

NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

HOUSE IN REVIEW

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14 to 16 November 2017*

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 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.

Overview

This week the House debated – and ultimately negated by one vote – the [Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill](#). The bill aimed to give terminally ill people the legal right to end their own lives with medical assistance. The bill was a private member's bill that was introduced by Mr Khan (The Nationals) and co-sponsored by Dr Faruqi (The Greens) and Ms Voltz (Opposition). The bill was the only item of business considered on private members' business day, with almost all members choosing to speak on this significant issue.

On an important practical note, the House agreed to the 2018 sitting calendar. The calendar is available on the Parliament's [website](#).

The heavy government legislative agenda continued into the final sitting fortnight of the year. The House considered nine government bills and agreed to five of these bills. Debate on the remaining four government bills was adjourned and is expected to continue in the final sitting week.

Three of the government bills considered this week were declared urgent after they were introduced into the Council or received from the Assembly after the cut-off date for the introduction of government bills. The House also turned its attention to the cut-off dates for government bills for next year (namely 25 May 2018 for bills considered in the Budget sittings and 26 October for bills introduced in the Spring sittings).

In addition, this week the House was advised of the resignation of the Honourable Greg Pearce, a long-serving member of the House since 2000.

Election of a new member – Ms Natalie Ward

On Thursday the President reported receipt of correspondence noting that His Excellency the Governor had accepted the resignation of the Hon Greg Pearce (Liberal) as a member of the Council the previous day. The President subsequently announced receipt of a message from His Excellency convening a joint sitting of the two Houses to elect a member to fill the vacancy caused by Mr Pearce's resignation.

Later that day, the two Houses convened for the joint sitting in the Legislative Council chamber and elected Ms Natalie Ward to fill the vacant seat. Ms Ward is expected to commence her duties in the final sitting week.

Government business

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

[Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill substantially amends the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* in order to implement a range of reforms intended to improve the environmental planning and assessment system in New South Wales. The bill

significantly re-organises, revises and simplifies the provisions of the Act, including by restructuring the Act into ten parts and moving matters of detail (particularly savings and transitional provisions) to the regulations.

Debate resumed from 18 October 2017 (see previous edition of House in Review).

The Greens indicated that on balance they could not support the bill. The Greens acknowledged some elements of the bill sought to improve, albeit in a small way, the current planning system, such as including ecologically sustainable development as an object of the Act and the requirement to prepare a community consultation plan. However, the Greens argued that more substantial elements of the bill give more power and rights to developers and remove the rights of local councils. The Greens' strongest concern regarding the bill was the failure to provide an adequate framework for dealing with the climate impacts created by the planning system. The Greens foreshadowed a range of amendments, some of which they noted were the same as amendments that they moved in 2013 when the Government last sought to substantially rewrite the planning legislation.

The Opposition noted that a consultation draft of the bill had been on exhibition since February this year and that it had received over 400 submissions. The Opposition argued that the bill is largely about reorganising the existing provisions in the Act and does very little to address the major problems confronting a growing Sydney and the rest of the State. The Opposition was critical of the extent to which the bill relies on subsequent regulations without providing adequate indication of the parameters and form those regulations will take.

The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill, noting with approval the Government's consultation with key community and other stakeholders. The CDP said that it had raised stakeholder concerns with the Government regarding mandated periods of community consultation, circumstances in which proceedings can be kept private and the integration of strategic and local plans.

In reply, the Parliamentary Secretary said that the Government will take a staged approach to the implementation of the changes in the bill to ensure a smooth transition to the new measures and to provide councils with time to prepare for the new requirements.

The second reading was agreed to.

The bill was considered in the committee stage for three and a half hours. Between them, the Opposition, The Greens and the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party moved 40 amendments to bill. Ultimately all of the amendments were negated either on the voices or, more frequently, on division.

The Opposition amendments sought to retain two objects of the current Act removed by the bill and to insert the retention and expansion of the urban tree canopy as a new object; to narrow the circumstances in which proceedings of the Independent Planning Commission are kept or take place in private; and to ensure that development consents for state significant development cease to have effect while subject to an appeal.

The Greens amendments sought to install the promotion of ecologically sustainable development as the principal object of the Act, to make it an object of the Act to 'achieve' rather than 'facilitate' ecologically sustainable development, and to promote the expansion of social infrastructure and services in conjunction with housing development. The Greens also moved amendments for the Act to address the climate change implications of proposed developments; change the membership requirements for local planning panels; increase the minimum public exhibition periods for various development-related plans; require consent authorities to give due consideration to the dominant opinion of the public; remove the provision allowing the Planning Secretary to give approval on behalf of other approval bodies for integrated development; establish a scheme for the independent allocation of private certifiers, and establish a right of appeal against decisions of the Independent Planning Commission.

The amendments of the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party sought to retain the current definitions for bush fire prone land; to categorise development on land used for agriculture as exempt development; and to prevent private land and land used by sporting bodies from being zoned as Environment Conservation or Environment Management land.

The third reading of the bill was supported by the Government, Opposition and Christian Democratic Party and opposed by the Greens, Animal Justice Party and Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party (Division 30:7). The bill was forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence.

Natural Resources Access Regulator Bill 2017

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill constitutes the Natural Resources Access Regulator as a statutory corporation with responsibility for the enforcement of natural resources management legislation, such as the *Water Management Act 2000*. A three-person governing Board will act for the Regulator with the Chief Regulatory Officer responsible for its day to day management. The Minister may give general directions to the Regulator if the Minister is satisfied that it is in the public interest to do so. The bill provides for the transfer of compliance and enforcement staff of Water NSW to the public service agency to support the Regulator.

The second reading debate resumed from 18 October 2017 (see the previous volume of *House in Review* for details of the Minister's second reading speech where he said, among other things, that the bill follows the report of the independent investigation by Mr Ken MatthewsAO, which highlighted the urgent need to improve the accountability, transparency and performance of the NSW water compliance and enforcement system).

The Opposition stated that it supports any genuine attempt to strengthen natural resources legislation. While it considered the principles contained in the bill to be sound, the Opposition believed that the bill delivers fell far short of community expectations, particularly in what it described as a poor attempt to establish an independent regulator without giving that the body the independence and rigour it warrants.

The Opposition foreshadowed a range of amendments which it argued would strengthen the bill and better reflect the recommendations of the Matthews report. These included to provide that the Board of the Regulator includes members with knowledge of Indigenous interests in natural resources and experience in conservation; to ensure the regulator is established as a separate independent agency; to allow the regulator to advise the Minister on the amount to be recovered from licence holders to ensure that the Regulator is adequately staffed; to require the regulator to publish reports each six months on its activities; and to ensure that the prime function of the regulator be oversight of compliance enforcement.

The Opposition also expressed its concern that the bill does nothing with respect to the issue of metering of all irrigators and extending the statute of limitations in relation to breaches of water legislation. The Opposition also argued that there was insufficient public consultation on the bill and moved that the bill be referred to a select committee for inquiry and report. If the bill was not referred to the select committee, the Opposition indicated that it would not oppose the second reading in order to allow the bill to proceed to the committee-of-the-whole stage, but that if its foreshadowed amendments were not supported it would oppose the third reading of the bill.

The Greens were also critical of what it saw as the limited scope of the bill and stated that it could not support the bill in its current form. The Greens also believed that public consultation should have taken place before the bill had been introduced.

The Greens indicated that it supported all of the Opposition amendments and foreshadowed that members would be moving amendments of their own which would seek to give the regulator clear roles and powers regarding compliance; create a separate staff agency for the regulator; enable the regulator to make non-binding directions to the Minister; and make Board members full-time and appointed by the Premier.

The Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party supported the bill. The SFFP argued that while the bill could be characterised as a minimalist approach, it was important for the Government to take some action now to demonstrate to the public that it was prepared to split the nexus between water extraction, compliance and licensing. The SFFP indicated that it did not support any of the amendments foreshadowed by the Opposition and the Greens, with the exception of ensuring Indigenous representation on the Board.

The Christian Democratic Party also took the view that some legislative action was required now and saw the bill as an appropriate first step towards reform of natural resource management.

In reply, Minister Blair emphasised that the Government was working on a suite of actions regarding water resources regulation including metering and stakeholder engagement. The Minister said that the Government was starting with this legislation because the issue of compliance, and a compliance regulator, had been identified as the top priority. The Minister noted that the Board of the regulator will not be subject to the control of the Minister when considering operational compliance matters, and that indigenous people are encouraged to apply for Board positions.

Mr Blair emphasised that it was important to get this bill right and that he would seek to adjourn debate in order to give proper consideration to the issues raised during the debate and the content of the foreshadowed amendments.

Debate was adjourned until the next sitting week.

Education Amendment (School Safety) Bill 2017

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill amends the *Education Act 1990* to enable the Minister for Education to direct a student not to attend school for a specified period if the Minister reasonably believes there is a high risk that the student will engage in serious violent conduct or supports terrorism. In such instances the Minister will be required to assess whether the student's school attendance constitutes a health or safety risk and, if appropriate, develop risk management strategies to enable the student to attend school. The bill also extends school disciplinary powers to student conduct that significantly affects, or is likely to significantly affect, the health or safety of students or staff, regardless of whether that conduct occurs on or outside school premises or within or outside school hours.

Debate resumed from 18 October 2017 (see previous edition of House in Review).

The Opposition supported the bill but foreshadowed minor amendments in the committee stage. Although the Greens acknowledged the aims of the bill, they did not support the bill, arguing that under Part 5 of the *Education Act 1990* principals can already suspend, expel or refuse to enrol a student on the grounds that they pose a significant risk to the health and safety of other students and teachers. The Greens argued that if students are excluded from schools merely because of a concern of a threat, as provided for by the bill, they may be further isolated from society. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill and argued that similar legislation should be introduced in other areas, to better promote safety elsewhere in society.

The second reading was agreed to.

In committee the Opposition moved amendments to: provide that an enrolment direction must specify a school appropriate to the student's age and within reasonable distance of their home; require that support plans must be developed for students not attending schools; and to require the Minister to publish on the Education Department's website the number of non-attendance directions given per year. The amendments were all agreed to on the voices.

The third reading was agreed to and the bill was forwarded to the Assembly for concurrence.

Electricity Supply Amendment (Emergency Management) Bill 2017

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill amends the *Electricity Supply Act 1995* to provide for streamlined emergency management powers in the event that electricity supply is severely disrupted. The emergency management powers provide that the Premier will be able to declare an electricity supply emergency and enable the Minister for Energy and Utilities to take certain actions, give directions and obtain information while the electricity supply emergency declaration is in force.

Debate resumed from 18 October 2017 (see previous edition of House in Review).

The Opposition did not oppose the bill but queried why it did not specify time limits applicable to the declaration of electricity supply emergencies. The Opposition also argued that the bill should provide for the appointment of a suitably qualified industrial relations practitioner to investigate instances where the declaration of an electricity supply emergency is related to an industrial dispute. The Shooters, Farmers and Fishers Party did not oppose the bill but similarly questioned why it did not include time limits with respect to electricity supply emergency declarations. The Greens did not oppose the bill but criticised the Government's record on electricity management and argued that this was the reason why the Government now required emergency management powers. The Greens also expressed concern that nothing in the bill prevents the Government from declaring an electricity supply emergency indefinitely. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill and highlighted the importance of securing electricity supply.

The second reading was agreed to.

In committee, the Opposition moved an amendment to grant the Industrial Relations Commission investigative powers with respect to electricity supply emergency declarations caused by industrial disputes. The Greens moved an amendment to limit emergency declarations to 30 days. Both amendments were defeated.

The third reading was agreed to and the bill was forwarded to the Assembly for concurrence.

Rural Crime Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill amends a number of Acts in response to a review of laws relating to stock theft and trespass. Among other things, the bill creates an offence of aggravated trespass where a biosecurity risk is introduced or increased by the trespass where the offender intends to engage in stock theft or is in possession of hunting equipment or accompanied by hunting dogs. The bill also gives owners of stock and police the power to apply for a stock mustering order authorising entry onto property, and allows a victim's geographical isolation to be considered as an aggravating factor in sentencing.

Debate resumed from 18 October 2017 (see previous edition of House in Review).

The Opposition and the Christian Democratic Party supported the bill noting that rural crime is increasing and that the bill recognises and responds to the isolation and vulnerability that many people in rural communities feel when it comes to theft and trespass. These two parties were also satisfied that the legislation was consistent with the thorough review of rural crime conducted by the former NSW Police Assistant Commissioner, Steve Bradshaw.

The Greens opposed the proposal to include geographical isolation as an aggravating factor, arguing that one class of victim should not be considered more important than another. The Greens stated that a crime is not worse simply because a victim lives on a farm 20 kilometres outside of Orange, as opposed to living in Parramatta. The Greens also said that if the Government was serious about reducing rural crime levels, it would ensure that police commands were adequately resourced so at least two police officers are on duty during times when illegal hunting activities can occur.

The Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party supported aspects of the bill but indicated concerns regarding the prevention of illegal interference by animal welfare groups on rural properties, firearm theft and causing fear of death or serious bodily injury.

In response to concerns from the Greens, the Minister (Mr Blair) stated that rural crime prevention teams have been announced that will support investigators and operational police.

The second reading was agreed to.

In committee, the Greens moved an amendment to omit from the bill an aggravated offence concerning unlawful trespassing that would introduce or increase the risk of a biosecurity impact. The Greens argued that the provision should be omitted because it inappropriately targets animal activists that enter farms in order to expose cruelty to animals. The Minister responded that the provision did not relate to animal activism. Instead, the Minister noted that it is a by-product of the Bradshaw report to prevent biosecurity incursions by illegal trespassers. The Opposition supported the amendment and noted it was not satisfied with the Minister's response.

The amendment was negatived on division (16:22) and the third reading of the bill agreed to. The bill was returned to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Road Transport and Related Legislation Amendment Bill 2017

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill amends various road transport and related legislation including establishing a NSW written-off heavy vehicles register; allowing camera technology to be used for the enforcement of vehicle dimension offences; mandating Working With Children check clearances and introducing good repute requirements for driving instructors, and updating legislation covering point to point taxi and hire vehicles to align certain provisions with those of work health and safety legislation.

Debate resumed from 18 October 2017 ([see previous House in Review](#)).

The Opposition did not oppose the bill, observing that the bill made a number of straightforward and sensible changes to road transport compliance and administration. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill, acknowledging that the bill sought to strengthen safety measures and ensure that the people of New South Wales get home safely to their loved ones.

The Greens did not oppose the bill but noted their concern that the powers of the Point to Point Transport Commissioner had been expanded to include those to compel people to provide information or appear before the Commissioner to give evidence. The Greens observed that these new powers were far-reaching and could potentially be misused, particularly as the Commissioner is not required to report to Parliament.

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

[Statute Law \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Bill \(No 2\) 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill continues the statute law revision program, which has been in place for more than 30 years. Bills of this kind have featured in most sessions of Parliament since 1984, and generally contain policy changes of a minor and non-controversial nature that are too inconsequential to warrant the introduction of a separate amending bill. On this occasion, the bill contains amendments to 22 acts and one related instrument, including amendments to the *Ombudsman Act 1974*, the *Combats Sports Act 2013* and the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

Debate resumed from 18 October 2017 ([see previous House in Review](#)).

The Opposition and the Greens supported the bill, noting that in keeping with the tradition applicable to the statute law revision program, the Government had agreed to omit those provisions with which they had identified concerns. Concerns raised by the Opposition had related to the changes to the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1979* and the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010*, and those raised by the Greens had related to the *Government Sector Employment Act 2013* and the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010*.

The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill, noting that the statute law revision program was an efficient process that worked well.

The second reading was agreed to on the voices.

In committee of the whole the Government moved 4 amendments to omit references to provisions with which the Opposition and The Greens had taken issue, noted previously. The amendments were agreed to unanimously.

The third reading was agreed to on the voices and the bill was forwarded to the Assembly for concurrence.

[Electoral Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill repeals and replaces the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912* (the Act) to modernise and improve the conduct of elections in New South Wales by better accounting for modern electoral practice and technological advances. The bill follows a review of the Act undertaken by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters. The Committee found that while the Act provides appropriate principles for the conduct of parliamentary elections, the legislative framework through which they are given effect requires modernisation.

The bill was declared urgent, allowing it to proceed through all stages in one sitting day.

The Parliamentary Secretary (Mr Franklin) stated that the bill is not a radical overhaul of the electoral system and it carries over much from the current Act. The Parliamentary Secretary noted that the bill includes a definitions section which updates terminology used throughout the bill to take account of modern practice and technology. Other reforms introduced by the bill include requiring the New South Wales Electoral Commissioner to maintain a centralised electronic register of all enrolled electors; streamlining the processes of the New South Wales Electoral Commission with respect to voter enrolment, voting, complaints handling and candidate nomination; increasing penalties for electoral offences, and granting the Electoral Commission new powers to requisition the use of rooms and halls in certain premises as voting centres in specified circumstances.

Debate was adjourned until the next sitting day.

[Local Government Amendment \(Regional Joint Organisations\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill seeks to amend the *Local Government Act 1993* to provide for the constitution of joint organisations of councils (joint organisations), and functions and operation of joint organisations.

The bill was declared urgent, allowing it to proceed through all stages in one sitting day.

The Parliamentary Secretary (Mrs Taylor) stated that joint organisations are a major part of the Government's plan to revitalise regional New South Wales and provide the governance structures and funding to allow communities across the State to grow to their full potential. Regional joint organisations will provide a forum for councils, the Government and other partners to work together on regional matters such as economic development, job creation and improving regional transport, community infrastructure and services.

Debate was adjourned five calendar days.

[State Revenue Legislation Amendment \(Surcharge\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill amends the *Duties Act 1997*, the *Land Tax Act 1956* and the *Land Tax Management Act 1956* in two ways. First, it allows Australian corporations with foreign ownership to claim a refund on the surcharges applicable to the sale of newly constructed homes. Second, it exempts small businesses from the duties imposed when a small business takes out an insurance policy.

The bill was declared urgent, allowing it to proceed through all stages in one sitting day.

The Parliamentary Secretary (Mr MacDonald) noted that the bill's surcharge refund for housing construction would help promote housing affordability by providing incentives for Australian-based foreign-owned developers to build more new homes. The Parliamentary Secretary also stated the objective of the insurance duty exemption is to encourage more small businesses to take out insurance policies.

The Opposition opposed the foreign investor surcharge refund for housing construction arguing that it would not do enough to promote housing supply, would cost the budget millions, and would be better spent on hospitals, schools and other housing affordability measures. The Opposition did not oppose the duty exemption for small business insurance policies. The Christian Democratic Party supported both of the bill's measures, in particular the measure aimed at increasing housing supply.

Debate was adjourned until the next sitting day.

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.

Bill

[Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2017](#) (Mr Khan, the Nationals – co-sponsored by Dr Faruqi, The Greens and Ms Voltz, Australian Labor Party)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill seeks to provide a legislative framework to enable terminally ill persons to request and receive assistance to end their lives voluntarily. The framework establishes a right for an eligible person to request assistance from a medical practitioner to end their life. A person is eligible to make a request for assistance if the person is at least 25 years of age, ordinarily a resident of New South Wales, suffering from a terminal illness as a result of which the person will die within 12 months in the reasonable judgment of a medical practitioner, and is experiencing severe pain, suffering or physical incapacity to an extent unacceptable to the person.

The bill was introduced by Mr Khan on 21 September when he gave his second reading speech (see vol 56/44 of *House in Review* for details of Mr Khan's speech).

The second reading debate resumed on 16 November 2017, with members of the major political parties being granted the right to vote according to their conscience. The Chamber galleries were filled with members of the public who had come to witness the proceedings. Before the debate began, the President made a statement reminding those present of the need for a civilised debate and the need to respect the rights and views of others.

Overall, 37 members spoke to the second reading of the bill. The fact that almost every member made a contribution was testimony to the importance that members attached to the matter and was reflected in the passion, emotion and thoughtful reflection evident in the debate.

A number of members from both sides of the debate related personal experiences and how these had shaped their position on the merits of the bill. Many members, notwithstanding the position they took on the bill, also emphasised the need for more resources for palliative care services. Members also made reference to the volume of correspondence on the bill they had received from members of the public.

Those members who supported the bill pointed to its substantial safeguards, which it was argued made it the most rigorous of any assisted dying regime, and that the bill empowers the vulnerable as it allows them some control over their lives and the ability to choose to end their suffering. Members cited the reported overall community support for assisted dying and argued that assisted dying should be viewed as an element of, rather than as seeking to replace, palliative care.

The positions put by members who were opposed to the bill included the principle that one should never give up on life and that it was impossible for any assisted dying system to be free from the risk of manipulation. Members expressed concerns that the sanction of assisted dying could normalise suicide, that the safeguards in the bill could be removed or reduced in the future, and that elderly and terminally ill people will choose or even be pressured into seeking assisted dying in order not to be a burden on their family.

After eight hours of debate, the second reading was decided on division. Nineteen members voted for the bill, and twenty members voted against the bill. The second reading was negatived.

Motions taken as formal business

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

1. Dementia prevention programs (Mr Wong).
2. Australian War Animal Memorial in France (Mr Pearson).
3. Newcastle China Week (Mr MacDonald).
4. Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters—Extension of reporting date (Dr Phelps).
5. Attack in Las Vegas (Mrs Maclaren-Jones).
6. Mr Mervyn Ambrose Leslie Flanagan (Mr Graham).
7. NSW Federation of Community Language Schools (Mr Clarke).
8. 30th anniversary of the Cumberland Business Chamber (Mrs Maclaren-Jones).
9. Ballina Prawn Festival 2017 (Mr Franklin).
10. Armenian National Committee of Australia annual banquet 2017 (Mr Clarke).
11. 30th anniversary awards night of the Macarthur Legal Centre (Mr Clarke).
12. 60th anniversary of Club Palm Beach (Mrs Maclaren-Jones).
13. Islamic Charity Projects Association (Mr Moselmane).
14. Kfarsaroun Charity Association (Mr Moselmane).
15. Suffo Skatepark Day 2017 (Mr Franklin).
16. India Club Inc and Women Breaking Barriers seminars (Mr Clarke).

17. Mangalorean Catholic Association of Sydney celebratory luncheon (Mr Clarke).
18. 150th anniversary of Wardell Public School (Mr Franklin).
19. 70th Commissioned Police Officers Annual Dinner (Mr Clarke).
20. Vietnamese International Youth Movement conference (Mr Clarke).
21. Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce in Australia gala dinner (Mr Clarke).
22. Assyria Day Conference 2017 (Mr Clarke).
23. Diwali in the Hills Celebration 2017 (Mr Clarke).
24. Sydney Taiwan Festival 2017 (Mr Clarke).
25. Indian Polo Team luncheon reception (Mr Clarke).
26. Ballina Country Music Festival 2017 (Mr Franklin).
27. 2018 cut-off dates for Government bills (Mr Veitch).
28. Slow Food International Congress (Mr Wong).
29. Battle of Beersheba (Mr Amato).
30. Narellan Sports Hub (Mr Amato).
31. 60th anniversary of the National Parks Association (Dr Faruqi).
32. Australian Hellenic Educational Progressive Association NSW (Mrs Houssos).
33. Sydney Thunder Nation Cup (Dr Faruqi).
34. Marine Rescue NSW Port Stephens (Mr MacDonald).
35. Port Stephens Examiner's Business Awards 2017 (Mr MacDonald).
36. Vietnam Veterans Day (Mrs Maclaren-Jones).
37. Pan Pacific Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Championships (Mr Franklin).
38. Dementia Support Group for Indian Australians (Mr Clarke).
39. Retired Police Officers Day and police memorial (Mr Clarke).
40. Lennox Head Chamber of Commerce (Mr Franklin).
41. National Foundation Day of the Republic of Korea (Mr Clarke).
42. Ms Macinley Butson (Mr Field).
43. 200th anniversary celebration of the birth of Baha'u'llah (Mrs Maclaren-Jones).
44. 71st anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of India celebratory dinner (Mr Clarke).
45. Toukley Neighbourhood Centre (Mr MacDonald).
46. Indo-Australian Bal Bharathi Vidyalaya gala function (Mr Clarke).
47. Deepavali fair at Harris Park (Mr Clarke).
48. Third Battle of Ypres (Mrs Maclaren-Jones).
49. National Day of Greece (Mr Clarke).
50. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints conference (Mr Clarke).
51. Ms Emma Gibson (Mr MacDonald).
52. 11th anniversary of the Sydney Sanskrit School (Mr Clarke).
53. Australian Red Cross (NSW) Annual General Meeting (Mr Clarke).

54. Mr Ben McDonald (Mr MacDonald).
55. Independence Day of India reception at Walsh Bay (Mr MacDonald).
56. Mrs Wendy Archer AM (Mr MacDonald).
57. 200th Anniversary of Baha'u'llah (Mr Clarke).

Petition received

Opposition to voluntary assisted dying bill – 199 signatures (presented by Mr Donnelly).

Committee activities

Committee reference

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Industry and Transport: The Chair informed the House that on 15 November 2017, the committee resolved to inquire into the Windsor Bridge replacement project.

Committee reports tabled

Procedure Committee: ‘Report relating to the rules for notices of motions, the rules for question, e-petitions and two new sessional orders’, dated November 2017.

Legislation Review Committee: ‘Legislation Review Digest No. 46/56’, dated 14 November 2017.

Standing Committee on State Development: Discussion papers entitled ‘Defence industry in New South Wales’ and ‘Regional development and a global Sydney’, dated November 2017.

Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption: Report No. 4/56 entitled ‘Protections for people who make voluntary disclosures to the Independent Commission Against Corruption’, dated November 2017.

Committee report debated

Committee on Children and Young People: The House concluded the take note debate on Report No. 3/56 entitled ‘2017 Review of the Annual Reports of the Advocate for Children and Young People and the Children’s Guardian’, dated August 2017.

Committee membership

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Industry and Transport: The Hon Wes Fang MLC replaced the Hon Greg Pearce MLC.

Inquiry activities

Select Committee on Electricity Supply, Demand and Prices in New South Wales

The committee has received more than 200 submissions to date and held its first public hearing. The committee will conduct its next public hearing in Sydney on 17 November 2017.

Standing Committee on State Development

Inquiry into regional development and a global Sydney

The committee published a discussion paper on 14 November 2017 and invites further submissions on the questions raised. The closing date for submissions is 12 February 2018.

Defence industry in New South Wales

The committee published a discussion paper on 14 November 2017 and invites further submissions on the questions raised. The closing date for submissions is 12 February 2018.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice

Statutory review of the State Insurance and Care Governance Act 2015

The committee has received 16 submissions and held a public hearing on 7 November 2017. The final report will be tabled on 15 December 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Inquiry into Alcoholic Beverages Advertising Prohibition Bill 2015

The committee has received 33 submissions to date. Hearings will be held on 1 and 5 December 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services

The provisions of drug rehabilitation services in regional, rural and remote New South Wales

The closing date for submissions is 8 December 2017. The committee anticipates commencing hearings in March and April 2018.

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Legal Affairs

Inquiry into museums and galleries

The committee is considering holding a further hearing. The report is due to be tabled by 1 March 2018.

Emergency services agencies

The committee has received more than 180 submissions to date and has held three public hearings. The committee will conduct its next public hearings in 2018.

Fire and emergency services levy

The closing date for submissions is 26 November 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Industry and Transport

Inquiry into water augmentation for rural and regional New South Wales

The committee has received 118 submissions and held 11 hearings in Sydney and regional areas. The committee is due to report in March 2018.

Budget Estimates

The committee will hold a supplementary hearing into the Lands and Forestry, and Racing portfolios on 17 November 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment

Inquiry into energy from waste technology

The committee will conduct a hearing on 24 November and anticipates reporting next year.

Privileges Committee

Inquiry into procedural fairness for inquiry participants

The committee has published a discussion paper and received four submissions.

Reports tabled

Acting Ombudsman: Annual report, year ended 30 June 2017.

Auditor General:

1. “Report on State Finances”, October 2017.
2. “Report on sharing school and community facilities”, November 2017.
3. “Government advertising: 2015-16 and 2016-17”, November 2017.

Information and Privacy Commission: Annual report, year ended 30 June 2017.

Independent Commission Against Corruption:

1. Annual report, year ended 30 June 2017.
2. “Protections for people who make voluntary disclosures to the Independent Commission Against Corruption”, November 2017

Law Enforcement Conduct Commission: Annual report, year ended 30 June 2017.

Ombudsman:

1. “Investigation into water compliance and enforcement 2007-17”, November 2017.
2. “Childhood injury prevention: Strategic directions for coordination in New South Wales,” November 2017.

Adjournment debate

Tuesday 14 November 2017

Tribute to Joan and Graham Nicoll (Mr MacDonald); Racism (Dr Faruqi); Wages Growth (Mr Primrose); Agricultural Industry (Mr Brown); Independent Commission Against Corruption Jasper Inquiry (Dr Phelps); Palestine (Mr Moselmane).

Wednesday 15 November 2017

Canada Study Tour (Mr Veitch); Automotive Repair Industry (Mr Amato); Electricity prices (Mr Searle); Planning Policy (Mr Shoebridge); Same-Sex Marriage Postal Survey (Mr Mallard).

Thursday 16 November 2017

Water Management and Compliance Interim Report (Mr Buckingham); ANZAC Memorial Centenary Project (Mrs Maclaren-Jones); Australia-China Relations (Mr Moselmane); Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party (Mr Borsak); Australia-Korea Politics and Business Forum (Mr Farlow); Redfern Speech Twenty-Fifth Anniversary (Mr Graham).

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.

All responses will be kept strictly confidential.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DB', with a large, sweeping flourish at the bottom.

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments