

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Ordered to be printed 12 November 2009

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

New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Budget estimates, 2009-2010 : [report] / General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2. [Sydney, N.S.W.] : the Committee, 2009. – ix, 17 p. ; 30 cm. (Report ; no. 32)

Chair: Ms. Robyn Parker MLC.

“November 2009”.

ISBN 9781921286360

1. New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2—Appropriations and expenditures.
 - I. Title.
 - II. Parker, Robyn.
- III. Series: New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2. Report ; no. 32

DDC 328.94407

How to contact the Committee

Members of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Legislative Council

Parliament House, Macquarie Street

Sydney New South Wales 2000

Internet www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2

Email gpscno2@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Telephone 9230 3586

Facsimile 9230 3416

Terms of reference

1. That upon tabling, the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2009-2010 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.
2. That the committees consider the Budget Estimates in accordance with the allocation of portfolios to the committees.
3. That the initial hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Monday 14 September 2009

GPSC 1	Roads	9.15 am - 11.15 am
GPSC 2	Health, Central Coast	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Ports and Waterways	11.30 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Finance, Infrastructure, Regulatory Reform	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC 2	Ageing, Disability Services	2.00 pm - 4.30 pm
GPSC 2	Aboriginal Affairs	4.45 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 1	The Legislature	5.15 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Two: Tuesday 15 September 2009

GPSC 1	Treasury	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 3	Local Government	9.15 am - 11.45 am
GPSC 3	Mental Health	12.00 pm - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Premier	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC 3	Attorney General, Industrial Relations	2.00 pm - 3.45 pm
GPSC 3	Corrective Service, Public Sector Reform and Special Minister of State	4.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 1	Arts	5.15 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Three: Wednesday 16 September 2009

GPSC 2	Education and Training, Women	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 4	Fair Trading, Citizenship	9.15 am - 11.00 pm
GPSC 4	Emergency Services, Small Business	11.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 2	Education and Training, Women (continued)	2.00 pm - 2.45 pm
GPSC 4	Planning, Redfern Waterloo	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 2	Community Services	3.00pm - 6.00 pm

Day Four: Thursday 17 September 2009

GPSC 4	Transport, Illawarra	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 5	Primary Industries, Mineral Resources	9.15 am - 11.45 am
GPSC 5	Commerce	12.00 pm - 1.00 pm
GPSC 4	Science & Medical Research, Health (Cancer)	2.00 pm - 3.45 pm
GPSC 5	Climate Change and the Environment	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 4	Tourism, Hunter	4.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Five: Friday 18 September 2009

GPSC 3	Lands, Rural Affairs	9.15 am - 10.15 am
GPSC 5	Energy	9.15 am - 11.30 am
GPSC 3	Police	10.30 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 5	State Development	11.45 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 3	Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
GPSC 5	Water, Regional Development	2.00 pm - 4.15 pm
GPSC 3	Juvenile Justice, Volunteering, Youth, Veteran's Affair	4.15 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 5	Housing, Western Sydney	4.30 pm - 6.00 pm

4. That an initial round of supplementary hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: 16 November 2009

GPSC 1
GPSC 2

Day Two: 17 November 2009

GPSC 1
GPSC 3

Day Three: 18 November 2009

GPSC 4
GPSC 2

Day Four: 19 November 2009

GPSC 4
GPSC 5

Day Five: 20 November 2009

GPSC 5
GPSC 3

5. That the committees may hold additional supplementary hearings after 20 November 2009 as required.
6. That each scheduled day for the initial round of hearings will begin at 9:15 am and conclude by 6:00 pm.
7. The committees must hear evidence in public.
8. 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.
9. There is no provision under this resolution for a Minister to make an opening statement before the committee commences questioning
10. A daily Hansard record is to be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
11. The committees are to present a final report to the House by the last sitting day of the first sitting week in March 2010.
12. Members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee during a Budget Estimates hearing and up to two days following.
13. All answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing, and questions on notice lodged up to two days following the hearing, must be provided within 21 days, or as otherwise determined by the committee.

The terms of reference were referred to the Committee by the House on 27 November 2008, see *LC Minutes* (27/11/2008) 928-929, amended by *LC Minutes* (23/06/2009) 1253-1255

Committee membership

The Hon Robyn Parker MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Christine Robertson MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens	
Revd the Hon Dr Gordon Moyes MLC	Independent	
The Hon Marie Ficarra MLC	Liberal Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

Dr John Kaye MLC	The Greens
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC	The Greens
The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Mick Veitch MLC	Australian Labor Party
Mr Ian Cohen MLC	The Greens
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Helen Westwood MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Charlie Lynn MLC	Liberal Party

Table of contents

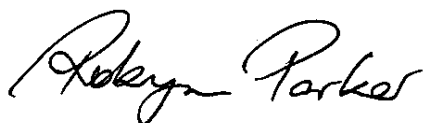
	Chair's foreword	ix
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
	Referral of the 2009-2010 Budget Estimates	1
	Hearings	1
	Transcripts	1
	Questions on notice	1
Chapter 2	Issues raised during hearings	3
	Health	3
	Ageing, Disability Services	3
	Aboriginal Affairs	4
	Education and Training	4
	Women	4
	Community Services	5
Appendix 1	Witnesses at hearings	7
Appendix 2	Tabled documents	9
Appendix 3	Minutes	10

Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Budget Estimates 2009-2010. 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 Council.

During the initial round of hearings the Committee held six hearings, receiving 15 hours of evidence, to examine the portfolio areas of Health, Ageing, Disability Services, Aboriginal Affairs, Education and Training, Women and Community Services.

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 for their contributions to the Inquiry process.



Hon Robyn Parker MLC

Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2009-2010 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On 27 November 2008, the Legislative Council resolved ‘that the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2009-2010 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.’¹
- 1.2 The resolution (referred to as the Budget Estimates Resolution) required each committee to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the House by the last sitting day of the first sitting week in March 2010.²

Hearings

- 1.3 The Committee held six public hearings as follows:
- Monday 14 September 2009 – Health
 - Monday 14 September 2009 – Ageing, Disability Services
 - Monday 14 September 2009 – Aboriginal Affairs
 - Wednesday 16 September 2009 – Education and Training
 - Wednesday 16 September 2009 – Women
 - Wednesday 16 September 2009 – Community Services.
- 1.4 No public hearing was held for the portfolio of Central Coast, due to ministerial changes that occurred on Monday 14 September 2009. Members of the Committee instead submitted questions on notice in regards to the Central Coast portfolio.
- 1.5 A brief summary of the key issues raised during the hearings is contained in Chapter 2.

Transcripts

- 1.6 Transcripts of the hearings are available on the Committee’s web page at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2.

Questions on notice

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

¹ *LC Minutes* (27/11/2008), 928-929

² *LC Minutes* (27/11/2008), 928-929, amended by *LC Minutes* (23/06/2009) 1253-1255

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Health

2.1 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Health was held on Monday 14 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Implementation of the recommendations of the Garling Inquiry
- Trans fats
- ‘Healthdirect’ health hotline service
- Oral health waiting lists
- Indigenous Health Benchmarks
- NSW Ambulance Service
- Detoxification treatment services
- Centralisation of hospital food
- NSW Health Casemix funding arrangements.

Ageing, Disability Services

2.2 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Ageing and Disability Services was held on Monday 14 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) services
- Home and Community Care Program
- Pilot Programs
- Stronger Together – Part II
- Employment of People with a Disability
- Group Homes
- Support of non-government disability services providers.

Aboriginal Affairs

2.3 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs was held on Monday 14 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Aboriginal employment
- Revitalisation of Indigenous languages
- Water and sewage
- Stolen wages – Trust Funds
- Aboriginal Land Councils.

Education and Training

2.4 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Education and Training was held on Wednesday 16 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- School infrastructure provided as part of the Australian Government's stimulus package, including project management costs and project monitoring
- Sale of land owed by the Department of Education and Training
- Needs of students with learning difficulties
- Initiatives to improve education in NSW, including teacher training, literacy and numeracy programs, support for international students and programs for Aboriginal students
- Transparency of school results data for NSW
- Information technology developments
- Equity measures in TAFE NSW
- Environmental sustainability of schools
- Building of new schools.

Women

2.5 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Women was held on Wednesday 16 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Domestic violence
- Premier's Council for Women
- Abortion laws
- Gender pay equity gap.

Community Services

2.6 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Community Services was held on Wednesday 16 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- ‘Keep them Safe’ report
- Death of the child ‘Ebony’
- Case management
- Out-of-home care services
- Community Services Grants Program (CSGP)
- Aboriginal families
- Foster carers
- Domestic violence and early intervention programs
- Emergency beds for children taken into crisis care
- Child Wellbeing Units
- Mandatory reporting thresholds.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

1. Health, Central Coast – Monday 14 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Hatzistergos MLC	Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, Attorney General and Minister for Industrial Relations
Professor Debra Picone	Director-General, Department of Health
Dr Richard Matthews	Deputy Director-General, Strategic Development, Department of Health
Ms Karen Crawshaw	Deputy Director-General, Health System Support, Department of Health
Dr Nigel Lyons	A/Deputy Director General, Health Systems Quality, Performance and Innovation, Department of Health
Dr Kerry Chant	Deputy Director-General, Population Health and Chief Health Officer, Department of Health
Mr John Roach	Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health

2. Aging, Disability Services – Monday 14 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Paul Lynch MP	Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Mr James Moore,	Chief Executive, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Lauren Murray	Deputy Director-General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Ethel McAlpine	Deputy Director-General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Mr James Christian	A/ Deputy Director-General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care

3. Aboriginal Affairs – Monday 14 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Paul Lynch MP	Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Ms Jody Broun	Chief Executive, Aboriginal Affairs, Department of Human Services
Mr Stephen Wright	Registrar, NSW Aboriginal Land Council

4. Education and Training – Wednesday 16 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Verity Firth MP	Minister for Education and Training
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Director-General, Department of Education and Training and Managing Director of TAFE NSW
Mr Alastair Hunter	Deputy Director-General, Finance and Infrastructure, Department of

Name	Position and Organisation
	Education and Training
Mr Tom Alegounarias	President, NSW Board of Studies
Ms Carol Taylor	A/Chief Executive, Office of the Board of Studies
Mr David Murphy	Director, Regulatory and Management Services, Office of the Board of Studies
Mr Patrick Lee	A/Chief Executive, NSW Teachers Institute

5. Women – Wednesday 16 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Linda Burney MP	Minister for Community Services and Minister for Women
Ms Vicki D'Adam	Assistant Director-General (Policy and Strategy), Department of Premier and Cabinet
Ms Gillian Ferguson	Executive Director, Office for Women's Policy, Department of Premier and Cabinet

6. Community Services – Wednesday 16 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Linda Burney MP	Minister for Community Services and Minister for Women
Ms Jennifer Mason	Director-General, Department of Human Services
Ms Annette Gallard	Chief Executive, Community Services
Ms Sonja Stewart	Divisional Director Communities and Early Years, Community Services
Mr Stephen Matthews	Chief Financial Officer, Community Services
Ms Kerryn Boland	Children's Guardian

Appendix 2 Tabled documents

Monday 14 September 2009

Public Hearing, Jubilee Room, Parliament House

1. *Current waiting list update for Parramatta and Penrith areas* – Tendered by the Hon Robyn Parker
2. *Client survey* – Tendered by the Hon Melinda Pavey

Wednesday 16 September 2009

Public Hearing, Room 814/815, Parliament House

3. *Schools where construction has commenced* – Tendered by Minister Firth
4. *Activities implemented by Funding Policy* – Tendered by Ms Annette Gallard, Community Services

Appendix 3 Minutes

Minutes No. 52

Monday, 14 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.00am

1. Members present

Ms Robyn Parker (*Chair*)

Ms Christine Robertson (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Tony Catanzariti (at 9:55 am)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Ms Marie Ficarra

Mr Don Harwin (at 12:30 pm)

Revd Dr Gordon Moyes (at 9:15 am)

Ms Sylvia Hale (Rhiannon) (at 9:15 am)

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Hale to substitute for Ms Rhiannon.

3. Participating members

The Chair advised that the following member would be attending the meeting as a participating member:

- Mr Harwin (for the post hearing deliberative)

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 3 September 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Hatzistergos, Minister for Health, Minister for the Central Coast, Attorney General and Minister for Industrial Relations regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.
- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Della Bosca, Minister for Health and Minister for the Central Coast, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010

5. Conduct of hearing

Allocation of question time

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Ficarra: That for the initial round of hearings into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010, the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Cross Bench and Government members, in that order, with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Return date for answers to questions on notice

Moved in accordance with the existing Budget Estimates resolution that for the initial round of hearings into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010, answers to questions taken on notice during the

hearing, and questions on notice lodged up to two days following the hearing, be provided within 21 days.

Publication of answers to questions on notice

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorise the Clerk of the Committee to publish the answers provided to questions on notice, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after these answers have been circulated to committee members.

Order for examination of portfolios

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the Health portfolio be examined from 9:15 am to 12:30 pm.

Morning tea

The Chair advised that there would be a brief break at 10:30 am.

6. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Hatzistergos that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Professor Debora Picone, Director-General, Department of Health
- Dr Richard Matthews, Deputy Director-General, Strategic Development, Department of Health
- Ms Karen Crawshaw, Deputy Director-General, Health System Support, Department of Health
- Dr Nigel Lyons, A/Deputy Director General, Health Systems Quality, Performance and Innovation, Department of Health
- Dr Kerry Chant, Deputy Director-General, Population Health and Chief Health Officer, Department of Health
- Mr John Roach, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health.

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

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12:30 pm. The public and media withdrew.

7. Deliberative meeting

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That journalism students from The Australian Centre for Independent Journalism, University of Technology Sydney, Mr Russell

Tulett and Ms Sarah Michael, be approved to film the public hearings of GPSC 2 in relation to the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

The Clerk of the Parliaments advised the Committee on the options regarding the recent change in ministerial portfolios and the Budget Estimates 2009-2010 timetable.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That consideration of the re-allocation of the time for the examination of the portfolios of the Central Coast and Women be deferred until the afternoon deliberative on Monday 14 September 2009.

8. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 12:40 pm until Monday 14 September 2009 at 2.00pm.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 53

Monday, 14 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00pm

9. Members present

Ms Robyn Parker (*Chair*)

Ms Christine Robertson (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Mick Veitch (Catanzariti)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Ms Melinda Pavey (Ficarra)

Revd Dr Gordon Moyes

Mr Ian Cohen (Rhiannon)

10. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Veitch to substitute for Mr Catanzariti
- Mr Cohen to substitute for Ms Rhiannon
- Ms Pavey to substitute for Ms Ficarra

11. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Lynch, Minister for Ageing and Minister for Disability Services, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

12. Conduct of hearing

Order for examination of portfolios:

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Cohen: That the portfolios of Ageing and Disability Services be examined together.

13. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Lynch that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr James Moore, Chief Executive, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
- Ms Lauren Murray, Deputy Director-General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
- Ms Ethel McAlpine, Deputy Director-General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
- Mr James Christian, A/ Deputy Director-General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Ageing and Disability Services open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

Hon Robyn Parker MLC tendered the following document:

- Current waiting list update for Parramatta and Penrith areas

Hon Melinda Pavey MLC tendered the following document:

- Client survey

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4:27 pm. The public and media withdrew.

14. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4:27 pm until Monday, 14 September 2009 at 4.45 pm

Glenda Baker

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 54

Monday, 14 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4.45pm

1. Members present

Ms Robyn Parker (*Chair*)

Ms Christine Robertson (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Tony Catanzariti

Mr Greg Donnelly

Ms Melinda Pavey (*Ficarra*)

Revd Dr Gordon Moyes
Mr Ian Cohen (Rhiannon)

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Pavey to substitute for Ms Ficarra
- Mr Cohen to substitute for Ms Rhiannon

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Lynch, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

4. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Lynch that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Ms Jody Broun, Chief Executive, Aboriginal Affairs, Department of Human Services
- Mr Stephen Wright, Registrar, NSW Aboriginal Land Council.

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

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 6:02 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. **Deliberative meeting**

Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Catanzariti: That the Committee accept and publish, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the following documents tendered during the public hearing:

- Current waiting list update for Parramatta and Penrith areas, tendered by Hon Robyn Parker MLC
- Client survey, tendered by Hon Melinda Pavey MLC

Women's portfolio

Resolved on the motion of Ms Robertson: That the Budget Estimates inquiry into the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Women be held between 2:00 pm and 2:45 pm on Wednesday 16 September 2009.

Central Coast portfolio

Resolved on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That a decision regarding if and when to conduct the Budget Estimates inquiry into the proposed expenditure for the Central Coast portfolio be deferred until Wednesday 16 September 2009 at 9:00 am.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 6:10 pm until Wednesday, 16 September 2009 at 9.00 am in Room 814/815.

Glenda Baker

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 55

Wednesday, 16 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.00am

1. Members present

Ms Robyn Parker (*Chair*)

Ms Christine Robertson (*Deputy Chair*)

Ms Helen Westwood (Catanzariti)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Ms Catherine Cusack (Ficarra)

Revd Dr Gordon Moyes

Dr John Kaye (Rhiannon)

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Cusack to substitute for Ms Ficarra
- Dr Kaye to substitute for Ms Rhiannon
- Ms Westwood to substitute for Mr Catanzariti.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Firth, Minister for Education and Training and Minister for Women, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

4. Conduct of hearingMorning tea

The Chair advised that there would be a brief break at 10.30 am.

5. Examination of the Central Coast portfolio

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That subject to the receipt of satisfactory answers to questions on notice, the Committee consider whether to hold a hearing for the portfolio of Central Coast.

6. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010 (9.24am)

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Firth that she did not need to be sworn, as she had sworn an oath to her office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Director-General, Department of Education and Training and Managing Director of TAFE NSW
- Mr Alastair Hunter, Deputy Director-General, Finance and Infrastructure, Department of Education and Training
- Mr Tom Alegounarias, President, NSW Board of Studies
- Ms Carol Taylor, A/Chief Executive, Office of the Board of Studies
- Mr David Murphy, Director, Regulatory and Management Services, Office of the Board of Studies
- Mr Patrick Lee, A/Chief Executive, NSW Teachers Institute.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Education and Training open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

Minister Firth tendered the following document:

- Schools where construction has commenced.

Revd Moyes left at 12.10 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 1.02 pm. The public and media withdrew.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1.02 pm until Wednesday, 15 September 2009 at 2.00 pm.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 56

Wednesday, 16 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00pm

1. Members present

Ms Robyn Parker (*Chair*)

Ms Christine Robertson (*Deputy Chair*)

Ms Cusack (Ficarra) (at 2.10 pm)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Dr Kaye (Rhiannon)
Revd Dr Gordon Moyes (at 2.41 pm)
Ms Westwood (Catanzariti)

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Westwood to substitute for Mr Catanzariti
- Ms Cusack to substitute for Ms Ficarra
- Dr Kaye to substitute for Ms Rhiannon

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 14 September 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Burney, Minister for Women, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

4. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Burney that she did not need to be sworn, as she had sworn an oath to her office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Ms Vicki D'Adam, Assistant Director-General (Policy and Strategy), Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Ms Gillian Ferguson, Executive Director, Office for Women's Policy, Department of Premier and Cabinet.

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

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 2.47 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 2.47 pm until Wednesday, 15 September 2009 at 3.00 pm

Teresa McMichael
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 57

Wednesday, 16 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 3.00pm

1. Members present

Ms Robyn Parker (*Chair*)

Ms Christine Robertson (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Tony Catanzariti

Mr Cohen (Rhiannon)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Mr Charlie Lynn (Ficarra) (at 3.10 pm)

Revd Dr Gordon Moyes

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Lynn to substitute for Ms Ficarra
- Mr Cohen to substitute for Ms Rhiannon

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Burney, Minister for Community Services, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

4. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Burney that she did not need to be sworn, as she had sworn an oath to her office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Ms Jennifer Mason, Director-General, Department of Human Services
- Ms Annette Gallard, Chief Executive, Community Services
- Ms Sonja Stewart, Divisional Director Communities and Early Years, Community Services
- Mr Stephen Matthews, Chief Financial Officer, Community Services
- Ms Kerry Boland, Children's Guardian.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Community Services open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

Ms Annette Gallard tendered the following document:

- Activities implemented by Funding Policy.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.57 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. **Deliberative meeting**

Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That the Committee accept and publish, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the following documents tendered during the public hearing:

- Schools where construction has commenced, tendered by Hon Verity Firth MP, Minister for Education and Training
- Activities implemented by Funding Policy, tendered by Ms Gallard.

6. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 5.59 pm *sine die*.

Teresa McMichael

Clerk to the Committee