

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
1st SESSION, 55th PARLIAMENT

COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES

Resolution passed 9 May 2011, Legislative Council Minutes No. 5, item 11

That notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders:

Appointment

1. Three standing committees are appointed as follows:

- (a) Law and Justice Committee,
- (b) Social Issues Committee, and
- (c) State Development Committee.

Law and Justice Committee

2. The Committee may inquire into and report on:

- (a) legal and constitutional issues in New South Wales, including law reform, parliamentary matters, criminal law, administrative law and the justice system, and
- (b) matters concerned with industrial relations and fair trading.

Social Issues Committee

3. The Committee may inquire into and report on:

- (a) issues concerned with the social development and wellbeing of the people of New South Wales, including health, education, housing, ageing, disability, children's services and community services, and
- (b) matters concerned with citizenship, sport and recreation and gaming and racing.

State Development Committee

4. The Committee may inquire into and report on:

- (a) issues concerned with state, local and regional development in New South Wales, and
- (b) matters concerned with planning, infrastructure, finance, industry, the environment, primary industry, natural resources, science, local government, emergency services and public administration.

Referral of inquiries

5. (1) A committee:

- (a) is to inquire into and report on any matter relevant to the functions of the committee which is referred to the committee by resolution of the House,
- (b) may inquire into and report on any matter relevant to the functions of the committee which is referred by a Minister of the Crown, and

- (c) may inquire into and report on any annual report or petition relevant to the functions of the committee which has been laid upon the Table of the Legislative Council.
- (2) Whenever a committee resolves to inquire into a matter, under paragraph 5(b) or 5(c), the terms of reference or the resolution is to be reported to the House on the next sitting day.

Powers

6. A committee has power to make visits of inspection within New South Wales and, with the approval of the President, elsewhere in Australia and outside Australia.

Membership

7. Each committee is to consist of six members, comprising:
- (a) three Government members,
 - (b) two Opposition members, and
 - (c) one Cross Bench member.

Chair and Deputy Chair

8. (1) The Leader of the Government is to nominate in writing to the Clerk of the House the Chair of each committee.
- (2) The Leader of the Opposition is to nominate in writing to the Clerk of the House the Deputy Chair of each committee.

Quorum

9. The quorum of a committee is three members, of whom two must be Government members and one a non-government member.

Sub-committees

10. A committee has power to appoint sub-committees.

Participating members

11. Unless a committee decides otherwise, a member of the House who is not a member of the relevant committee may take part in a private meeting of the committee but may not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of any quorum or division.

Electronic participation in deliberative meetings

12. (1) A committee member who is unable to attend a deliberative meeting in person may participate by electronic communication and may move any motion and be counted for the purpose of any quorum or division, provided that:
- (a) the Chair is present in the meeting room, and
 - (b) all members are able to speak to and hear each other at all times.
- (2) Notwithstanding paragraph 12(1), a member may not participate by electronic communication in a meeting to consider a draft report.