

# NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## HOUSE IN REVIEW



Volume 56/28

Sitting period  
11 to 13 October 2016

The *House in Review* provides regular updates of the activities of the New South Wales Legislative Council. Clicking on a hyperlink will take you to the relevant webpage. For further information refer to the NSW Parliament website [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au) or contact the Procedure Office on (02) 9230 2431. To be placed on the email distribution list of the *House in Review*, please contact us on [council@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@parliament.nsw.gov.au).

### Overview

The House considered a heavy legislative program this week, agreeing to six Government bills, three of which went into committee of the whole, and introducing a further three bills. The House also debated three private members' motions regarding Shimon Peres, the Roman Catholic Church and the intercity train fleet contracts. A joint sitting of the two Houses also elected a new member, Mr John Graham, who will be sworn and join his Labor Party colleagues in the Council from next week.

In a significant development for the Council, this week a return to an order for papers was received from Greyhound Racing NSW following a dispute over an order originally made by the House in 2015. As discussed below, the return confirms the Council's power to order the production of documents from government-appointed statutory bodies.

The House now stands adjourned until Tuesday 18 October 2016.

### Joint sitting – Election of Mr John Graham

At a joint sitting of the two Houses on Wednesday 12 October 2016, Mr John Graham was elected to fill the vacant seat in the Legislative Council caused by the resignation of the Honourable Sophie Cotsis (Labor Party). Ms Cotsis is expected to contest the seat of Canterbury in an upcoming by-election, following the election of the Honourable Linda Burney to the House of Representatives.

### Register of Disclosures by Members

On 11 October 2016, the Clerk tabled the Register of Disclosures by Members of the Legislative Council for the period 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016.

### Return to order – Greyhound welfare – further order

In a [September edition of the House in Review](#), the House agreed to an order for papers reiterating the power of the House to order documents from Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW), following correspondence in relation to a 2015 order advising that 'Greyhound Racing NSW does not represent the Crown, being an independent statutory body, thus was not subject to direction or control on behalf of the Government'. The September resolution made a further order for the documents originally sought, and on 12 October 2016, [a return to the order](#) was received from Greyhound Racing NSW.

## **Government business**

**Note:** Government business includes Government bills introduced or carried by ministers in the Council.

### **Fair Trading Amendment (Commercial Agents) Bill 2016**

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

Debate resumed from 20 September 2016 (see [previous House in Review](#) for an outline of the Parliamentary Secretary's speech explaining the purpose of the bill, and contributions from the Opposition, the Greens and the Christian Democratic Party (CDP)). On the resumption of debate, the second reading was agreed to on the voices.

During consideration in committee of the whole, the CDP moved six amendments that sought to retain a positive licensing scheme for field agents who conduct face-to-face activities such as debt collection or repossession; make non-compliance with the licensing requirements or operating without a licence an offence; and establish a register to record the operational history of all commercial agents. The amendments were agreed to unanimously. The Opposition and Greens advised that they would not move amendments they had previously circulated as the matters canvassed by their amendments had been addressed by the CDP amendments. The bill was reported from committee with amendments.

The third reading was agreed to on the voices and the bill was returned to the Assembly with amendments. The Assembly forwarded a message agreeing to the Council's amendments later that day.

### **Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Amendment Bill 2016**

House of origin: Legislative Council

Debate resumed from 21 September 2016 (see [previous House in Review](#) for an outline of the minister's speech explaining the purpose of the bill).

The Opposition did not oppose the bill, acknowledging that the bill would enhance transparency in the use of stop, detain and search powers, and that many of the amendments made by the bill implemented recommendations made by the Ombudsman in 2005. The Greens also did not oppose the bill, but noted their concern that provisions authorising information to be disclosed were ambiguous, as the bill does not define what a policy made by the Commissioner of Corrective Services encapsulates or the manner in which the Commissioner's authorisation of disclosure or approval of policy is to be determined.

The CDP supported the bill, arguing that it will assist magistrates and consolidate the stop, search and detain powers of correctional officers. However, the CDP questioned the provision of inmate information to public sector companies, the media and private individuals where the information may prohibit the ability of a rehabilitated person to move forward with their life long after their release.

The second and third readings were agreed to on the voices and the bill was forwarded to the Assembly for concurrence.

### **Industrial Relations Amendment (Industrial Court) Bill 2016**

House of origin: Legislative Council

Debate resumed from 21 September 2016 (see [previous House in Review](#) for an outline of the minister's second reading speech explaining the purpose of the bill).

The Opposition opposed the bill, arguing that workers need a specialised court comprised of judges with the relevant knowledge, experience and expertise to resolve industrial and employment disputes. The Opposition also argued that moving proceedings to the Supreme Court would incur higher costs for those who wish to lodge a dispute, making it harder for workers and small businesses to address industrial matters. The Opposition stated that, while it has consistently taken the view that the jurisdiction of the Industrial Relations Commission and the Industrial Court should be rebuilt and extended, if the second

reading of the bill was successful it would move amendments to address the various shortcomings identified with the legislation in order to improve the new model established by the bill.

The Greens opposed the bill, arguing that instead of abolishing the Industrial Court and transferring jurisdiction to the Supreme Court, which would be cost-prohibitive and deter people from accessing industrial arbitration, a newly constituted and more comprehensive employment tribunal should be established. The Greens also argued that transferring matters such as demarcation disputes and the cancellation of registrations to the Supreme Court would add further pressure to the already scarce resources allocated to the court. The Greens foreshadowed that, if the second reading was agreed to, they would consider the Opposition amendments with a view to improving the bill.

The CDP supported the bill. While it recognised the concerns raised by the Opposition and the Greens, the CDP was satisfied with undertakings given by the Government, namely that individuals can apply for the court fees to be waived, workers can represent themselves if they wish and that there will be five commissioners to provide adequate support to the Commission. The second reading was agreed to on division (Ayes: 17 / Noes 16).

During consideration in committee of the whole, the Opposition moved fifty amendments that sought to retain a number of matters with the Industrial Relations Commission otherwise proposed for transfer to the Supreme Court; amend matters pertaining to the jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court in adjudicating industrial matters; retain the office of President of the Industrial Relations Commission; move work health and safety matters to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; and make other consequential amendments. The amendments were defeated on division (Ayes: 16 / Noes: 17) and the bill reported without amendment.

The third reading was agreed to on the voices and the bill returned to the Assembly without amendment.

### **Social and Affordable Housing NSW Fund Bill 2016**

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill provides for the establishment of the Social and Affordable Housing Fund to set aside dedicated, ring-fenced funding for social and affordable housing. The fund will be called the SAHF NSW, or the SAHF. In its first phase the SAHF will target delivery of up to 3,000 additional social and affordable homes, helping to reduce waiting lists for vulnerable families.

The minister stated that at present, social housing developments face a funding gap between the rental stream they receive from tenants plus government subsidies and the revenue required to sustain a commercially viable project. To this end, the Social and Affordable Housing Fund will provide a long-term revenue stream to fill this gap and encourage private and non-government organisations to team up to develop housing projects with \$1.1 billion in seed capital from the Government. The Government's investment arm, TCorp, will invest the money and the returns will be quarantined and be invested in social and affordable housing projects over the next 25 years. The minister advised that, should the fund outperform over the longer term, the excess earnings will go towards further social and affordable housing programs.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill. However, the Opposition stated that the returns expected from TCorp's investment are likely to equate to \$44 million a year and argued that such a figure may lead to a shortfall in the delivery of the 3,000 homes projected. The Opposition also observed that the NSW Federation of Housing had estimated that up to 5,000 homes per year were needed in order to prevent waiting lists for social housing from expanding.

The CDP supported the bill, stating that the 2014 report of the Select Committee on Social, Public and Affordable Housing had identified that social housing is currently meeting only 44 per cent of current demand. The CDP encouraged the Government to consider the various recommendations made by the

committee in its report. The Greens did not oppose the bill, stating that investment made by the Government was a positive step. However, the Greens argued that the investment made was only the first step and there was nothing to stop the Government doing much more. The Greens also called on the Government to implement the recommendations made by the select committee.

The second and third readings of the bill were agreed to and the bill was returned to the Assembly without amendment.

### **Education and Teaching Legislation Amendment 2016**

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill amends the *Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Act 2013*, the *Education Act 1990* and the *Teacher Accreditation Act 2004* to give effect to the recommendations of a recent review in relation to governance structures, risk-based approach to regulation, outcomes focused approach and better leverage to national reforms, data and research.

The bill renames the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards as the NSW Education Standards Authority, which will remain a single independent statutory authority, and retain all the current functions of the Board of Studies. The bill also establishes a new governing board to provide leadership in improving standards of school education and oversee the Authority's performance and amends the *Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards Act 2013* to clarify that the overarching purpose of the Authority is to drive improvements in the standard of school education in New South Wales, while the governing board will be guided by a charter and an annual Ministerial Statement of Expectation. Finally, the bill reduces from 23 the number of positions on the new governing Board to a maximum of 12 to 14 members. The new Board will exercise its core functions through five decision-making regulatory committees, one of which will replace the current Quality Teaching Council.

The Parliamentary Secretary noted that the bill provides for a risk-based approach to school registration, with a strengthened regulatory response, enabling the Authority to shift its efforts from a focus on processes to a stronger emphasis on quality teaching and student learning. The Parliamentary Secretary further stated that the Authority will be enabled to undertake random and risk-based audits and unannounced inspections of schools, and have sole responsibility to suspend or revoke the accreditation of a teacher.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill, but had one concern in relation to unannounced orders or inspections of schools and foreshadowed an amendment in committee of the whole. The Greens noted the broad community and stakeholder support of the bill, but foreshadowed amendments to address similar concerns regarding the fairness of unannounced school inspections. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill, but urged the Minister for Education to include representatives from home schooling and special education on the Board. The second reading was agreed to on the voices.

During committee of the whole the Greens moved an amendment to ensure that at least five days notice be given to a school before an inspection is carried out, unless there was genuine urgency. This was negatived on the voices. The Opposition moved a similar amendment, which was negatived on division (Ayes: 14 / Noes: 20). The bill was reported from committee without amendment.

The bill was read a third time and returned to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

### **Building Professionals Amendment (Information) Bill 2016**

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill provides for a new regulation making power to allow NSW Fair Trading to obtain data from persons who carry out certification work, accreditation holders and certifying authorities to centrally collect building and certification information showing the state of the built environment in New South Wales. The

bill allows the Department to enter into an information exchanging arrangement with councils and other agencies that exercise functions relating to certification, building regulation or the provision of statutory building insurance to deliver better and more efficient services to the people of New South Wales. Finally, the bill allows for the department to obtain information from other agencies to ensure the certifier accreditation scheme in New South Wales is more robust, responsive and effective at ensuring only appropriate individuals are able to operate in the industry.

The Parliamentary Secretary acknowledged that the bill arises from the statutory review of the Building Professionals Act undertaken by former Treasury Secretary Mr Michael Lambert in October 2015. The Parliamentary Secretary stated that the bill will inform evidence-based policy that will allow for better regulation of the building industry, particularly through the targeting of compliance and regulatory activity.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill, but noted that, while further changes had been foreshadowed, the bill addressed only a third of the 150 recommendations made in the Lambert review. The Opposition argued that the review had been presented as a package and should be considered as a package. The Greens also did not oppose the bill, but shared the Opposition's concerns. The Greens noted the difficulties experienced by strata owners dealing with substandard construction or building materials, and by those who deal with private certifiers and called on the Government to further implement the recommendations made by the review.

The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill, arguing that it will ensure that buildings were certified and safe to enter, and improve the performance of the building industry and the manner in which it is regulated.

The second and third readings were agreed to and the bill was returned to the Assembly without amendment.

### **Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2016**

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill follows from the release of the Government's 'Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW' in early 2016, which seeks to transfer management of up to 35 per cent of the state's social housing to community housing providers (while retaining state ownership of the housing stock), deliver 23,000 new and renewed social housing swellings and strengthen partnerships with the non-government sector. The bill amends the *Housing Act 2001* to make clear that the Land and Housing Corporation, the statutory body that owns the state's public housing assets, will be able to enter into a lease arrangement, known as a concurrent lease, with a registered community housing provider for specified public housing properties. The bill also amends the *Community Housing Providers (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012* to provide for the establishment of a local registration scheme for community housing providers that are unable to be registered under the National Regulatory System for Community Housing, such as Aboriginal land councils prevented from seeking registration under provisions of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

The minister advised that the bill was prompted by the changing demographics of people who require social housing, a decrease in the number of people exiting the system and a decline in the proportion of private rental housing that is affordable to low-income households. The bill also implements a 2009 Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreement for the community housing sector to take on a bigger role in delivering services to vulnerable tenants and increasing their opportunities to obtain education, employment and capacity in life skills.

According to standing order, debate on the second reading was adjourned for 5 calendar days.

## Justice Portfolio Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2016

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill makes miscellaneous amendments to legislation to clarify criminal procedure and improve the efficiency and operation of legislation affecting the courts and other justice cluster agencies. The amendments made include changes to the Child Sexual Assault Evidence Pilot (under which the evidence of child victims of sexual assault is prerecorded for use in a trial) to enhance safeguards for the children giving evidence; bail laws; entitlements for judicial officers; court procedures; the jurisdiction of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal and the Local Court regarding claims for unpaid strata levies; the operation of the Legal Profession Uniform Law; and technical adjustments to sentencing procedure in response to recommendations made by the Law Reform Commission in 2013.

The Parliamentary Secretary stated that all of the proposals in the bill had been the subject of wide consultation and many of the amendments had originated with stakeholders who have ‘on the ground’ experience of the justice system, so were well placed to advise government on the clarifications, corrections and improvements required to make sure the system works in the best way possible.

According to standing order, debate on the second reading was adjourned for 5 calendar days.

## Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (No 2) 2016

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill continues the statute law revision program, which has been in place since 1984. Such bills intend to make policy changes of a non-controversial nature that are too minor or inconsequential to warrant inclusion in a separate amending bill. The bill amends 28 Acts and makes related amendments to six instruments, including: an amendment to the State Records Act 1998 to change the name of the State Records Authority of New South Wales to the State Archives and Records Authority of New South Wales; an amendment to the Residential Tenancies Act 2010 to allow the Principal Registrar of the Civil and Administrative Tribunal to approve the form of a warrant for possession issued by the registrar under that Act; an amendment to the Landlord and Tenant (Amendment) Act 1948 to remove a requirement for certain statements given by a lessee under the Act to be in a form prescribed by regulations; the transfer of certain functions currently conferred on the Secretary of the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation to the Commissioner for Fair Trading; amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 and the Western Sydney University Act 1997; and amendments consequential on the enactment of the Commonwealth Australian Crime Commission Amendment (National Policing Information) Act 2016.

The Parliamentary Secretary advised that while the amendments made were straightforward in nature, if any particular matter of concern could not be resolved and was likely to delay the passage of the bill the Government would consider withdrawing the matter from the bill.

According to standing order, debate on the second reading was adjourned for 5 calendar days.

## **Private members’ business**

**Note:** Private members’ business is business introduced by members of the House other than Government ministers. There are two types of private members’ business: private members’ bills and private members’ motions.

*Motions*

### **Shimon Peres (Mr Green, Christian Democratic Party)**

The motion noted the passing of the late Shimon Peres, former Prime Minister, President, and Foreign Minister of the State of Israel and the last surviving member of the modern State of Israel’s founding generation of leaders. The motion acknowledged the enormous contribution that Mr Peres made to the

modern State of Israel, specifically during the years following independence, and the tremendous respect that world leaders, Israeli politicians and civilians from across the political spectrum had for him, demonstrated by the number of world leaders who attended his funeral.

In speaking to the motion, Mr Green read out the full eulogy given by the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who in so doing stressed the common goal of peace and security across the political spectrum. The Government supported the motion, acknowledging that Mr Peres, a joint winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994, was a man who gave much to his nation and to the world, and that his passing was mourned by many Australians. The Opposition supported the motion, also acknowledging Mr Peres' achievements, and noted that his passing signals the closing of an important chapter in Zionism and in Jewish and world history.

Debate was adjourned until the next sitting day.

#### **Roman Catholic Church (Mr Pearson, Animal Justice Party)**

The motion condemned the Roman Catholic Church in Australia for its failure to protect children from sexual abuse by members of its clergy and leadership who either sexually assaulted children in their care or failed to respond appropriately when allegations were raised. The motion also called on the House to convey its disappointment in Cardinal George Pell for his response to victims who had sought his assistance over many years.

In speaking to the motion, Mr Pearson stated that it was time for the Parliament to speak out on behalf of those who had elected it and on behalf of those not yet old enough to vote. Mr Pearson acknowledged the pain and suffering experienced by countless victims over many years, leading to premature deaths through drug and alcohol abuse, risk-taking behaviours, self-harm and suicide. Mr Pearson also acknowledged 'the secrecy, the shame, the pain, the confusion and the fear and terror of not being believed' and the evidence of actions by the church in protecting senior members of the clergy who had been the subject of multiple allegations. Mr Pearson also spoke to his own personal experience of witnessing the abuse of a child by teachers. Though he raised the matter with another teacher, no action was taken by the school.

Following Mr Pearson's contribution to the debate, debate on the motion was adjourned until the next sitting day.

#### **Intercity Train Fleet Contract (Mrs Houssos, Labor Party)**

The motion notes the high rates of unemployment recorded in the Illawarra, Hunter and Western Sydney regions in the context of the Government's recent decision not to mandate any local manufacturing or materials on the new intercity train fleet contract, resulting in up to 1,200 jobs being sent offshore. The motion calls on the House to condemn the Government for its decision to send the construction of the \$2.3 billion intercity train fleet offshore.

Mrs Houssos stated that the project signalled the first occasion on which no component of the building or manufacturing of a train fleet would be carried out in New South Wales, despite the state's strong history of industrial manufacturing dating back to the 1800s. Mrs Houssos condemned the continued cessation of heavy manufacturing jobs, despite the overall increase in Australia's purchase of manufactured goods. Mrs Houssos also argued that the savings projected by sending the new contract offshore would be overshadowed by the costs involved in updating lines such as the Blue Mountains line to accommodate the new longer and wider train fleet.

The Government opposed the motion, arguing that the new fleet will improve the customer experience of regional and city commuters and travellers, incorporating new features requested by customers such as wifi, phone charging stations, storage space and digital announcement screens. The Government stated that the contract will deliver a saving of approximately 25 per cent for NSW taxpayers and that large numbers of

new jobs had been created via other aspects of infrastructure development such as construction and maintenance.

The Greens supported the motion, arguing that local manufacture of the new fleet would have assisted to offset other job losses in manufacturing recently experienced in NSW, in contrast to the Victorian Government's recent decision to build new carriages in Victoria with a 50 per cent local content requirement. The Greens argued that the diminution of in-house technical and engineering skills across the NSW public service would impact on the scrutiny of design, procurement and delivery from consultants and contractors and on the oversight of infrastructure planning.

The motion was negated on division (Ayes: 16 / Noes: 20).

*Motions taken as formal business*

The following items of private members' business were agreed to as formal business without amendment or debate:

- (1) Tenterfield memorial for Clinton Speedy-Duroux (Mr Shoebridge).
- (2) Pan-Macedonian Association of New South Wales (Mr Clarke).
- (3) School Nurses Association of NSW Conference (Mrs Taylor).
- (4) National Foundation Day of the Republic of Korea (Mr Clarke).
- (5) 30th anniversary of the Australia India Business Council NSW (Mr Wong).
- (6) National Amputee Awareness Week (Mrs Maclarens-Jones).
- (7) 90th anniversary of Sydney Legacy (Mr Donnelly).
- (8) Restaurant and Catering Industry Awards (Mr Clarke).
- (9) Annual Greek-Serbian Orthodox and Cultural Friendship Day (Mr Clarke).
- (10) Macedonian Orthodox Church Cornerstone Laying Ceremony (Mr Clarke).
- (11) Aged care (Ms Barham).
- (12) 56th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Cyprus (Mr Clarke).
- (13) Mental Health Week (Mr Buckingham).
- (14) Comment made by Mr Donald Trump (Mr Buckingham).
- (15) 2016 Women's Agenda Leadership Awards Ceremony (Mrs Houssos).
- (16) International Day of the Girl Child (Dr Faruqi).
- (17) Supreme Court's Annual Commercial and Corporate Law Conference (Ms Cusack).
- (18) Launch of Jewish House Program for Drug and Alcohol Abuse (Mr Clarke).
- (19) 46th Anniversary of the Independence of Fiji (Mr Clarke).
- (20) 70th Anniversary of the Independence Day of India (Mr Clarke).
- (21) Diaspora Symposium - Refugees and Asylum Seeker Discourse (Dr Faruqi).
- (22) Rabbi Dr Dovid Slavin (Mr Clarke).

## Orders for papers

**Note:** The Council has a common law power to order the Government to produce State papers.

*Return to order*

**Greyhound Welfare – Further Order** (Deputy Secretary, Cabinet and Legal, Department of Premier and Cabinet): received 12 October 2016 (48 boxes public documents, 118 boxes privileged documents).

## Petitions received

*Ministerial response*

Wauchope Station – (Honourable Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure), Received 28 September 2016.

## Committee activities

*Committee membership*

The following changes to committee membership were reported:

Mr Field to replace Mr Buckingham on General Purpose Standing Committee No.1.

Mr Mookhey appointed to General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 in place of Ms Cotsis.

*Committee reports tabled*

**Standing Committee on State Development:** ‘Economic development in Aboriginal communities’, tabled 11 October 2016.

**Legislation Review Committee:** ‘Legislation Review Digest No. 26/56’, dated 11 October 2016.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6: ‘Crown land in New South Wales’, tabled 13 October 2016.

*Committee reports debated*

**Joint Standing Committee on the Office of the Valuer General:** The House concluded the take note debate on Report No. 1/56 of the committee entitled ‘Report on the tenth general meeting with the Valuer General’, dated September 2016.

**Committee on Children and Young People:** The House concluded the take note debate on Report No. 1/56 entitled ‘Review of the Annual 2015 Report of the Advocate for Children and Young People’, dated September 2016.

**Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety (StaySafe):** The House concluded the take note debate on Report No. 2/56 entitled ‘Driverless Vehicles and Road Safety in NSW’.

## Inquiry activities

**Select Committee on the Legislative Council committee system**

Private roundtable meetings were conducted in May and August to consider options and recommendations for the final report. The committee is expected to report by the end of the year.

**Select Committee on Off-Protocol Chemotherapy in New South Wales**

The closing date for submissions is 23 October 2016. The committee will be conducting hearings and site visits on 31 October and 1, 2 and 29 November. It is due to report by March 2017.

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2**

*Inquiry into child protection*

The committee conducted two public hearings and an Indigenous consultation during September 2016. The committee is expected to report by the end of the year.

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3**

*Inquiry into enrolment capacity in inner city public primary schools*

Submissions have now closed. Public hearings will be held at Parliament House on 11 and 25 November 2016.

*Inquiry into students with disability or special needs in New South Wales schools*

The closing date for submissions is 29 January 2017. The committee intends to hold hearings in February 2017.

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4**

*Inquiry into museums and galleries*

The committee has received 171 submissions and held three public hearings to date. The committee will hold two additional public hearings in Sydney on 19 October and 14 November 2016.

**General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5**

*Inquiry into water augmentation for rural and regional New South Wales*

The committee will travel to Broken Hill/Menindee Lakes on 25 and 26 October for a site visit and public hearing. There will also be a hearing in Sydney on 7 November 2016.

*Inquiry into Wambelong fire inquiry evidence*

The committee will table its report next week.

## **General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6**

### *Inquiry into Crown land in New South Wales*

The committee tabled its report on 13 October 2016. The report contained 20 recommendations to government.

### **Law and Justice Committee**

#### *First review into New South Wales workers compensation scheme*

Submissions have now closed. The committee will hold hearings on 4 and 7 November 2016.

### **State Development Committee**

#### *Inquiry into economic development in Aboriginal communities*

The committee tabled its final report on 30 September 2016. The government response is due 30 March 2017.

#### *Inquiry into regional planning processes in NSW*

The committee is currently preparing its report which will be tabled by the end of the year.

### **Social Issues Committee**

#### *Inquiry into childhood overweight and obesity*

The committee held its final public hearing on 10 October 2016 and is expected to report by the end of the year.

## **Reports tabled**

### **Register of Disclosures by Members of the Legislative Council:** 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

### **Auditor General:**

- (1) 'Report on State Finances', 6 October 2016.
- (2) 'Preventing and managing worker injuries: NSW Police Force and Fire & Rescue NSW', 13 October 2016.

## **Adjournment debate**

### **Tuesday 11 October 2016**

Local government amalgamations (Mr Primrose); Greyhound racing industry (Dr Phelps); The Hon. Jan Barham Resignation (Ms Barham); Women in Prison Advocacy Network (Ms Cusack); Renewable energy (Mr Searle); Tribute to Pastor Ian John Woods (Mr Green).

### **Wednesday 12 October 2016**

Hospital privatisation (Mrs Houssos); Animal welfare (Mr Pearson); Orange electorate events (Mrs Mitchell); State Government (Mr Moselmane);

Climate change (Mr Shoebridge); Plantation timber (Mr Colless).

### **Thursday 13 October 2016**

Asylum seekers (Mr Wong); Greyhound racing industry (Mr Borsak); Terrorism (Mr Clarke); Shark net program (Mr Field); Drowsing the Blues Away (Mrs Taylor); Domestic and family violence (Ms Sharpe).

## **Feedback on *House in Review***

We welcome any comments you might have on this publication.

We are particularly keen to know which parts of the *House in Review* you find most useful and whether you have any suggestions for improvement. Please email your comments to

[stephen.frappell@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:stephen.frappell@parliament.nsw.gov.au).

All responses will be kept strictly confidential.



David Blunt  
**Clerk of the Parliaments**