022
- 28 July 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, Minister for Flood Recovery, issuing witness invitation requests for a hearing on 2 September 2022
- 28 July 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, Minister for Seniors issuing witness invitation requests for a hearing on 7 September 2022
- 3 August 2022 – Letter from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM, NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner issuing witness invitation requests for hearings on 24 August and 7 September 2022
- 10 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Mr Patrick Wynne, Office of Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, Attorney General regarding amended Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing schedule and noting no change to a hearing on 22 August 2022
- 11 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, Mr John Brazier, Office of Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Family and Communities, Minister for Disability Services regarding notice of amended Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing schedule and noting date variation for hearing on 30 August 2022
- 16 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Mr Clayton Hopper, Office of Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, Minister for Seniors regarding amended Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing schedule and noting date variation for a hearing on 1 September 2022

- 16 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Katerina Paneras, NSW Disability and Ageing Commission, noting amended hearing schedule.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial hearings

6.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted the resolution of the House of 10 August 2022 amending the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 terms of reference.

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions, if required.

6.2 Public hearing: Attorney General

Departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, Attorney General, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Paul McKnight, Deputy Secretary, Law Reform and Legal Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Anne Campbell, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Monique Hitter, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid NSW
- Ms Karen Smith, NSW Crown Solicitor, NSW Crown Solicitor's Office
- Mrs Karen Wallace, Acting Deputy Secretary, Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Kathryn Boyd, Deputy Secretary, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Attorney General open for examination.

The Attorney General and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister withdrew at 12.50 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 2.41 pm.

6.3 Supplementary hearings

The committee noted that, under the Budget Estimates resolution, supplementary hearings are scheduled for the week of 24 October to 28 October 2022.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolio of Attorney General until after the return of answers to supplementary questions.

7. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 2.44 pm, until 9.15 am, Monday 29 August 2022, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing – Corrections.

Madeleine Foley
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 62

Tuesday 30 August 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.21 am

1. Members presentMr Borsak, *Chair*Ms Higginson, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Ms Boyd (participating from 9.35 am until 10.40 am, from 11.45 am until 12.45 pm, from 2.13 pm until 3.15 pm)

Ms Jackson (substituting for Mr Moselmane, via videoconferene until 9.30 am)

Mr Martin (substituting for Mr Barrett)

Ms Moriarty (participating from 10.45 am until 12.45 pm, from 3.45 pm until 4.10 pm)

Mr Searle (until 12.26 pm, from 2.00pm)

2. Apologies

Mr Poulos

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 17 August 2022 – Letter from Michael Tidball, Secretary, NSW Department of Communities and Justice, to the Chair providing a redacted copy of The Piper Alderman report as a supplementary answer to a question taken on notice during Budget Estimates 2021-2022
- 17 August 2022 – Email from Angus Webber, Office of Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Minister for Police, regarding witness availability for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 31 August 2022
- 17 August 2022 – Email from Katerina Paneras, NSW Ageing and Disability Commission, noting schedule changes relating to Commissioner Robert Fitzgerald AM's attendance at Budget Estimates 2022-2023
- 25 August 2022 – Email from Mr Angus Webber, Office of Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales and Minister for Police, to Budget Estimates secretariat regarding witness availability for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 31 August 2022
- 25 August 2022 – Email from Ms Katerina Paneras, Executive Officer, NSW Ageing and Disability Commission, to Budget Estimates secretariat confirming Commissioner Robert Fitzgerald AM's attendance for Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearings on 30 August and 1 September 2022
- 26 August 2022 – Email from Office of the Hon. Steph Cooke MP Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery regarding witness availability for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 2 September 2022
- 27 August 2022 – Email from Mitchell Potts, Office of the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, to Hon Robert Borsak MLC, Committee Chair, advising that Minister Lee will be unable to attend the Corrections Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 29 August 2022
- 27 August 2022 – Email from Mr Richard McDonald, to committee, regarding Mr Luke Brett Moore
- 29 August 2022 – Letter from Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Seniors to Budget Estimates secretariat regarding witnesses for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 1 September 2022.

Sent:

- 23 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to the Office of the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, confirming witnesses for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 29 August 2022

- 25 August 2022 – Letter from Budget Estimates secretariat to NSW Ageing and Disability Commission, regarding witness requests for a hearing on 1 September 2022
- 25 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of the Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Seniors regarding witness requests for a hearing on 1 September 2022
- 26 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of the Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, Attorney General, suing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice and supplementary questions for a Budget Estimates hearing on 22 August 2022
- 29 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of the Hon. Steph Cooke MP Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery confirming witnesses for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 2 September 2022
- 29 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Mitchell Potts, Office of the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, advising that the Corrections Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 29 August 2022 has been postponed to a later date to be determined.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Amato: That the Piper Alderman report be kept confidential on the basis that it deals with a sensitive workplace investigation.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Martin: That the correspondence from Mr Richard McDonald be kept confidential.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial hearings

4.1 Postponement of hearing – Corrections

The committee noted that, as previously agreed to, the Budget Estimates Corrections hearing, scheduled for Monday 29 August 2022, was postponed until a date to be determined.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the Budget Estimates Corrections hearing be held on Monday 24 October 2022.

4.2 Returned witness list – Multiculturalism, Seniors

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee accepts the returned witness list from the Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Seniors, received 29 August 2022, for the Budget Estimates Multiculturalism, Seniors hearing to be held on 1 September 2022.

4.3 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions, if required.

4.4 Public hearing: Families and Communities, Disability Services

Departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee.

- Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Anne Campbell, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Simone Czech, Deputy Secretary, Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Brendan Thomas, Deputy Secretary, Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr James Toomey, Acting Deputy Secretary, Housing, Disability and District Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Paul O'Reilly, Executive Director, Youth Justice, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Robert Fitzgerald, NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Families and Communities, Disability Services open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister withdrew at 12.45 pm.

Mr Robert Fitzgerald withdrew at 3.30 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.02 pm.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.02 pm, until 9.15 am, Wednesday 31 August 2022, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing – Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police.

Emily Treeby

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 63

Wednesday 31 August 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.16 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Ms Higginson, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Mr Barrett

Ms Boyd (participating from 10.25 am until 11.00 am, from 2.00 pm until 2.36 pm, and from 4.39 pm until 4.57 pm)

Ms Faehrmann (participating from 11.28 am until 11.47 am)

Mr Field (participating from 9.15 am until 2.00 pm, and from 3.20 pm until 4.29 pm, via videoconference)

Mrs Houssos (participating from 10.17 am until 4.55 pm)

Ms Moriarty (participating from 9.45 am until 11.00 am, and from 2.46 pm until 3.30 pm)

Mr Roberts (participating from 2.00 pm until 3.30 pm)

Mr Searle

Mr Veitch (substituting for Mr Moselmane)

2. Apologies

Mr Poulos

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 30 August 2022 – Email from Mr Richard McDonald to Budget Estimates secretariat with regards to a complaint of Mr Luke Brett Moore against NSW Police.

Sent:

- 29 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Minister for Police, attaching confirmed witness list for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 31 August 2022
- 30 August 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of Hon Mark Coure MP Minister for Multiculturalism and Minister for Seniors, confirming witness list for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 1 September 2022.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial hearings

4.1 Correspondence from Mr Richard McDonald to Budget Estimates secretariat

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Barrett: That the correspondence from Mr Richard McDonald be kept confidential.

4.2 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions, if required.

4.3 Public hearing: Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police

Departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Rebecca Fox, Acting Secretary, Regional NSW
- Ms Georgina Beattie, Chief Executive Officer, Mining, Exploration and Geoscience, Regional NSW
- Mr Chris Hanger, Deputy Secretary, Regional Development & Programs, Regional NSW
- Mr David Witherdin, Deputy Secretary, Commercial; Chief Executive, Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation, Regional NSW
- Ms Karen Webb, Commissioner, NSW Police Force
- Mr David Hudson APM, Deputy Commissioner, Investigations and Counter Terrorism, NSW Police Force
- Mr Scott Whyte, Assistant Commissioner, Police Prosecutions & Licensing Enforcement Command, NSW Police Force
- Mr Peter Bodor QC, Assistant Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police open for examination.

The Deputy Premier and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Borsak tendered the following documents:

- Detecting Gunshots Using Wearable Accelerometers by Charles E. Loeffler, University of Pennsylvania

- Email from Mr Stephen Larsson, Senior Analyst, Office of Hon Robert Borsak MLC, to Superintendent Lindsay, NSW Police re: Tippman Storman
- Email from Mr Stephen Larsson, Senior Analyst, Office of Hon Robert Borsak MLC, to Superintendent Bousfield, NSW Police re FAR decisions
- Email from Mr Tim Reardon, Secretary, Department of Premier & Cabinet, to Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments, re: Order for Papers - NSW Firearm Registry
- Coroners Court of NSW file.

Mr Searle tendered the following document:

- Photograph of various individuals.

Ms Boyd tendered the following document:

- Incidents summary and statement of accounts provided by Legal Observers NSW on the basis of first-hand accounts.

The Deputy Premier withdrew at 1.00 pm.

Mr Roberts tendered the following documents:

- Letter from Makinson d'Apice Lawyers, to Mr Luke Moore, dated 25 November 2021.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.06 pm.

4.4 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police hearing held on Wednesday 31 August 2022:

- Detecting Gunshots Using Wearable Accelerometers by Charles E. Loeffler, University of Pennsylvania, tendered by Mr Borsak
- Email from Mr Stephen Larsson, Senior Analyst, Office of Hon Robert Borsak MLC, to Superintendent Lindsay, NSW Police re: Tippman Storman, tendered by Mr Borsak
- Email from Mr Stephen Larsson, Senior Analyst, Office of Hon Robert Borsak MLC, to Superintendent Bousfield, NSW Police re FAR decisions, tendered by Mr Borsak
- Email from Mr Tim Reardon, Secretary, Department of Premier & Cabinet, to Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments, re: Order for Papers - NSW Firearm Registry, tendered by Mr Borsak
- Coroners Court of NSW file, tendered by Mr Borsak
- Photograph of various individuals, tendered by Mr Searle
- Incidents summary and statement of accounts provided by Legal Observers NSW on the basis of first-hand accounts, tendered by Ms Boyd
- Letter from Makinson d'Apice Lawyers, to Mr Luke Moore, dated 25 November 2021, tendered by Mr Roberts.

4.5 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police, until after the return of answers to supplementary questions.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.08 pm until 9.15 am, Thursday 1 September 2022, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing – Multiculturalism, Seniors.

Madeleine Dowd
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 64

Thursday 1 September 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.19 am

1. Members presentMr Borsak, *Chair*Ms Higginson, *Deputy Chair* (until 3.10 pm)

Mr Amato (until 2.57 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating from 11.20 am until 12.35 pm)

Mr Donnelly (substituting for Mr Searle)

Mr Moselmane

Mr Poulos (from 9.30 am)

Ms Sharpe (participating from 11.15 am until 11.50 am)

2. Apologies

Mr Barrett

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial hearings**3.1 Order for examination of portfolios**

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions, if required.

The committee noted, as previously agreed via email, that the NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner will appear from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm for the afternoon session only.

3.2 Public hearing: Multiculturalism, Seniors

Departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism and Minister for Seniors, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair also reminded Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice, that he did not need to be sworn, as he had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Joseph La Posta, Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
- Ms Melinda Norton, Director, Disability Reform, Royal Commission and Seniors, Department of Communities and Justice.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Multiculturalism and Seniors open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister withdrew at 12.45 pm.

Mr Robert Fitzgerald, NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner was admitted at 2.00 pm. The Chair reminded Mr Fitzgerald that he did not need to be sworn, as he had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee.

Mr Donnelly tendered the following document:

- Submission No 57 by the Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine NSW Division for the Inquiry into Provisions of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021.

Mr La Posta withdrew at 3.30 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.18 pm.

3.3 Supplementary hearings

The committee noted that, under the Budget Estimates resolution, supplementary hearings are scheduled for the week 24 October to 28 October 2022.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the following portfolios until after the return of answers to supplementary questions:

- Families and Communities, Disability Services
- Multiculturalism, Seniors.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.20 pm, until 9.15 am, Friday 2 September, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing – Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery.

Arizona Hart

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 65

Friday 2 September 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.18 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Ms Higginson, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Mr Barrett

Mr Buttigieg (substituting for Mr Moselmane)

Mr Searle

2. Apologies

Mr Poulos

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following item of correspondence:

Sent:

- 31 August 2022 - Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Mr Mitchell Potts, Office of Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, regarding rescheduled hearing for Budget Estimates 2022-2023, with a hearing proposed for 24 October 2022.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial hearings

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions, if required.

4.2 Public hearing: Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery

Departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM, Commissioner, Resilience NSW
- Commissioner Paul Baxter, Commissioner, Fire and Rescue NSW
- Commissioner Carlene York APM, Commissioner, NSW State Emergency Service
- Commissioner Rob Rogers AFSM, Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Ms Higginson tendered the following document:

- Map of potential roadside water sites to help protect Western Sydney from bushfire

Mr Searle tendered the following documents:

- Redacted spreadsheet from NSW Department of Communities and Justice
- Fire and Rescue NSW Annual Report 2020-21 – Appendix 15 Human Resources, p 109 and Annual Report 2011-12 – Performance Summary, p 8.

The Minister withdrew at 12.51 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded 5.03 pm.

4.3 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery hearing held on Friday 2 September 2022:

- Hawkesbury Blue Mountains Community Bushfire Alliance: Map of potential roadside water sites to help protect Western Sydney from bushfire, tendered by Ms Higginson
- Meritorious projects that are not able to funded through BCRRF Stream 2 – SODA Hawkesbury Nights Out - redacted spreadsheet from NSW Department of Communities and Justice, Legal, tendered by Mr Searle
- Fire and Rescue NSW Annual Report 2020-21 – Appendix 15 Human Resources, p 109 and Annual Report 2011-12 – Performance Summary, p 8, tendered by Mr Searle.

4.4 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery, until after the return of answers to supplementary questions.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.15 pm, *sine die*.

Tina Higgins/Stewart Smith/Sarah Newlands
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 66

Wednesday 12 October 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 6.45 pm

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Ms Higginson, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Mr Barrett

Mr Moselmane

Mr Poulos

Mr Roberts (participating)

Mr Searle

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following item of correspondence:

Received:

- 6 September 2022 – Email from Office of Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, to Budget Estimates secretariat regarding witness availability for a rescheduled Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 24 October 2022
- 14 September 2022 – Letter from Ms Karen Wallace, Deputy Secretary, Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery, Department of Communities and Justice, to Budget Estimates secretariat, clarifying evidence given in a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 22 August 2022
- 16 September 2022 – Letter from Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, Attorney General, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, returning post hearing responses for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 22 August 2022
- 26 September 2022 – Letter from Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, returning post hearing responses for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 30 August 2022
- 26 September 2022 – Letter from Ms Simone Czech, Deputy Secretary, Child Protection, Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services, Department of Communities and Justice, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, clarifying evidence given in a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 30 August 2022
- 27 September 2022 – Email from Office of Hon Steph Cooke, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, requesting an extension for the submission of post-hearing responses due on 29 September 2022
- 27 September 2022 – Email from Office of Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, returning post hearing responses for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 31 August 2022
- 27 September 2022 – Letter from Ms Nicole Miller, Executive Director, Office of the Commissioner, NSW Police Force, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, clarifying evidence given by the Commissioner at a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 31 August 2022
- 28 September 2022 – Letter from Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Seniors, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, returning post hearing responses for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 1 September 2022

- 30 September 2022 – Letter from Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery, to the Budget Estimates secretariat, returning post hearing responses and a document clarifying evidence given at a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 2 September 2022
- 30 September 2022 – Email from the Hon Rod Roberts MLC, to the Chair regarding evidence given at a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 31 August 2022.

Sent:

- 5 September 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice and supplementary questions for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 30 August 2022
- 6 September 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice and supplementary questions for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 31 August 2022
- 7 September 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Seniors issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice, supplementary questions for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 1 September 2022
- 8 September 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice and supplementary questions for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 2 September 2022
- 21 September 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Office of Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, confirming rescheduled Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing on 24 October 2022
- 26 September 2022 – Letter from Budget Estimates secretariat, to NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner, issuing uncorrected transcript and questions on notice for Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearings held on 30 August and 1 September 2022
- 28 September 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Office of Hon Steph Cooke, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery, confirming extension granted for the submission of post-hearing responses previously due on 29 September 2022.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial and supplementary hearings

3.1 Extension to deadline for post-hearing responses: Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee, as previously agreed via email, extend the deadline for post-hearing responses arising from the Budget Estimates Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery hearing from 29 September 2022 to 30 September 2022.

3.2 Clarification of evidence

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Poulos: That the committee, as previously agreed via email, authorise the publication of the following items of correspondence, and the insertion of footnotes in the relevant Budget Estimates transcripts, noting receipt of correspondence clarifying the evidence given and providing a hyperlink to the published correspondence:

- correspondence from Ms Karen Wallace, Deputy Secretary, Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery, Department of Communities and Justice, received 14 September 2022, clarifying evidence given at the Budget Estimates Attorney General hearing held on 22 August 2022
- correspondence from Ms Simone Czech, Deputy Secretary, Child Protection, Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services, received 26 September 2022, clarifying evidence given at the Budget Estimates Families and Communities, Disability Services hearing held on 30 August 2022
- correspondence from Ms Karen Webb, Commissioner, NSW Police Force, received 27 September 2022, clarifying evidence given at the Budget Estimates Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police hearing held on 31 August 2022

- correspondence from Commissioner Paul Baxter, Fire and Rescue NSW, received 30 September 2022, clarifying evidence given at the Budget Estimates Lands and Water, Hospitality and Racing hearing held on 2 September 2022.

3.3 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee hold no further hearings to consider matters relating to the following portfolios:

- Attorney General
- Families and Communities, Disability Services
- Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Police
- Multiculturalism, Seniors
- Emergency Services and Resilience, Flood Recovery.

4. Other business: Correspondence from Mr Searle

Mr Searle tabled the following correspondence:

- Letter from Mr Paul Svilans, Principal, Mark O'Brien Legal to Mr Adam Searle, regarding comments made during the Budget Estimates hearing on 31 August 2022, dated 6 September 2022.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee:

- note and authorise the publication of the correspondence from Mr Paul Svilans
- seek the advice of the Clerk in relation to:
 - the application of parliamentary privilege as it relates to the request by Mr Svilans for the preservation of all communications and documents for the purposes of court proceedings
 - the appropriateness of a response by the committee to Mr Svilans.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 6.55 pm, Monday 24 October 2022, 9.15 am, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing – Corrections.

Allison Stowe

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 67

Monday 24 October 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members present

Ms Higginson, *Acting Chair*

Mr Primrose, *Acting Deputy Chair* (substituting for Mr Moselmane)

Mr Barrett

Ms Moriarty (substituting for Mr Searle, from 9.18 am)

Mr Poulos (from 9.16 am)

2. Apologies

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Mr Amato

3. Election of Acting Deputy Chair

Ms Higginson took the Chair.

The Chair called for nominations for Acting Deputy Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

Mr Barrett moved: That Mr Primrose be elected Acting Deputy Chair.

There being no further nominations, the Chair declared Mr Primrose elected Acting Deputy Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 20 October 2022 – Letter from Mr David Blunt, Clerk of Parliaments, to the Hon Robert Borsak MLC, Chair of Portfolio Committee No. 5, responding to a request for advice made on 12 October 2022.

Sent:

- 12 October 2022 – Email to Stephen Frappell, Clerk Assistant, LC Committees, from Budget Estimates secretariat seeking advice at the request of the committee regarding the application of parliamentary privilege in relation to correspondence to Mr Searle from Mr Paul Svilans, Principal, Mark O'Brian Legal.

5. Correspondence from Mr Searle

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Primrose: That the Chair, on behalf of the committee, send correspondence to Mr Svilans, from Mark O'Brien Legal, advising of the application of parliamentary privilege to any documents held by Mr Searle, should they exist.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial hearings

6.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2022-2023 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions, if required.

The committee noted that, as previously agreed to via email, Mr Brendan Thomas, Deputy Secretary, Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, Department of Communities and Justice, is scheduled to appear until 1.00 pm for the morning session only.

6.2 Public hearing: Corrections

Departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair also reminded Mr Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice and Mr Brendan Thomas, Deputy Secretary, Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, Department of Communities and Justice, that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Kevin Corcoran, Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW
- Ms Sandra Crawford, Assistant Commissioner, Community Corrections, Corrective Services NSW
- Mr Leon Taylor, Assistant Commissioner, Corrections Industry & Capacity, Corrective Services NSW
- Ms Jennifer Galouzis, Assistant Commissioner, Offender Management and Programs.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Corrections open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Ms Higginson tendered the following document:

- Letter to the Commissioner of Corrective Services, dated 22 June 2022, regarding Goulburn Correctional Centre.

Mr Corcoran tendered the following document:

- Document from Corrective Services NSW containing statistical data on assaults in correctional centres during the 2021-2022 financial year.

The Minister and Mr Brendan Thomas withdrew at 12.45 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.41 pm.

6.3 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Poulos: That the committee accept and keep confidential the following document tendered during the Corrections hearing held on Monday 24 October 2022:

- Letter to the Commissioner of Corrective Services, dated 22 June 2022, Goulburn Correctional Centre, tendered by Ms Higginson.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Moriarty: That the committee accept and publish the following document tendered during the Corrections hearing held on Monday 24 October 2022:

- Document from Corrective Services NSW containing statistical data on assaults in correctional centres during the 2021-2022 financial year, tendered by Mr Corcoran.

6.4 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Moriarty: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolio of Corrections, until after the return of answers to supplementary questions.

7. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.50 pm, *sine die*.

Allison Stowe
Committee Clerk

Draft Minutes no. 68

Thursday 8 December 2022

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Regional NSW and Stronger Communities

Webex, Parliament House, Sydney, at 10.31 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Ms Higginson, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Mr Barrett

Mr D'Adam (substituting for Mr Searle)

Mr Moselmane

Mr Poulos

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Barrett: That draft minutes nos. 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66 and 67 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 13 September 2022 – Email from the Office of the Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police to Budget Estimates secretariat, returning post hearing transcript corrections for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 31 August 2022
- 10 November 2022 – Letter from Michael Tidball, Secretary, NSW Department of Communities and Justice to the Chair, clarifying evidence given at a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 24 October 2022
- 18 November 2022 – Letter from the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections to Budget Estimates secretariat, returning post hearing responses for a supplementary Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 24 October 2022
- 22 November 2022 – Letter from the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections to Budget Estimates secretariat, returning additional post hearing responses for a supplementary Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 24 October 2022
- 22 November 2022 – Letter from Leon Taylor, Assistant Commissioner, Corrections to the Chair, clarifying evidence given at a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 24 October 2022
- 29 November 2022 – Email from the Office of the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections to Budget Estimates secretariat, returning corrected post hearing responses for a supplementary Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 24 October 2022
- 7 December 2022 – Letter from Leon Taylor, Assistant Commissioner, Corrections to the Chair, clarifying evidence given at a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 24 October 2022.

Sent:

- 26 October 2022 – Letter from the Chair to Mr Paul Svilans, Principal, Mark O'Brien Legal, in response to correspondence received by Mr Searle and advising of the application of parliamentary privilege
- 28 October 2022 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat, to Office of Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice and supplementary questions for a Budget Estimates 2022-2023 hearing held on 24 October 2022.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2022-2023 – initial hearings

4.1 Clarification of evidence

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmann: That the committee, as previously agreed via email, authorise the publication of the following items of correspondence, and the insertion of footnotes in the Budget Estimates Corrections transcript, noting receipt of correspondence clarifying the evidence given and providing a hyperlink to the published correspondence:

- correspondence from Michael Tidball, Secretary, NSW Department of Communities and Justice, received 10 November 2022
- correspondence from Leon Taylor, Assistant Commissioner, Corrections, received 22 November 2022.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmann: That the committee authorise the publication of correspondence from Leon Taylor, Assistant Commissioner, Corrections, received 7 December 2022, and the insertion of footnotes in the Budget Estimates Corrections transcript, noting receipt of correspondence clarifying the evidence given and providing a hyperlink to the published correspondence.

4.2 Supplementary hearings

The committee noted that, according to the resolution of the House establishing the Budget Estimates inquiry, there are no further opportunities to hold a further hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolio Corrections.

4.3 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions

The committee noted the following answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution establishing the inquiry:

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, Attorney General, received 16 September 2022
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities, and Minister for Disability Services, received 26 September 2022
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, and Minister for Police, received 27 September 2022
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Mark Coure MP, Minister for Multiculturalism, and Minister for Seniors, received 28 September 2022
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, and Minister for Flood Recovery, received 30 September 2022
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, received 18 November 2022, with additional answers received 22 November 2022
- corrected answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Corrections, received 29 November 2022.

4.4 Consideration of Chair's draft report

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That:

The draft report be the report of the committee and that the committee present the report to the House;

The transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry be tabled in the House with the report;

Upon tabling, all unpublished transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry, be published by the committee, except for those documents kept confidential by resolution of the committee;

The committee secretariat correct any typographical, grammatical and formatting errors prior to tabling;

That the report be tabled on 16 December 2022.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 10.33 am, *sine die*.

Allison Stowe
Committee Clerk

