

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

# **Budget Estimates 2006-2007**

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## 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:

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The Director

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General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

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Legislative Council

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Parliament House, Macquarie Street

---

Sydney New South Wales 2000

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Internet: [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2)

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Email: [Budget.Estimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Budget.Estimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

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Telephone: 9230 3311

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Facsimile: 9230 3416

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## Terms of reference

1. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2006-2007 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. For the purposes of this inquiry any member of the House may attend a meeting of a committee in relation to the Budget Estimates and question witnesses, participate in the deliberations of the committee at such meeting and make a dissenting statement relating to the Budget Estimates, but may not vote or be counted for the purpose of any quorum.
4. The committees must hear evidence on the Budget Estimates in public.
5. Not more than three committees are to hear evidence on the Budget Estimates simultaneously.
6. When a committee hears evidence on the Budget Estimates, the Chair is to call on items of expenditure in the order decided on and declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.
7. 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.
8. The report of a committee on the Budget Estimates may propose the further consideration of any items.
9. That a daily Hansard record of the hearings of a committee on the Budget Estimates be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
10. That the hearings be held according to the following timetable:\*

Monday 28 August 2006

9.00 am to 1.00 pm

GPSC 1: Premier, State Development, Citizenship

GPSC 3: Justice, Juvenile Justice

2.00 pm to 6.00 pm

GPSC 4: Local Government, Western Sydney, Fair Trading

GPSC 5: Water Utilities, Regional Development, Small Business, Illawarra

8.00 pm to 10.30 pm

GPSC 1: The Legislature

GPSC 2: Tourism and Sport and Recreation, Women, Aboriginal Affairs

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\*Note: This timetable was varied by the Leader of the Government. The final timetable for Budget Estimates 2006-2007 is on Parliament's website.

## Friday 1 September 2006

9.00 am to 1.00 pm

GPSC 1: Industrial Relations, Commerce, Finance

GPSC 4: Roads

2.00 pm to 6.00 pm

GPSC 3: Police

GPSC 5: Energy, Ports, Waterways

8.00 pm to 10.30 pm

GPSC 3: Gaming and Racing, Central Coast

GPSC 4: Housing

## Monday 4 September 2006

9.00 am to 1.00 pm

GPSC 1: Treasury, Infrastructure, Hunter

GPSC 2: Health

2.00 pm to 6.00 pm

GPSC 1: Education and Training

GPSC 5: Environment, Arts

8.00 pm to 10.30 pm

GPSC 2: Community Services, Youth

GPSC 5: Primary Industries

## Friday 8 September 2006

9.00 am to 1.00 pm

GPSC 2: Ageing and Disability Services

GPSC 4: Planning, Redfern and Waterloo, Science and Medical Research

2.00 pm to 6.00 pm

GPSC 3: Lands, Emergency Services, Rural Affairs

GPSC 4: Transport

8.00 pm to 10.30 pm

GPSC 3: Attorney General

GPSC 5: Natural Resources, Mineral Resources.

11. The committees may hold supplementary hearings as required.
12. The committees are to present a final report to the House by the last sitting day in November 2006.
13. The timetable in paragraph 10 may be varied by the Leader of the Government, provided the time allocated for each portfolio hearing is not reduced.
14. Members may lodge with the Clerk to the committee proposed issues for questioning up to seven days prior to the holding of the initial hearing for that portfolio.
15. Members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee during a Budget Estimates hearing and up to two days following.

## Committee membership

<b>The Hon Robyn Parker MLC*</b>	Liberal Party	<i>Chair (from 25 September 2006)</i>
<b>The Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC*</b>	Liberal Party	<i>Chair (until 19 September 2006)</i>
<b>The Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
<b>The Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC</b>	Australian Democrats	
<b>Ms Sylvia Hale MLC</b>	The Greens	
<b>The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC</b>	The Nationals	
<b>The Hon Christine Robertson MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	
<b>The Hon Henry Tsang MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	

## Other members who attended the hearings

<b>Mr Ian Cohen MLC</b>	The Greens
<b>The Hon Edward Obeid MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party
<b>The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party
<b>The Hon Jan Burnswoods MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party
<b>The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party
<b>The Hon John Ryan MLC</b>	Liberal Party
<b>Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC</b>	The Greens
<b>The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC</b>	Liberal Party

\* Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC was Chair until 19 September 2006 when she was replaced on the Committee by the Hon Robyn Parker MLC. Ms Parker was elected Chair on 25 September 2006.

## Table of contents

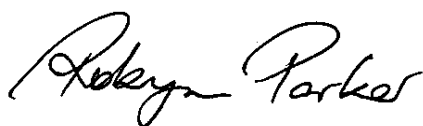
	Chair's foreword	viii
<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Referral of the 2006-2007 Budget Estimates</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Hearings</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Transcripts</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Questions on notice</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter 2</b>	<b>Issues raised during hearings</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Aboriginal Affairs</b>	<b>2</b>
	Supplementary hearing	2
	<b>Health</b>	<b>2</b>
	Supplementary hearing	3
	<b>Community Services, Youth</b>	<b>4</b>
	Supplementary hearings	4
	<b>Ageing, Disability Services</b>	<b>5</b>
	Supplementary hearing	6
	<b>Tourism and Sport and Recreation</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Appendix 1</b>	<b>Witnesses</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Appendix 2</b>	<b>Minutes</b>	<b>10</b>

## Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present the report of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 on the 2006-2007 Budget Estimates. The Committee examined the following portfolio areas:

- Health
- Community Services
- Youth
- Ageing
- Disability Services
- Tourism and Sport and Recreation
- Women
- Aboriginal Affairs.

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



Hon Robyn Parker MLC

**Chair**



# Chapter 1 Introduction

## Referral of the 2006-2007 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On Thursday 8 June 2006, the Legislative Council resolved ‘that the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2006-2007 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the GPSCs for inquiry and report’.<sup>1</sup>
- 1.2 Each committee was to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the House by the last sitting day of November 2006.<sup>2</sup>

## Hearings

- 1.3 The Committee held 10 public hearings as follows:
- Monday 28 August – Aboriginal Affairs
  - Monday 4 September – Health
  - Monday 4 September – Community Services, Youth
  - Friday 8 September – Ageing, Disability Services
  - Friday 8 September – Tourism and Sport and Recreation, Women
  - Monday 25 September – Aboriginal Affairs
  - Monday 23 October – Ageing, Disability Services
  - Tuesday 7 November – Health
  - Tuesday 7 November – Community Services, Youth
  - Monday 13 November – Community Services, Youth.
- 1.4 A brief summary of the key issues raised during the hearings is contained in Chapter 2.

## Transcripts

- 1.5 Transcripts of the hearings are available on the Committee’s web page at [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2).

## Questions on notice

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

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<sup>1</sup> *Minutes of Proceedings, No 7, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Parliament, 8 June 2006, item 25*

<sup>2</sup> *Minutes of Proceedings, No 7, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Parliament, 8 June 2006, item 25, para 12*

## Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

### Aboriginal Affairs

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs was held on Monday 28 August 2006. The following issues were raised:

- matters relating to the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council
- actions taken by the NSW Government in relation to the re-payment of 'stolen wages'
- status of the review of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act and associated consultation processes
- programs to increase the spread of Aboriginal language education in schools
- funding of the Aboriginal Community Development Program
- strategies to increase employment of Aboriginal people
- redevelopment of the Redfern-Waterloo area.

#### Supplementary hearing

2.2 A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs was held on Monday 25 September 2006. The following issues were raised:

- scholarship programs for indigenous students
- appointment of administrators to Local Aboriginal Land Councils
- details of the appointment of an administrator to the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council and related matters.

### Health

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolio of Health was held on Monday 4 September 2006. The following issues were raised:

- novated motor vehicle leases in the Greater Southern Area Health Service
- status of corporate administration staff numbers in NSW Health
- role and activities of the Clinical Excellence Commission
- operation and changes to the Isolated Patients Transport Administration System
- availability of surgical services in the Shellharbour region

- future of services provided at Rozelle health campus
- status of oral health service provision in New South Wales
- status of mental health service provision in New South Wales
- patient re-admission rates at NSW public hospitals
- impact of increased fuel prices on delivery of health services
- role of Mental Health Review Tribunal
- workforce challenges facing the health system
- future of Callan Park campus and transfer of patients to Concord Repatriation Hospital
- forensic mental health hospitals
- provision of general health care by Emergency Departments through co-location of general practice surgeries.

### **Supplementary hearing**

**2.4** A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Health was held on Tuesday 7 November 2006. The following issues were raised:

- redevelopment of hospitals through Public Private Partnerships (PPP), including Orange Base Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital, and potential contract arrangements under PPPs
- any proposals to sell land to fund redevelopment of hospitals, such as St Vincent's, Royal North Shore and Prince of Wales
- matters relating to the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme, including staffing and funding
- building and maintenance issues with Lithgow Hospital
- role delineation and staffing levels of obstetric units
- process to appoint a Visiting Medical Officer (VMO) at Lightning Ridge
- staffing shortfalls and measures to improve staff retention across various specialties
- VMO workloads and safety working hours, and the impact on safety and quality
- increased workload of the Mental Health Review Tribunal and subsequent funding increases
- measures to address the mental health needs of people in rural and regional areas affected by drought
- forthcoming report concerning the recent death of Jehan Nassif from meningococcal disease
- waiting times for patients presenting at emergency departments.

## Community Services, Youth

2.5 A hearing examining the portfolios of Community Services and Youth was held on Monday 4 September 2006. The following issues were raised:

- process for assessing notifications to the Department of Community Services (DOCS)
- categories of notifications and response statistics
- ‘working with children’ checks and DOCS employees
- Quality Improvement Program and accreditation for service providers
- increased carer allowances
- process for assessing allegations against carers
- progress of DOCS \$1.2 billion reform package since 2002
- review of appropriate checks for volunteers working with children
- funding provided to community based pre-schools and average pre-school fees
- role of the Disaster Recovery Unit
- improvements to the client information system – Key Information and Directory System
- availability of records for state wards.

### Supplementary hearings

2.6 A supplementary hearing examining the portfolios of Community Services and Youth was held on Tuesday 7 November 2006. The following issues were raised:

- concerns regarding proposed legislative changes to allow the names, addresses and phone numbers of foster carers to be released to birth parents
- availability of statistics from the new case management IT system, particularly for the number of home visits following child protection notifications
- DOCS initiatives to support indigenous staff and carers
- ‘Spotlight on Safety’ project to research community attitudes and behaviours in regard to child protection
- proposed changes to child protection laws to allow the introduction of ‘similar fact’ evidence in cases where DOCS seeks to remove a child whose older siblings have previously been removed from that carer
- inter-state information sharing regarding child deaths in cross border regions.

**2.7** A second supplementary hearing examining the portfolios of Community Services and Youth was held on Monday 13 November 2006. The following issues were raised:

- ‘working with children’ checks for volunteers
- creation of the Office for Children
- workload of DOCS caseworkers
- centralisation of care cases to the Parramatta Children’s Court
- matters relating to foster care, including advertising to promote people becoming foster carers and its impact on applications, training of prospective foster carers, and cultural considerations in placing indigenous children in foster homes
- funding for the Community Solutions Crime Prevention program
- development of key performance indicators
- changes in demand for DOCS services
- valuation of the Bidura Children’s Court complex
- introduction of Parental Responsibility Contracts
- programs available to children displaying inappropriate sexual behaviour.

## **Ageing, Disability Services**

**2.8** A hearing examining the portfolios of Ageing and Disability Services was held on Friday 8 September 2006. The following issues were raised:

- staffing and role of the Public Accountability Branch
- cost and extent of promotional material for the ‘Stronger Together’ program
- categories and extent of allegations of misconduct by Department employees
- non-government organisations and actions taken against misconduct
- measurement of unmet demand for services
- client involvement and consultation in Department training
- training in and awareness of Departmental Code of Conduct
- improvements to services provided to people with disabilities in boarding houses
- disability funding in regional areas including New England and Hunter regions
- status of the \ Community Participation Program, including the tender process
- fire safety measures taken by Marrickville boarding houses
- availability of public dental services for older people
- carer respite services – availability and enhancements.

### **Supplementary hearing**

**2.9** A supplementary hearing examining the portfolios of Ageing and Disability Services was held on Monday 23 October 2006. The following issues were raised:

- matters relating to Nardy House, including the costings underlying funding offered to Nardy House, proposed funding arrangements as a joint venture with Cram Foundation, and negotiations with Nardy House management to facilitate the opening of Nardy House
- respite services available to residents of the Bega Valley, and provision of funding packages to individuals in need of respite care
- number of departmental staff who have had criminal record checks and whether any staff without these checks are in direct contact with clients
- investigation of allegations of improper use of funds at Bankstown Handicapped Children's Centre
- tender process for the Community Participation Program, including details of unsuccessful tenderers and clients receiving services from unsuccessful tenderers
- new types of supported accommodation to be funded under the 'Stronger Together' program, including the establishment of supported accommodation programs for people with an intellectual disability exiting the criminal justice system
- data collection systems to support planning for future needs in disability services.

### **Tourism and Sport and Recreation**

**2.10** A hearing examining the portfolio of Tourism and Sport and Recreation was held on Thursday 7 September 2006. The following issues were raised:

- establishment of a new program through the National Centre for Dispute Resolutions to assist volunteers to learn conflict resolution skills to handle bad behaviour
- new working party to address issues related to women in sport, including increasing sponsorship and media coverage
- establishment of 'Come And Try' sports clinics to introduce girls to predominantly male sports such as surfing and football
- NSW income from tourism expenditure
- factors affecting domestic travel within NSW including high mortgages, high petrol prices, and popularity of low cost air carriers
- roll-out of Sister Speak mentoring program to encourage young indigenous women to continue with their education
- inclusion of raising women's awareness of superannuation as an agenda item for the 2006-07 Ministerial Council for Women
- development of the 'Lucy' mentoring program for young women undertaking tertiary studies in management and business.

## Appendix 1 Witnesses

### Aboriginal Affairs – Monday 28 August 2006

Name	Position
Hon Milton Orkopoulos MP	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Citizenship
Ms Jody Broun	Director General, Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Jonathan Wassell	Executive Director, Executive and Business Strategy, Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Stephen Wright	Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Murray Chapman	Administrator, NSW Aboriginal Land Council

### Health – Monday 4 September 2006

Name	Position
Hon John Hatzistergos MLC	Minister for Health
Ms Robyn Kruk	Director General, Department of Health
Dr Richard Matthews	Deputy Director General, Strategic Development, Department of Health
Professor Katherine McGrath	Deputy Director General, Health System Performance, Department of Health
Mr Robert McGregor	Deputy Director General, Health System Support, Department of Health
Dr Denise Robinson	Deputy Director General, Population Health and Chief Health Officer, Department of Health
Mr Ken Barker	Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health

### Community Services, Youth – Monday 4 September 2006

Name	Position
Hon Reba Meagher MP	Minister for Community Services, Minister for Youth
Dr Neil Shepherd	Director General, Department of Community Services
Ms Susan Dawson	Deputy Director General, Communities and Policy, Department of Community Services
Mr Alan Ramsey	Executive Director, Corporate Services, Department of Community Services
Ms Donna Rygate	Executive Director, Strategy, Communication and Governance, Department of Community Services
Ms Gillian Calvert, Ms Kerryn Boland	Commissioner for Children and Young People, Office for Children Children's Guardian, Office for Children

**Ageing, Disability Services – Friday 8 September 2006**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Hon John Della Bosca MLC	Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services
Mr Brendan O'Reilly	Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Carol Mills	Deputy Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Ethel McAlpine	Deputy Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Mr Stephen Mudge	Chief Financial Officer, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Janett Milligan	Director, Service Development and Planning, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care

**Tourism and Sport and Recreation, Women – Friday 8 September 2006**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Hon Sandra Nori MP	Minister for Tourism and Sport and Recreation, Minister for Women
Mr Robert Adby	Director General, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation
Mr John O'Neill	Executive Director and General Manager, Tourism NSW
Dr Kerrie Bigsworth	Director, Office for Women, Premier's Department
Dr Elizabeth Coombs	Assistant Director General, Office for Women and Performance Development Division, Premier's Department
Mr Brian Newman	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Mr Kevin Simmonds	Director, NSW Major Events Board
Ms Diana Talty	Executor Director, Major Projects, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
Mr Loftus Harris	Director General, Department of State and Regional Development

**Aboriginal Affairs – Monday 25 September 2006**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Ms Jody Broun	Director General, Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Jonathan Wassell	Executive Director, Executive and Business Strategy, Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Stephen Wright	Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, Department of Aboriginal Affairs

**Health – Tuesday 7 November 2006**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Ms Robyn Kruk	Director General, Department of Health
Dr Richard Matthews	Deputy Director General, Strategic Development, Department of Health
Professor Katherine McGrath	Deputy Director General, Health System Performance, Department of Health
Mr Robert McGregor	Deputy Director General, Health System Support, Department of Health



<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Dr Denise Robinson	Deputy Director General, Population Health and Chief Health Officer, Department of Health
Mr Ken Barker	Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health

### **Community Services, Youth – Tuesday 7 November 2006**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Dr Neil Shepherd	Director General, Department of Community Services
Ms Annette Gallard	Deputy Director General, Operations, Department of Community Services
Mr Alan Ramsey	Executive Director, Corporate Services, Department of Community Services
Ms Donna Rygate	Executive Director, Strategy, Communication and Governance, Department of Community Services
Ms Gillian Calvert	Commissioner for Children and Young People, Office for Children
Ms Kerry Boland	Children's Guardian, Office for Children

### **Community Services, Youth – Monday 13 November 2006**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Dr Neil Shepherd	Director General, Department of Community Services
Ms Annette Gallard	Deputy Director General, Operations, Department of Community Services
Mr Alan Ramsey	Executive Director, Corporate Services, Department of Community Services
Ms Donna Rygate	Executive Director, Strategy, Communication and Governance, Department of Community Services
Ms Gillian Calvert	Commissioner for Children and Young People, Office for Children
Ms Kerry Boland	Children's Guardian, Office for Children

## Appendix 2 Minutes

### Minutes No. 72

Monday, 28 August 2006

At Parliament House at 7.49pm

#### 1. Members present

Mrs Patricia Forsythe (Chair)  
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans  
Mr Ian Cohen (Hale)  
Mr Greg Donnelly (Robertson)  
Mr Eddie Obeid (Catanzariti)  
Ms Robyn Parker (Pavey)  
Mr Henry Tsang

#### 2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Ian Cohen to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale
- Mr Eddie Obeid to substitute for Mr Tony Catanzariti
- Mr Greg Donnelly to substitute for Ms Christine Robertson
- Ms Robyn Parker to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey.

#### 3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

##### *Sent*

- Letter to Minister Orkopoulos inviting him to appear before the Committee at 8:00pm, Monday 28 August 2006 attaching a copy of any proposed issues submitted in advance for questioning (22 August 2006).

#### 4. Conduct of hearing

Sequence of questioning was left to the Chair.

Ms Parker moved: That Ministers be requested to return answers to questions on notice taken during Budget Estimates hearings and written questions on notice lodged with the Clerk to the committee during a Budget Estimates hearing and up to two days following, within 21 days of the day on which the question is forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk.

Question put.

Committee divided.

Ayes: Ms Parker, Mr Cohen, Dr Chesterfield-Evans, Mrs Forsthye

Noes: Mr Donnelly, Mr Obeid, Mr Tsang

Question resolved in the affirmative.

## 5. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2006-2007**

The public and media were admitted.

Hon Milton Orkopoulos MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs was admitted, accompanied by the following officers:

### *Department of Aboriginal Affairs*

Ms Jody Broun, Director-General

Mr Jonathan Wassell, Executive Director, Executive and Business Strategy

Mr Murray Chapman, Administrator, NSW Aboriginal Land Council

Mr Stephen Wright, Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. Witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Aboriginal Affairs open for examination.

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

The following documents were tabled by Minister Orkopoulos:

- Three reports on Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council by Peter Hillig, Administrator of Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council
- Letter of resignation from Kathryn Greiner as a Board Director of Darkinjung PL Trust.

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

## 6. **Deliberative meeting**

### *Tabled documents*

The Committee agreed to review the tabled documents for adverse mention and consider publishing the documents at the next meeting.

### *Supplementary hearings*

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang: That the Committee defer a decision about all supplementary hearings pending receipt and consideration of answers to questions on notice.

## 7. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 10:34pm until 8:45am on Monday 4 September 2006 in the Jubilee Room.

Simon Johnston

Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 73**

Monday 4 September 2006

At Parliament House at 8.45 am

**1. Members present**

Mrs Patricia Forsythe (Chair)

Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)

Mr Henry Tsang (9 – 11am)

Ms Jan Burnswoods (Tsang – from 11am)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans

Ms Sylvia Hale

Ms Robyn Parker (Pavey)

Ms Christine Robertson

**2. Apologies****3. Substitute members**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Robyn Parker to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey
- Ms Jan Burnswoods to substitute for Mr Henry Tsang from 11am.

**4. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

***Received***

- Letter from Mr Alan Swanwick, Special Counsel, Norton White Lawyers, acting for Darkinjung Pty Ltd, to Chair regarding evidence from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs during the hearing on 28 August 2006 (received 31 August 2006).

***Sent***

- Letter to Minister Hatzistergos inviting him to appear before the Committee at 9:00am, Monday 4 September 2006, attaching the proposed issues for questioning submitted in advance (29 August 2006).

**5. Publication of tabled documents**

Resolved, on motion of Mr Tsang: That the Committee keep confidential the following documents tabled during the Aboriginal Affairs hearing on Monday 28 August:

- Three reports on Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council by Peter Hillig, Administrator of Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council
- Letter of resignation from Kathryn Greiner as a Board Director of Darkinjung Pty Ltd Trust.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang: That the Committee defer a decision on publication of the letter from Mr Alan Swanwick, Special Counsel, Norton White Lawyers, acting for Darkinjung Pty Ltd, to Chair regarding evidence from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs during the hearing on 28 August 2006 (received 31 August 2006).

**6. Conduct of hearing**

The Chair reminded members of the Committee's previous resolutions regarding the time allocations for questions and the receipt of answers to questions on notice.

**7. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2006-2007**

The public and media were admitted.

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

***Department of Health***

Ms Robyn Kruk, Director General

Mr Robert McGregor, Deputy Director General, Health System Support

Mr Ken Barker, Chief Financial Officer

Prof Katherine McGrath, Deputy Director General, Health System Performance

Dr Richard Matthews, Deputy Director General, Strategic Development

Dr Denise Robinson, Deputy Director General, Population Health and Chief Health Officer.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. Witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Health open for examination.

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

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

**8. Deliberative meeting*****Supplementary hearings***

The Committee resolved at the first meeting to defer a decision about all supplementary hearings pending receipt and consideration of answers to questions on notice.

**9. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 1.05pm until 7:45pm on Monday 4 September 2006 in Room 814.

Simon Johnston

Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 74**

Monday 4 September 2006

At Parliament House at 7.45pm

**1. Members present**

Mrs Patricia Forsythe (Chair)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans

Ms Sylvia Hale

Ms Robyn Parker (Pavey)

Ms Christine Robertson  
Ms Penny Sharpe (Catanzariti)  
Mr Henry Tsang

**2. Substitute members**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Penny Sharpe to substitute for Mr Tony Catanzariti
- Ms Robyn Parker to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey.

**3. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

***Received***

- Letter to Hon Patricia Forsythe, from Mr Alan Swanwick, Special Counsel, Norton White Lawyers, acting for Darkinjung Pty Ltd, to Chair, regarding evidence from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs during the hearing on 28 August 2006 (received 4 September 2006).

***Sent***

- Letter to Minister Meagher inviting her to appear before the Committee at 8:00pm, Monday 4 September 2006 attaching a copy of the proposed issues for questioning submitted in advance (29 August 2006).

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hale:

- That the correspondence received on 31 August 2006 from Mr Alan Swanwick, Special Counsel acting for Darkinjung Pty Ltd, be made public.
- That the correspondence received on 4 September 2006 from Mr Swanwick be kept confidential, and the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs to be invited to respond to questions in relation to the correspondence at a supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs.
- That correspondence relating to the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs be made available to substitute and permanent members of the Committee.

**4. Conduct of hearing**

The Chair reminded members of the Committee's previous resolutions regarding the time allocations for questions and the receipt of answers to questions on notice.

**5. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2006-2007**

The public and media were admitted.

Hon Reba Meagher MP, Minister for Community Services and Minister for Youth, was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

***Department of Community Services***

Dr Neil Shepherd, Director General

Ms Sue Dawson, Deputy Director General, Communities and Policy

Mr Alan Ramsey, Executive Director, Corporate Services

Ms Donna Rygate, Executive Director, Strategy, Communication and Governance

***Office for Children***

Ms Gillian Calvert, Commissioner for Children and Young People  
 Ms Kerryn Boland, Children's Guardian.

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

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

Ms Kerryn Boland, Children's Guardian, Office for Children, tabled NSW Out-of-Home Care Standards (1 October 2003).

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

**6. Deliberative meeting*****Tabled documents***

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That under section 4 of the Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975 and under the authority of Standing Order 224, the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the documents tabled during the hearing.

***Supplementary hearings***

The Committee resolved at the first meeting to defer a decision about all supplementary hearings pending receipt and consideration of answers to questions on notice.

**7. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 10:34 pm until 9:00am on Friday 8 September 2006 in the Jubilee Room.

Simon Johnston  
 Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 75**

Friday 8 September 2006  
 At Parliament House at 8.45am

**1. Members present**

Mrs Patricia Forsythe (Chair)  
 Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)  
 Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans  
 Ms Lee Rhiannon (Hale)  
 Ms Christine Robertson  
 Mr John Ryan (Pavey)  
 Mr Henry Tsang

**2. Substitute members**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr John Ryan to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey
- Ms Lee Rhiannon to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale.

**3. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

***Sent***

- Letter to Minister Della Bosca inviting him to appear before the Committee at 9:00am, Friday 8 September 2006 noting that no proposed issues were submitted in advance for questioning (4 September 2006).

**4. Conduct of hearing**

The Chair reminded members of the Committee's previous resolutions regarding the time allocations for questions and the receipt of answers to questions on notice.

**5. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2006-2007**

The public and media were admitted.

Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Minister for Disability Services was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

***Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care***

Mr Brendan O'Reilly, Director General

Ms Carol Mills, Deputy Director General

Ms Ethel McAlpine, Deputy Director General

Mr Stephen Mudge, Chief Financial Officer

Ms Janett Milligan, Director, Service Development and Planning.

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

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

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

**6. Deliberative meeting**

Supplementary hearings

The Committee agreed to consider further hearings after receipt and consideration of the answers to questions taken on notice.

**7. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 12.43pm until 7:45pm on Friday 8 September 2006 in Room 814/815.

Simon Johnston

Clerk to the Committee



**Minutes No. 76**

Friday 8 September 2006

At Parliament House at 8pm

**1. Members present**

Mrs Patricia Forsythe (Chair)

Ms Jan Burnswoods (Tsang)

Ms Catherine Cusack (Pavey)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans

Ms Christine Robertson

Ms Penny Sharpe (Catanzariti)

**2. Apologies**

Ms Sylvia Hale

**3. Substitute members**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Jan Burnswoods to substitute for Mr Henry Tsang
- Ms Penny Sharpe to substitute for Mr Tony Catanzariti
- Ms Catherine Cusack to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey.

**4. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

***Sent***

- Letter to Minister Nori inviting her to appear before the Committee at 8:00pm, Friday 8 September 2006 noting that no proposed issues were submitted in advance for questioning (4 September 2006).

**5. Conduct of hearing**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson:

- That the questioning for the portfolios be in the order of Sport, Tourism and Women and be in blocks of 15 minutes each.

**6. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2006-2007**

The public and media were admitted.

Hon Sandra Nori MP, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Women was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

***Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority***

Ms Diana Talty, Executive Director, Major Projects

***Sydney Olympic Park Authority***

Mr Brian Newman, Chief Executive Officer

Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation

Mr Bob Adby, Director General

***Tourism NSW***

Mr John O'Neill, Executive Director and General Manager

***NSW Major Events Board***

Mr Kevin Simmonds, Director

***NSW Department of State and Regional Development***

Mr Loftus Harris, Director General

***NSW Premier's Department***

Dr Elizabeth Coombs, Deputy Director General, Office for Women and Performance Development Division

Dr Kerrie Bigsworth, Director, Office for Women.

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

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

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

**7. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 10.13pm *sine die*.

Rebecca Main

Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 79**

Monday 25 September 2006

At Parliament House at 1.48pm

**1. Members present**

Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans

Ms Sylvia Hale

Ms Robyn Parker

Ms Melinda Pavey

Ms Christine Robertson

Mr Henry Tsang

**2. Apologies**

### 3. Election of chair

The Committee Clerk advised that the Leader of the Opposition has nominated Ms Parker as a member of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 in place of Mrs Forsythe (Item 9, Minutes No. 14, Tuesday 19 September 2006).

The Committee Clerk conducted an election under Standing Order 211.

The Clerk called for nominations for Chair of the Committee.

Ms Pavey moved: That Ms Parker be elected Chair of the Committee.

There being no further nominations, the Clerk declared Ms Parker Chair of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2.

### 4. Minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang: That minutes no. 72, 73, 74, 75 and 76 be confirmed.

### 5. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

#### *Sent*

- Email to Minister Orkopoulos from Principal Council Officer attaching an invitation for the Minister to appear with departmental officials before the Committee at for a supplementary hearing at 2 – 4pm, Monday 25 September 2006 (dated 8 September 2006)
- Emails attaching letters requesting answers to questions taken on notice during Budget Estimates hearings and written questions on notice submitted by members, to:
  - Hon Milton Orkopoulos MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, requesting answers by 21 September (dated 31 August 2006)
  - Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Health, requesting answers by 28 September 2006 (dated 7 September 2006)
  - Hon Reba Meagher MP, Minister for Community Services and Youth, requesting answers by 28 September 2006 (dated 7 September 2006)
  - Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, requesting answers by 4 October 2006 (dated 13 September 2006)
  - Hon Sandra Nori MP, Minister for Tourism and Sport and Recreation, and Women, requesting answers by 4 October 2006 (dated 13 September 2006).

#### *Received*

- Letter from Hon Milton Orkopoulos MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs to Principal Council Officer, advising that the Minister would not attend the supplementary hearing on 25 September, but that the Director General and other departmental witnesses would attend (received 19 September 2006).
- Email from Mr David Cunningham to the Chair of GPSC 2 re: evidence relating to Nardy House, given by the Hon John Della Bosca at the Budget Estimates hearing on 8 September 2006 (received 22 September 2006).

**6. Consideration of correspondence**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That the Committee consider the correspondence from Mr David Cunningham at a meeting on a date to be organised by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair and Committee.

**7. Conduct of hearing**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Pavey: That the answers to any questions on notice be provided within 21 calendar days of the day on which they are forwarded by the Committee Clerk.

**8. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2006-2007**

The witnesses, public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Aboriginal Affairs open for examination.

The following witnesses were reminded that they were giving evidence on their former oath or affirmation:

***Department of Aboriginal Affairs***

Ms Jody Broun, Director-General

Mr Jonathan Wassell, Executive Director, Executive and Business Strategy

Mr Stephen Wright, Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983.

The witnesses answered questions from members of the Committee

The following documents were tabled by Ms Broun:

- Two Ways Together Report, June 2005
- Information regarding administrators of Aboriginal Land Councils
- Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council Administrator's report, dated 13 September 2006

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

**9. Deliberative meeting*****Tabled documents***

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang: That the resolution of the Committee on 28 August 2006 that it keep confidential three Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council Administrator's reports tabled during the Aboriginal Affairs hearing on Monday 28 August be rescinded.

Resolved on motion of Ms Robertson: That under section 4 of the Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975 and under the authority of Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the three Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council Administrator's reports tabled during the Aboriginal Affairs hearing on Monday 28 August, and documents tabled during the hearing of 25 September 2006.

***Written questions on notice***

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Chesterfield-Evans: That the deadline for submitting written questions on notice with the Secretariat be Wednesday 27 September 2006.

***Supplementary hearings***

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Chesterfield-Evans: That the Committee defer a decision about further supplementary hearings pending receipt and consideration of answers to questions on notice.

**10. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 4.13pm *sine die*.

Simon Johnston  
Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 80**

Thursday 28 September 2006  
At Parliament House at 1.05pm

**1. Members present**

Ms Robyn Parker (Chair)  
Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)  
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans  
Ms Sylvia Hale  
Ms Melinda Pavey  
Ms Christine Robertson  
Mr Henry Tsang

**2. Apologies****3. Minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That minutes no. 79 be confirmed.

**4. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence:

***Received***

- Letter from the Hon John Hatsiztergos MLC to the Chair of GPSC 2 re: questions taken on notice during the Budget Estimates hearing into the Health portfolio held on Monday 4 September 2006 (received 18 September 2006)

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hale: That the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, write to Minister Hatzistergos acknowledging his correspondence and requesting the provision of answers to questions on notice as soon as they become available, if necessary on a weekly basis until all questions are answered.

**5. Consideration of correspondence previously noted**

The Committee considered an email from Mr David Cunningham to the Chair of GPSC 2 re: evidence relating to Nardy House, given by the Hon John Della Bosca at the Budget Estimates hearing on 8 September 2006 (received 22 September 2006).

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Chesterfield-Evans: That the Committee hold a supplementary Budget Estimates hearing for the portfolio of Ageing and Disability Services, at a time and date to be arranged by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

## 6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1.17pm *sine die*.

Simon Johnston  
Clerk to the Committee

## Minutes No. 81

Monday 23 October 2006

At Parliament House at 2.30pm

### 1. Members present

Ms Robyn Parker (Chair)  
Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)  
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans  
Ms Sylvia Hale  
Ms Christine Robertson  
Mr John Ryan (Pavey)  
Mr Henry Tsang

### 2. Substitutions

The Committee noted advice of the following substitution:

- Mr Ryan to substitute for Ms Pavey

### 3. Apologies

The Committee noted that Mr Catanzariti could not attend the meeting until 3pm.

### 4. Minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hale: That minutes no. 80 be confirmed.

### 5. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence:

#### *Received*

- Letters providing answers to questions taken on notice, from:
  - Ms Jody Broun, Director General, Department of Aboriginal Affairs – supplementary hearing (received 18 October)
  - Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services (received 18 October 2006)
  - Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Health, providing answers to questions no. 1 to 354 (received 10 October 2006)
  - Hon Sandra Nori MP, Minister for Tourism and Sport and Recreation, and Women (received 5 October 2006)
  - Hon Reba Meagher MP, Minister for Youth and Community Services (received 28 September 2006).

- Letter from Mr Murray Chapman, Administrator, NSW Aboriginal Land Council, to Chair, requesting a correction to the hearing transcript of 25 September 2006 (received 4 October 2006)
- Letter from Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, to Chair, requesting an extension until 18 October 2006 to provide the answers to questions on notice (received 3 October 2006)

*Sent*

- Letter to Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Health, from Chair, responding to the Minister's request for additional time to return answers to the questions on notice (dated 4 October 2006)
- Letter to Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, from Principal Council Officer, inviting the Minister and departmental officials to attend a supplementary hearing on Monday 23 October 3 – 5pm (dated 9 October 2006).

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hale: That further to the Chair's letter of 4 October 2006, the Committee write to Minister Hatzistergos to request that the Minister provide the outstanding answers to questions taken on notice by Friday 3 November 2006.

**6. Estimates: Supplementary hearings**

Ms Hale moved: That the resolution of the Committee of 28 August, that the Committee defer decisions about all supplementary hearings pending receipt and consideration of answers to questions on notice, be rescinded in relation to the Health portfolio, given that all the answers to questions on notice have not yet been received.

Committee divided.

Ayes: Dr Chesterfield-Evans, Ms Hale, Ms Parker, Mr Ryan

Noes: Ms Robertson, Mr Tsang.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Ms Hale moved: That the Committee hold a supplementary hearing to further examine the Health portfolio, on a date to be determined by the Chair after consulting with Committee members.

Committee divided.

Ayes: Dr Chesterfield-Evans, Ms Hale, Ms Parker, Mr Ryan

Noes: Ms Robertson, Mr Tsang.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Ryan: That the Committee hold a supplementary hearing to further examine the portfolios of Community Services and Youth, on a date to be determined by the Chair after consulting with Committee members.

The Committee agreed that the hearings for both Health, and Community Services and Youth, would be of two hours duration, and that the hearings would be scheduled on the same day, if possible.

Mr Tsang moved: That there be no further hearings to examine the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs.

Question put and lost.

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Chesterfield-Evans: That the Committee defer a decision about a further supplementary hearing for the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio pending receipt and consideration of answers to questions on notice.

#### **7. Conduct of hearing**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ryan: That the hearing commence with one hour of questions relating to Nardy House, to be followed by one hour of general questions, with the allocation of question time to be left in the hands of the Chair.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ryan: That the Minister be requested to provide answers to any questions taken on notice within 14 calendar days of the date on which they are forwarded to the Minister (ie 9 November 2006).

#### **8. Public hearing**

The witnesses, public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Ageing and Disability Services open for examination.

The following witnesses from the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care were reminded that they were giving evidence on their former oath or affirmation:

- Mr Brendan O'Reilly, Director General
- Ms Carol Mills, Deputy Director General
- Ms Ethel McAlpine, Deputy Director General.

Mr James Christian, Regional Director (Southern), Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, was sworn.

The witnesses answered questions from members of the Committee

The following documents were tabled by Mr Christian:

- Notes of discussion between: Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Nardy House, Cram Foundation, Friday 17 March 2006, State Office Block, Crown Street, Wollongong
- Letter from Mr James Christian, Regional Director (Southern), DADHC, to Ms Denise Redmond, Nardy House, dated 7 October 2005

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.



**9. Deliberative meeting**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Catanzariti: That under section 4 of the Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975 and under the authority of Standing Order 224, the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the documents tabled during the hearing.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ryan: That the Committee defer a decision about a further supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Ageing and Disability Services pending receipt and consideration of answers to questions on notice.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ryan: That the response to the question taken on notice by Ms Mills, concerning the details of organisations that were unsuccessful in the tender process, be kept confidential.

**10. Other business**

The Committee agreed that the:

- supplementary Budget Estimates hearings agreed to this day be held on Tuesday 7 November 2006, with Health examined 12 – 2pm, and Community Services and Youth 3 – 5pm
- deliberative meeting to consider the Chair's draft report on the Health Impacts of Air Pollution be held on Thursday 9 November 2006.

**11. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 5.10pm until 12pm on Tuesday 7 November.

Madeleine Foley  
Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 82**

Tuesday 7 November 2006  
Room 814/815, 11.55am

**1. Members present**

Ms Robyn Parker (Chair)  
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans  
Mr Duncan Gay (Pavey)  
Ms Sylvia Hale  
Ms Christine Robertson  
Ms Penny Sharpe (Catanzariti)  
Mr Henry Tsang

**2. Substitutions**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Gay to substitute for Ms Pavey
- Ms Sharpe to substitute for Mr Catanzariti.

**3. Minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That minutes no. 81 be confirmed.

**4. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

***Received***

- Letter from Norton White Lawyers, to Chair, commenting on evidence given in relation to the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council at the supplementary hearing of 25 September 2006 (received 27 October 2006) attached
- Letter from Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Health, providing answers to some of the remaining questions on notice (received 26 October 2006) (previously circulated).

***Sent***

- Letter to Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Health, from Principal Council Officer, requesting that all answers to questions on notice be provided by Friday 3 November, and inviting the Minister and departmental officials to attend a supplementary hearing on Tuesday 7 November 2006 (dated 24 October 2006)
- Letter to Hon Reba Meagher MP, Minister for Community Services and Youth, from Principal Council Officer, inviting the Minister and departmental officials to attend a supplementary hearing on Tuesday 7 November 2006 (dated 24 October 2006).

**5. Conduct of hearing**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings this day alternate between Government, Opposition and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Gay: That the return date for answers to any questions taken on notice at the hearings this day be 5pm on 22 November 2006.

**6. Public hearing**

The witnesses, public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the Health portfolio open for examination.

The following witnesses were reminded that they were giving evidence on their former oath or affirmation:

***Department of Health***

Ms Robyn Kruk, Director General

Mr Robert McGregor, Deputy Director General, Health System Support

Mr Ken Baker, Chief Financial Officer

Professor Katherine McGrath, Deputy Director General, Health System Performance

Dr Richard Matthews, Deputy Director General, Strategic Development

Dr Denise Robertson, Deputy Director General, Population Health, and Chief Health Officer.

The witnesses answered questions from members of the Committee

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and media withdrew.

**7. Deliberative meeting**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That there be no further hearings for the Health portfolio.

**8. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 2.05pm until 11am on Monday 13 November (deliberative to consider report on Review of Health Care Complaints).

Madeleine Foley  
Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 83**

Tuesday 7 November 2006  
Room 814/815, 3.15pm

**1. Members present**

Ms Robyn Parker (Chair)  
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans  
Ms Catherine Cusack (Pavey)  
Ms Sylvia Hale  
Ms Christine Robertson  
Mr Henry Tsang

**2. Substitutions**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitution:

- Ms Cusack to substitute for Ms Pavey.

**3. Apologies**

The Committee noted advice of the following apology:

- Mr Catanzariti.

**4. Public hearing**

The witnesses, public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Community Services and Youth open for examination.

The following witnesses were reminded that they were giving evidence on their former oath or affirmation:

***Department of Community Services***

Dr Neil Shepherd, Director General  
Ms Donna Rygate, Executive Director, Strategy, Communication and Governance  
Mr Alan Ramsey, Executive Director, Corporate Services.

**Office for Children**

Ms Gillian Calvert, Commissioner for Children and Young People  
Ms Kerry Boland, Children's Guardian

Ms Annette Gallard, Deputy Director General, Operations, Department of Community Services, was sworn or affirmed.

The witnesses answered questions from members of the Committee

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and media withdrew.

**5. Deliberative meeting**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That the Committee hold a further supplementary hearing for the portfolios of Community Services and Youth, and that there be one hour of questioning by each the Opposition and the Cross Bench members, with an additional hour allowed for Government questions, if required.

**6. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 5.05pm until 10am on Thursday 9 November (deliberative meeting to consider the Air Pollution report).

Madeleine Foley  
Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes No. 86**

Monday 13 November 2006  
Room 814/815, 1.55pm

**1. Members present**

Ms Robyn Parker (Chair)  
Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)  
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans  
Ms Catherine Cusack (Pavey)  
Ms Sylvia Hale  
Ms Christine Robertson  
Mr Henry Tsang (from 2.25pm)

**2. Substitutions**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Cusack to substitute for Ms Pavey.

**3. Minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Chesterfield-Evans: That minutes no. 82 and 83 be confirmed.

**4. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

**Received**

- Letters providing answers to questions on notice (previously circulated), from:
  - Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services – questions from the supplementary hearing of 23 October (received 10 November)
  - Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Health – remaining questions from the initial hearing of 4 September (received 9 November)
- Email from Mr Peter Swain, Manager, Director General's Office, Department of Aboriginal Affairs, to Principal Council Officer, advising that answers to the remaining questions taken on notice at the supplementary hearing are dependent on the Department receiving a response from the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (received 7 November 2006) attached.

**Sent**

- Letter to Hon Reba Meagher MP, Minister for Community Services and Youth, from Principal Council Officer, inviting the Minister and departmental officials to attend a second supplementary hearing on Monday 13 November 2006 (dated 8 November 2006).

**5. Conduct of hearing**

At meeting no. 83 of Tuesday 7 November, the Committee resolved: That the Committee hold a further supplementary hearing for the portfolios of Community Services and Youth, and that there be one hour of questioning by each the Opposition and the Cross Bench members, with an additional hour allowed for Government questions, if required.

The Chair indicated that question time would be allocated in 30 minutes blocks, to each the Opposition, Cross Bench and Government members.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That the return date for answers to any questions taken on notice be 5pm on 22 November 2006.

**6. Answers to questions on notice for Ageing and Disability Services**

Dr Chesterfield-Evans moved: That the Committee request that the Minister for Ageing and Disability Services provide further information in relation to an answer to a question on notice from the supplementary hearing of 23 October 2006, concerning costings for providing a respite service at Nardy House. Further, that the Minister be asked to provide more detail concerning the Department's costings, namely a detailed budget breakdown for each of the six staffing models, by 5pm on 16 November 2006.

Committee divided.

Ayes: Dr Chesterfield-Evans, Ms Cusack, Ms Hale, Ms Parker

Noes: Mr Catanzariti, Ms Robertson.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

**7. Public hearing**

The witnesses, public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Ageing and Disability Services open for examination.

The following witnesses were reminded that they were giving evidence on their former oath or affirmation:

***Department of Community Services***

Dr Neil Shepherd, Director General

Ms Annette Gallard, Deputy Director General, Operations

Ms Donna Rygate, Executive Director, Strategy, Communication and Governance

Mr Alan Ramsey, Executive Director, Corporate Services.

***Office for Children***

Ms Gillian Calvert, Commissioner for Children and Young People

Ms Kerry Boland, Children's Guardian.

The witnesses answered questions from members of the Committee

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and media withdrew.

**8. Deliberative meeting**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That there be no further hearings for the portfolio of Community Services and Youth.

**9. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 4.25pm *sine die*.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

**DRAFT Minutes No. 87**

Wednesday 22 November 2006

At Parliament House at 10.50am

**1. Members present**

Ms Robyn Parker (Chair)

Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans

Ms Melinda Pavey

Ms Christine Robertson

**2. Apologies**

Ms Sylvia Hale

Mr Henry Tsang.

**3. Minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Catanzariti: That minutes no. 84, 85 and 86 be confirmed.

**4. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

***Received***

- Letter from Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, providing further information in relation to one of the answers to a question taken on notice at the supplementary hearing of 23 October 2006 (received 17 November)

***Sent***

- Letter to Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, from Chair, requesting further information in relation to one of the answers to a question taken on notice at the supplementary hearing of 23 October 2006 (dated 14 November 2006)
- Letter to Hon Reba Meagher MLC, Minister for Youth and Community Services, requesting answers to questions taken on notice at the supplementary hearing of 13 November by 5pm on 22 November 2006 (dated 14 November 2006).

**5. Chair's draft report**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Catanzariti: That the report be the report of the Committee and be presented to the House.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Catanzariti: That pursuant to section 4 of the Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975 and under the authority of Standing Order 223, the Committee authorises the publication of all non-confidential correspondence, tabled documents and minutes.

Members were reminded that it is the standard practice of the Clerk to correct typographical mistakes and stylistic and grammatical errors, without recourse to the Committee.

**6. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 10.53am sine die.

Madeleine Foley  
Clerk to the Committee