



Working in the Legislative Council

A unique professional development program for public sector officers

About the program

The Working in the Legislative Council program is a 12-week professional development initiative. It is offered to outstanding departmental officers who want to gain first-hand experience of the operations of Parliament, including Legislative Council committees and the annual Budget Estimates process.

The first Working in the Legislative Council program for 2021 will run from 11 February to 7 May 2021.

The successful applicant will work as an integral member of the team administering the 2020-21 Budget Estimates inquiry; assist with other committee inquiries; and observe proceedings in the House.

This is what one of last year's participants said of their experience:

The Working in the Legislative Council program offers a unique opportunity to gain direct experience of, and to contribute to, the work of the Upper House of the NSW Parliament. After supporting the Budget Estimates process, I gained insights into various Parliamentary committees, helping with hearings, reviewing evidence and writing sections of reports. I also enjoyed learning about the operation of the House. A highlight was comparing learnings from NSW parliamentary interactions with other parliaments, as my secondment coincided with visiting delegations from international legislatures.

This is a valuable exchange program between government departments and the state Parliament and it was a pleasure to work with the friendly and supportive staff in the Legislative Council. I learnt a great deal about the history, role and functions of the Legislative Council, and about fast-paced committee and other parliamentary processes. Aside from the procedural rhythms of the parliament, no two days were ever the same.

Eligibility

The program is open to high performing Clerk Grade 7/8 or 9/10 or equivalent NSW public sector officers. The successful applicant's agency will be required to meet their officer's salary costs during the placement. Participants are not eligible to apply for a position in the Council during or for six months following the end of the placement.

To apply

Please forward your application package to Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments, by email to BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Your application package should include a copy of a completed application form and a cover letter (maximum two pages) addressing the targeted questions. You can find the application form and targeted questions at:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lc/departments/Pages/The-Working-in-the-LC-Program.aspx>

Applications close **Friday 18 December 2020**. Interviews will be held soon after this date.

To find out more information on the program please contact Mr Stewart Smith, Director - Committees by email to stewart.smith@parliament.nsw.gov.au or by telephone (02) 9230 3750.