

NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

HOUSE IN REVIEW



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*Sitting period
5 and 6 May 2015*



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 was the first sitting week of the year following the 2015 March State election. Activity in the House was focussed on the official opening of the 56th Parliament and on the various legislative and procedural matters that need to be addressed at the commencement of a new Parliament.



In addition to the official opening, the House also met with the Legislative Assembly for the purposes of filling a vacancy in the representation of the State in the Australian Senate and two casual vacancies in the Council.

Also this week, the House established for the life of the 56th Parliament the General Purpose Standing Committees (GPSCs) and the Standing Committees on Law and Justice, Social Issues and State Development. Of particular note, was the creation of six GPSCs, increasing by one the number of these committees established in previous parliaments.

The House also agreed to establish a Select Committee to inquire into the leasing of electricity infrastructure.

The House considered and passed the Independent Commission Against Corruption Amendment (Validation) Bill, the Government's initial legislative response to the recent High Court decision in *ICAC v Cunneen*.

In light of the nature of the formal proceedings attending the opening of Parliament and with the House sitting on Tuesday and Wednesday only, the House agreed to dispense with Question Time and other formalities on Tuesday.

The House now stands adjourned until Tuesday 12 May, and is scheduled that week to sit for the more customary three days.

New Parliament

The 56th Parliament of New South Wales was officially opened by Commissioners appointed by the Governor, on Tuesday 5 May 2015 at a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament.

The following members, who were elected at the periodic Council election held on 28 March 2015, took either the Pledge of Loyalty or Oath of Allegiance as required by law and signed the Roll of the House:

1. The Hon John Ajaka
2. The Hon Sophie Cotsis
3. Dr John Kaye
4. The Hon Ben Franklin
5. The Hon Walt Secord
6. Dr Mehreen Faruqi
7. The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox
8. The Hon Lynda Voltz
9. The Hon Don Harwin
10. The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane
11. The Hon Bronnie Taylor
12. The Hon Mick Veitch
13. The Hon Louis Amato
14. The Hon Adam Searle
15. The Hon Shayne Mallard
16. The Hon Trevor Khan
17. The Hon Scott Farlow

18. The Hon Courtney Houssos
19. The Hon Robert Borsak
20. Revd the Hon Fred Nile
21. The Hon Mark Pearson.

These 21 elected candidates join the on-going members of the Legislative Council whose terms continue until March 2019

Of the candidates elected, fourteen were returning members. The seven newly elected members of the House being: Mr Franklin, Mrs Taylor, Mr Amato, Mr Mallard, Mr Farlow, Ms Houssos and Mr Pearson.

Election of the President, Deputy President and Assistant President

In accordance with section 22G of the *Constitution Act 1902* the Office of the President of the Legislative Council became vacant immediately before the first sitting of the House following the periodic Council election.

Once newly elected members had been sworn, the Clerk called for nominations for the Office of President.

The Hon Don Harwin was elected President. President Harwin served as President throughout the 55th Parliament.

The President then conducted elections for the offices of Deputy President and Assistant President.

The Hon Trevor Khan was elected Deputy President and Revd the Hon Fred Nile was elected Assistant President, both unopposed.

Later in the morning, the House adjourned in order to present its new President to His Excellency General David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor of New South Wales in the Jubilee Room, Parliament House.

Representation of parties in the Council

The party political make-up of the House in the 56th Parliament is as follows:

Liberal/Nationals Coalition	20 members
Australian Labor Party	12 members
The Greens	5 members
Christian Democratic Party	2 members
Shooters and Fishers Party	2 members
Animal Justice Party	1 member.

On 5 May 2015, Mr Gay, Mr Searle, and Revd Mr Nile informed the House of the representation of their parties in the House, and the appointment of members to the following positions:

- Mr Gay, Leader of the Government, Leader of the House
- Mr Ajaka, Deputy Leader of the Government
- Dr Phelps, Government Whip
- Mr Franklin, Deputy Government Whip

- Mr Searle, Leader of the Opposition
- Mr Secord, Deputy Leader of the Opposition
- Mr Moselmane, Opposition Whip
- Mr Donnelly, Deputy Opposition Whip
- Revd Mr Nile, Leader of the Christian Democratic Party.

Ms Barham made a statement that each member of The Greens would share equal responsibility for guidance of the parliamentary party.

Mr Borsak made a statement that both members of the Shooters and Fishers Party would share equal responsibility for direction in their parliamentary work.

Speech by His Excellency the Governor

At 2:30 pm on 5 May 2015, His Excellency the Governor attended the Legislative Council to give a speech on the opening of Parliament to members of both Houses and invited guests and dignitaries.



The Governor's speech commenced by noting that what united all members was the desire to make a difference in people's lives in a real and meaningful way, and then proceeded to outline in detail the Government's legislative program for the 56th Parliament.

Address-in-Reply

The Address-in-Reply expresses the thanks of members for the Governor's speech. At the conclusion of the debate, the House will present the reply to the Governor.

Debate on the Address-in-Reply commenced on 6 May 2015.

Temporary Chairs of Committees

On 6 May 2015, the President informed the House of the appointment of Ms Barham, Mr Green and Mrs Maclaren-Jones as Temporary Chairs of Committees for the current session of Parliament.

Temporary Chairs act for the President or Deputy President and Chair of Committees whenever required.

Members elected to fill two casual vacancies in the Council

In the lead-up to the 2015 March State election, the Hon Penny Sharpe and the Hon Steve Whan each tendered their resignation to His Excellency the Governor as a member of the Legislative Council in order to contest lower house seats.

In accordance with section 22D of the *Constitution Act 1902* a joint sitting of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly was held on 6 May 2015 to fill the two casual vacancies created by the resignations.

At that sitting, Ms Sharpe and Mr Daniel Mookhey were elected to fill the vacant seats.

Next week, Ms Sharpe and Mr Mookhey will take the Pledge of Loyalty or Oath of Allegiance and sign the Roll of the House, and thus be eligible to take their place and vote in the House.

Vacancy in the representation of the State in the Senate

On 6 May 2015, the President reported a message from His Excellency the Governor notifying that a vacancy had occurred in the representation of NSW in the Senate through the resignation of Senator the Hon John Faulkner on 6 February 2015.

Later that day, and in accordance with section 15 of the Commonwealth Constitution, a joint sitting of the two Houses was held at which Ms Jennifer McAllister was elected to fill the vacated seat.

Death of former member – Mr Paul O’Grady

On 6 May 2015, the President reported to the House the death on 18 January 2015, of Mr Paul Francis O’Grady, aged 54 years, a member of the House from 1988 to 1996.

Members and officers of the House stood as a mark of respect.

Death of former member – The Revd Dr Gordon Moyes AC

On 6 May 2015, the President reported to the House the death, on 5 April 2015, of Revd Dr Gordon Keith Mackenzie Moyes AC, aged 76 years, a member of the House from 2002 to 2011.

Members and officers of the House stood as a mark of respect.

Death of staff member – Ms Sara Parris

On 6 May 2015, the President informed the House of the death on 18 December 2014, of Ms Sara Parris, a long serving and valued member of the Hansard staff.

The President made a statement reflecting on Sara’s 24-year service to the Parliament.

The President drew attention to the presence in his gallery of Sara’s husband, Tony, and daughter, Katie, and extended to them the deep sympathy of the Legislative Council in their loss sustained.

Members and officers of the House stood as a mark of respect.

Cyclone in Vanuatu

On 6 May 2015, the President informed the House that on behalf of members he had sent a message of condolence to the Consul General of Vanuatu expressing sympathies and condolences to the relatives and friends of the people of Vanuatu who were killed, injured or displaced by Tropical Cyclone Pam.

Members and officers stood as a mark of respect.

Adoption of sessional orders

On 6 May 2015, the House adopted 23 sessional orders. The sessional orders fell into two groups. The first group were an update of the existing sessional orders that were in place at the end of the previous parliament.

Under the sessional orders, the House will meet at the following times:

Tuesday	2:30 pm
Wednesday	11:00 am
Thursday	9:30 am.

Question Time will commence at 4:00 pm on Tuesdays, and at 2:30 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Government business will take precedence on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and after 3:30 pm on Thursdays, while private members’ business will take precedence until 3:30 pm on Thursdays.

A number of sessional orders introduced in the previous parliament were again adopted, such as time limits on debate on government bills and the requirement for responses to petitions with more than 500 signatures.

The second group of sessional orders relate to the common practice for members to give a range of contingent notices of motion at the beginning of each session as a device to overcome the requirement for notice to be given of motions for the suspension of standing orders. These new sessional orders remove the need for the giving of seven contingent notices of motion.

New members’ first speech

On 6 May 2015, during debate on the motion to adopt the Address-in-Reply, Mr Farlow, Mr Pearson and Mrs Taylor all gave their inaugural speech in the House.

New Administration

On 5 May 2015, Mr Gay provided the House with a list containing the details of the members appointed as Ministers, following the election of the Baird Government.

Mr Gay also informed the House of the members appointed Parliamentary Secretaries, effective from 24 April.

Government representation in the Council

Mr Gay informed the House of the arrangements with respect to the representation of government responsibilities in the House.

Mr Gay to act in respect of his own portfolios and to represent the following ministers in the other House in respect of the following portfolios:

- The Hon Mike Baird MP, Premier and Minister for Western Sydney
- The Hon Troy Grant MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts
- The Hon Gladys Berejikilian MP, Treasurer, Minister for Industrial Relations
- The Hon Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure
- The Hon Paul Toole MP, Minister for Local Government
- The Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Veterans Affairs.

Mr Ajaka to act in respect of his own portfolios and to represent the following ministers in the other House with respect to the following portfolios:

- The Hon Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health
- The Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Family and Community Services, Minister for Social Housing
- The Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning
- The Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Attorney General
- The Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Sport
- The Hon Victor Dominello MP, Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation
- The Hon Mark Speakman MP, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Assistant Minister for Planning.

Mr Blair to act in respect of his own portfolios and to represent the following ministers in the other House with respect to the following portfolios:

- The Hon Troy Grant MP, Minister for Racing
- The Hon Adrian Piccoli MP, Minister for Education
- The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy
- The Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, Minister for Finance, Services and Property
- The Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Medical Research, Assistant Minister for Health, Minister for Women,

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

- The Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills, Minister for Small Business
- The Hon Leslie Williams MP, Minister for Early Childhood Education, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Assistant Minister for Education.

Government business

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

Independent Commission Against Corruption Amendment (Validation) Bill 2015

The bill originated in the Legislative Assembly.

Summary: The bill amends the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988* to validate certain previous actions of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) following the decision of the High Court in *Independent Commission Against Corruption v Cunneen*.

On 15 April 2015, the High Court decided that the jurisdiction of the ICAC in relation to corrupt conduct did not extend to specified criminal conduct of private persons or public officials that adversely affected the exercise of official functions by public officials unless there was some lack of probity in the exercise of official functions by public officials - it was not sufficient that the criminal conduct merely adversely affected the efficacy of the exercise of official functions.

The bill does not reverse the High Court decision, but validates action taken by the ICAC before 15 April 2015 on the previous understanding that corrupt conduct extended to relevant criminal conduct that adversely affected in any way the exercise of official functions (and accordingly validates action taken by others in reliance on the action taken by the ICAC). The bill does not authorise the continuation of investigations or inquiries by the ICAC that have been held by the High Court to exceed its jurisdiction, but enables the ICAC to refer any such matter to other investigative or prosecuting authorities and to provide them with any evidence or information obtained by the ICAC before 15 April 2015.

Proceedings: The bill was introduced in and passed by the Legislative Assembly and then received in the Council on 6 May 2015. The second reading speech of the Minister (Mr Gay) was incorporated into Hansard. That speech noted that the High Court decision has determined that the ICAC's jurisdiction is narrower than had previously been understood to be the case, and indicated that the bill does not reverse the High Court decision but validates the actions and findings of the ICAC before 15 April 2015 where they were based on the previous understanding of the ICAC's jurisdiction. The speech further indicated that the Government has commissioned an independent panel of experts to review the appropriate scope of the ICAC's jurisdiction and to report by 10 July 2015 and make recommendations as to what, if any, legislative action is needed to ensure that the

ICAC has the most appropriate jurisdiction and powers going forward.

The Opposition supported the bill. The Opposition noted that the legislation had come on with great speed, but accepted the need for urgency given the number of applications to the Supreme Court made by persons affected by previous ICAC inquiries and findings to have their matters potentially overturned. The Opposition believed the High Court decision has the potential to weaken the ICAC and saw the bill as the first step to ensure that the ICAC is able to fulfil its intended and necessary role.

The Greens did not oppose the bill, agreeing that it was an essential step in order to protect the ICAC from litigation which could threaten previous findings of corrupt actions and any prosecutions that could arise as a result of those findings. The Greens were concerned that as the bill only validated past actions, the ICAC was effectively limited in its operations until the findings of the expert independent panel were considered and put into effect. The Greens stated that their general concern regarding retrospectivity in legislation did not apply in this case, as the bill will validate actions that were made under what was then they argued an almost universal understanding of the ICAC's jurisdiction.

The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill and the Government's commissioning of the expert independent panel, while rueing what it saw as the misguided pursuit by the ICAC of Senior Prosecutor Cunneen which gave rise to the High Court decision. While supporting the decision to commission the expert panel, the Shooters and Fishers Party indicated that it could not support the bill given its long-standing position to not support legislation of which a substantial component is reliant upon retrospectivity.

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

Bills introduced and read a first time

The following bill from the Assembly was introduced, read a first time, and its second reading set down for a later hour:

- (1) Courts and Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2015.

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

Select Committee on the Privatisation of Electricity Infrastructure (Revd Nile, Christian Democratic Party)

Summary: The motion sought to establish a select committee to inquire into the Government's proposal to lease a percentage of the State's electricity transmission

and distribution businesses and associated infrastructure investment.

Proceedings: On 6 May 2015, standing orders were suspended to bring on the item of business. Revd Nile noted that the two major sides of politics made many public statements regarding the proposal during the election campaign and argued that the inquiry would aim to resolve any questions held by the public regarding the impact of the proposal. Revd Nile stated that he had liaised with the Greens and the Opposition and had adopted into his motion some, but not all, of their suggestions regarding the terms of reference for the inquiry.

The Government supported the motion, stating that it welcomed the examination of the proposal that it had put to the people and that it would benefit from the identification of any proper public concerns. The Opposition moved an amendment to the motion that sought to add a number of specific items to the terms of reference, extend the reporting period and to reduce the number of government members on the committee from four to three. The Opposition argued that one of the key changes included in its proposed amendment was the inclusion of a specific item in the terms of reference to inquire into the terms of the legislation that will give effect to the lease transaction. While arguing that its amendment would ensure that the inquiry had the necessary framework to adequately investigate the matter, the Opposition indicated that it would support the original motion regardless.

The Shooters and Fishers Party shared the concern of the Opposition regarding the motion's proposal to have a Parliamentary Secretary, being a member of the Government, as Deputy Chair of the committee. However, it did not share the Opposition's concerns regarding the terms of reference, arguing that they would not prevent the committee from inquiring into any specific matter relevant to the proposed lease. The Greens also sought to exclude the nominated Parliamentary Secretary from the position of Deputy Chair and separately moved to include six additional items to the terms of reference.

The Opposition amendment and the Greens amendment to broaden the inquiry's terms of reference were both negated on division (13:20), with the Christian Democratic Party, the Government and the Shooters and Fishers Party voting against the amendments. While drawing the support of the Shooters and Fishers Party, the Greens amendment regarding the Deputy Chair of the Committee was also negated (15:18).

The original motion was agreed to on the voices.

Orders for papers

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

On 6 May 2015, the Clerk tabled the following documents returned to order since the last sitting of the House on 20 November 2014.

Address to the Governor

- (1) **Administration of Justice:** correspondence dated 5 December 2014 from the Official Secretary to His Excellency the Governor regarding an Address to the Governor for papers relating to the Administration of Justice. On the advice of the Executive Council, the Governor refused the request.

Returns to orders

- (1) **'Going Home, Staying Home' reforms:**
 - (a) documents received 20 November 2014, 115 boxes public, 102 boxes privileged.
 - (b) additional documents received 4 December 2014 in electronic form of 2 public hard drives and 1 privileged hard drive.
- (2) **Aboriginal land claims regarding beaches and coastal lands – additional documents:** received 24 November 2014, 1 box public, 1 box privileged.
- (3) **Northern Beaches Health Service Redevelopment:** received 26 November 2014, 14 boxes public, 7 boxes privileged.
- (4) **Crown Lands Act White Paper consultations and Crown Lands Review:** received 27 November 2014, 3 boxes public, 1 box privileged.
- (5) **Report of Police Strike Force Emblems:** received 4 December 2014, consisting of advice provided by the Crown Solicitor.
- (6) **Drayton South Coal Project:** received 9 December 2014, 1 box public, 1 box privileged.
- (7) **Parramatta Road Urban Renewal Project**
 - (a) documents received 9 December 2014, 7 boxes public, 1 box privileged.
 - (b) additional documents received 11 December 2014, 30 boxes public.
 - (c) documents received 5 February 2015, 1 box public.
- (8) **Nurse to Patient Ratios:** received 11 December 2014, 6 boxes public, 3 boxes privileged.
- (9) **NSW Health Infrastructure and private-public partnerships:** received 11 December 2014, 4 boxes public, 3 boxes privileged.

Correspondence regarding a return to order

- (1) **CBD and South East Light Rail Project—Further Order:** correspondence received on 4 December 2014 from the General Counsel of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, stating that the relevant departments hold no further documents covered by the terms of the resolution and not previously provided.

Disputed claim of privilege

Byron Central Hospital and Maitland Hospital: The Clerk announced receipt of the report of the Independent Legal Arbitrator, the Honourable Keith Mason

AC QC, dated 5 December 2014, on the disputed claim of privilege on papers relating to the Byron Central Hospital and Maitland Hospital.

Further to the resolution of the House of 20 November 2014 which instructed the Privileges Committee, whilst the House was not sitting, to undertake the role usually performed by the House in dealing with reports of the independent legal arbitrator on disputed claims of privilege, on 5 December 2014, the report and a request by Mr Secord for the release of documents where privilege was not upheld were referred to the committee.

On 16 December 2014, the Privileges Committee resolved that the report and documents considered by the Independent Legal Arbitrator not to be privileged were authorised to be made public.

The Clerk tabled correspondence received from the Clerk of the Committee, dated 1 May 2015 in relation to this matter.

Petitions

Ministerial responses to petitions

Note: According to sessional order, petitions signed by 500 or more persons are referred to the relevant Minister for a response. On presentation, the responses are published:

- (1) Transforming electricity generation in New South Wales – Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Resources and Energy (presented 12 November 2014)
- (2) Forensic Analytical Science Service Food Testing Laboratory – Hon Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research (presented 18 November 2014)
- (3) Cuts to health services and Medicare co-payment – Hon Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research (presented 20 November 2014).

Reports tabled

On 6 May 2015, the Clerk tabled the following documents received since the last sitting day of the House on 20 November 2014.

Auditor General:

1. Financial Audit report, Volume Nine 2014, focusing on Family and Community Services, November 2014.
2. Financial Audit report, Volume Ten 2014: focusing on Treasury and Finance (including Superannuation and Insurance), November 2014.
3. Financial Audit report, Volume Eleven 2014: focusing on Planning and Environment, December 2014.
4. Financial Audit report, Volume Twelve 2014: focusing on Health, December 2014.
5. Financial Audit report, Volume Thirteen 2014: focusing on Education and Communities, December 2014.

6. Performance Audit report entitled 'The Learning Management and Business Reform Program: Department of Education and Communities', December 2014.
7. Financial Audit report, Volume Fourteen 2014: focusing on Trade and Investment, December 2014.
8. Performance Audit report entitled 'WestConnex: Assurance to the Government: Roads and Maritime Services, WestConnex Delivery Authority, Infrastructure NSW, Transport for NSW, NSW Treasury, Department of Premier and Cabinet', December 2014.
9. Performance Audit report entitled 'Security of Critical IT Infrastructure: Transport for NSW, Roads and Maritime Services, Sydney Water Corporation', January 2015.
10. Performance Audit report entitled 'Vocational Education and Training Reform: Department of Education and Communities', January 2015.
11. Financial Audit report, Volume One 2015: areas of focus from 2014, February 2015.
12. Report entitled "Fraud Control Improvement Kit: Managing your fraud control obligations", February 2015.
13. Performance Audit report entitled 'Managing length of stay and unplanned readmissions in NSW public hospitals: NSW Health', April 2015.
14. Performance Audit report entitled 'Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Program: Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services – NSW Office of Water', May 2015.

Ombudsman: 'Law Enforcement (Controlled Operations) Act 1997 Annual Report 2013-2014', January 2015.

Information Commissioner: 'Report on the operation of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009: 2013 – 2014'.

Inspector of Custodial Services: 'Full House: The growth of the inmate population in NSW', April 2015.

Privacy Commissioner: 'Report of the Privacy Commissioner under Section 61B of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998', February 2015.

Register of Disclosures by members of the Legislative Council: Supplementary Ordinary Returns for the period 1 July 2014 to 31 December 2014 and Discretionary Returns submitted since October 2014.

Committee activities

Note: Committee activities includes committee references, reports tabled, debate on committee reports, government responses received and any other significant committee activity in the House. Committee activity as part of a current inquiry is summarised in the following section entitled 'Inquiry activities'.

Committee references

On 6 May 2015, the House established the Select Committee on the leasing of electricity infrastructure.

Committee membership

The House resolved that the membership of the Select Committee on the leasing of electricity infrastructure be:

- Mr Clarke, Ms Cusack, Mr Khan, Dr Phelps (government)
- Mr Primrose, Mr Searle (opposition)
- Mr Borsak, Dr Kaye, Revd Mr Nile (crossbench)

The House resolved that Revd Mr Nile be the Chair, and Mr Clarke be the Deputy Chair of the committee.

Committee reports tabled – from the previous Parliament

On 6 May 2015, the Clerk reported the following committee reports tabled out of session since the last sitting day of the House on 20 November 2014.

Committee on Children and Young People: 'Volunteering and unpaid work placements among children and young people in NSW', November 2014.

Select Committee on Home Schooling: 'Home Schooling in NSW', December 2014.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1:

1. Report No. 41, 'Review of the inquiry into allegations of bullying in WorkCover NSW', December 2014.
2. Report No. 42, 'Budget Estimates 2014 – 2015', December 2014.

Joint Select Committee on loose-fill asbestos insulation: 'Loose-fill Asbestos Insulation', December 2014.

Select Committee on the planning process In Newcastle and the broader Hunter region:

1. Interim report, 'The planning process in Newcastle and the broader Hunter region', December 2014.
2. Final report, 'The planning process in Newcastle and the broader Hunter region', March 2015.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3: Report No. 31, 'Budget Estimates 2014 – 2015', December 2014.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5:

1. Report No. 40, 'Performance of the NSW Environment Protection Authority', February 2015.
2. Report No. 41, 'Wambelong fire', February 2015.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4: Report No. 30, 'Fair Trading Amendment (Ticket Reselling) Bill 2014', February 2015.

Select Committee on Ministerial Propriety in New South Wales: 'Ministerial Propriety in New South Wales', February 2015.

Select Committee on the conduct and progress of the Ombudsman's inquiry into 'Operation Prospect': 'The conduct and progress of the Ombudsman's inquiry "Operation Prospect"', February 2015.

Select Committee on the supply and cost of gas and liquid fuels in New South Wales: 'Supply and cost of gas and liquid fuels in New South Wales', February 2015.

Privileges Committee: Report No. 74, 'Citizen's Right of Reply (Dr Andrew McIntosh)', February 2015.

Government responses

Standing Committee on Law and Justice: The House received a response to Report No. 51 entitled 'Twelfth review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority', tabled 3 July 2014.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice: The House received a response to Report No. 52 entitled 'Fifth review of the functions of the Lifetime Care and Support Authority', tabled 3 July 2014.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice: The House received a response to Report No. 53 entitled 'Review of the exercise of the functions of the Workers' Compensation (Dust Diseases) Board', tabled 3 September 2014.

Standing Committee on State Development: The House received a response to Report No. 38 entitled 'Regional Aviation Services', tabled 23 October 2014.

Select Committee on the impact of gambling: The House received a response to the committee's report, tabled 14 August 2014, together with correspondence from the Hon Troy Grant MP, as Deputy Premier, dated 19 February 2015 with a statement of reasons for lateness.

Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety (Staysafe): The House received a response to Report No. 4/55 entitled 'Speed zoning and its impact on the demerit points scheme', tabled 4 November 2014.

Correspondence relating to Government responses

Select Committee on social, public and affordable housing: Correspondence was received advising that the response to the committee's report, which was due on 9 March 2015, would be deferred for consideration by the incoming Government.

Joint Select Committee on Sentencing of Child Sexual Assault Offenders: Correspondence was received advising that the response to the committee's report, which was due on 14 April 2015, would be tabled in May 2015 at the earliest.

Select Committee on Greyhound Racing: Correspondence was received advising that the response to the committee's second report, which was due on 16 April 2015, would be tabled after the finalisation of the Special Commission of Inquiry relating to the greyhound industry.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice: Correspondence was received advising that the response to Report 55 entitled 'The family response to the murders in Bowraville', which was due on 6 May 2015, would be tabled shortly after that date.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice: Correspondence was received advising that the response to Report 54 entitled 'Review of the exercise of the functions of the WorkCover Authority', which was due on 17 March 2015, was ongoing.

Inquiry activities

Select Committee on the Leasing of Electricity Infrastructure

The Select Committee held its first meeting on 6 May 2015, at which it resolved to hold three public hearings – on the 11, 15 and 18 May 2015. The Select Committee will receive submissions up to 14 May, and is due to report by 2 June 2015.

Adjournment debate

Wednesday 6 May 2015

ANZAC Day 2015 (Mr Khan); Ageing population (Ms Cotsis); Wellbeing policy (Ms Barham); Hunter and Central Coast storm damage (Mr MacDonald); Domestic violence (Mr Wong); Lion trophy importation (Mr Borsak).

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 susan.want@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

All responses will be kept strictly confidential.



David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments