

# NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## *HOUSE IN REVIEW*



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13 to 15 October 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](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

This week the House finalised 5 government bills, with a significant amount of time of government business being taken up by two of them. These were the Transport Administration Amendment (Closure of Railway Line at Newcastle) Bill 2015 and the Residential Tenancies and Housing Legislation Amendment (Public Housing – Antisocial Behaviour) Bill 2015. The former bill will authorise the closure of the heavy railway line between Wickham and Newcastle, which the government has committed to replace with light rail. The Residential Tenancies bill introduces a scheme for recording strikes against social housing tenants for breaches of tenancy agreements, with agreements potentially terminated on the basis of three or more breaches occurring within 12 months.

Two bills were passed which were concerned with consumer protection - the Property, Stock and Business Agents Amendment (Underquoting Prohibition) Bill 2015 and the Fair Trading Amendment (Information about Complaints) Bill 2015.

The State will soon have a fossil as an emblem with the passage of the State Arms, Symbols And Emblems Amendment (Fossil Emblem) Bill 2015. The fish fossil *Mandageria fairfaxi* joins our other emblems, including the platypus and kookaburra.

The week also saw the House adopt a cut-off date for government bills and vary its sitting on Thursdays for the remainder of 2015, as well as the Presentation of the Address-in-Reply at Government House.

### Presentation of the Address-in-Reply

The President and members of the Council attended Government House on Wednesday, 14 October 2015 to present to His Excellency the Governor the Address-in-Reply to his Opening Speech to both Houses of Parliament on Tuesday, 5 May 2015. The Address expressed the thanks of members for His Excellency's speech, together with loyalty to Australia and the people of New South Wales. The President read the address and formally presented it to the Governor who made a reply. The President then introduced accompanying members and officers to the Governor. On returning, the

President reported to the Council on the presentation and the reply of the Governor.



### Cut-off date for government bills

On Tuesday 13 March 2015, the House adopted a sessional order setting a cut-off date for the introduction of Government bills in the Spring session. The sessional order is designed to ensure that the House has adequate time to scrutinise legislation in the final weeks of a sitting period, which are often characterised by a high volume of legislation. Under the sessional order, when Government bills are introduced after 29 October 2015, resumption of the second reading of the bill is to be set down for the first sitting day in 2016. However, if a bill is declared urgent by the House the second reading and subsequent stages may still proceed.

### Conduct of business

On Wednesday 14 October 2015 the House agreed to amend the commencement and finishing times for business on Thursdays for the rest of 2015. On motion of Mr Gay, as amended by Mr Searle, the House will now meet on Thursdays at 10.00 am. General business is to take precedence until half an hour after questions on Thursday each week (approximately 4.00 pm), and proceedings must be interrupted half an hour after the conclusion of questions on Thursday to permit a motion for adjournment to be moved to terminate the sitting if a minister thinks fit.

## Government business

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

### Transport Administration Amendment (Closure of Railway Line at Newcastle) Bill 2015

The bill originated in the Legislative Assembly.

*Summary:* The bill amends the *Transport Administration Act 1988* to allow for the closure of the public railway line between Wickham and Newcastle.

*Proceedings:* Debate on the second reading of the bill commenced on 14 October. Minister Gay incorporated his second reading speech into Hansard. In that speech the Minister highlighted the significance of the Newcastle Urban Transformation and Transport Program for the economic, social and cultural development of the Newcastle city centre, and the importance of moving from heavy to light rail to allow for this significant urban renewal project. The Minister stated that the bill aims to remove the current legal uncertainties which are delaying the Program and allow transport infrastructure work to progress for the benefit of Newcastle and the rejuvenation and revitalisation of the city.

The Opposition opposed the bill, restating its longstanding position on the issue and noting the recent inquiry by the Legislative Council Select Committee on the Planning Process in Newcastle and the Broader Hunter Region. The Opposition argued that closure of the rail line and loss of the transport corridor would result in a poorer transport system for Newcastle. It also argued that the closure was not supported by the Hunter community and was not recommended by the Department of Transport. The Opposition stated that the Government's plans for the corridor were unclear, and that the bill was an attempt to circumvent current legal action preventing the closure of the rail line.

The Greens also opposed the bill, stating that the community has been fighting for decades to retain the vital transport link and the Government has failed to engage in meaningful consultation concerning the rail line or an integrated transport plan for the Hunter. The Greens called on the House to reject the bill and the decision to close the rail line.

The Animal Justice Party opposed the bill, arguing that heavy rail is essential transport infrastructure, and criticised the Government as supporting the interests of developers.

The Christian Democratic Party opposed the bill urging the Government to review the recommendations of the Select Committee inquiry and retain the corridor for light rail. The Christian Democratic Party expressed concern at the impact the truncation of the rail line would have on travelers with mobility issues, small businesses and traffic congestion, and argued that the Government had acted to limit community consultation and censor debate.

The Shooters and Fishers Party conditionally supported the bill, provided that a commitment be given by the Government that a light rail system replaced the current heavy rail line, sufficient funding was committed to the

light rail project and the necessary legislation being implemented by the end of the year.

Speaking in reply, the Minister confirmed the commitment of the Government to light rail, and reiterated the benefits the project can deliver for Newcastle's rejuvenation as a modern city.

The second reading of the bill was agreed to on the casting vote of the President after an equality of votes was recorded in division (15:15).

The House agreed to an instruction to the Committee of the Whole that it have the power to consider proposed Greens amendments concerning the consent authority for the development of the rail line.

In the committee stage, The Greens moved two amendments which designated Newcastle City Council as the consent authority for the development of the line, arguing that planning decisions over the corridor should be made by the local council and not by a planning panel or minister. The Government opposed the amendments, stating that they were in conflict with planning legislation and that the Government already supported local decision making in respect of the development of the corridor. The Opposition supported the amendments expressing concern over the nature of the Government's commitment to local decision making. The Shooters and Fishers Party did not support the amendments as they felt the Government was genuine in its commitments concerning planning decisions. The amendments were negated on division (15/16) and the bill was reported without amendment.

The third reading of the bill was agreed to on division (17:14) and the bill was returned to the Legislative Assembly.

On 15 October, as provided for under standing order 161, members of The Greens lodged a protest against the passing of the bill. The protest was entered into the Minutes of Proceedings, and a copy forwarded to the Governor.

### Residential Tenancies and Housing Legislation Amendment (Public Housing—Antisocial Behaviour) Bill 2015

The bill originated in the Legislative Assembly.

*Summary:* The bill amends the Residential Tenancies Act 2001 to facilitate the termination of public housing tenancies for antisocial behaviour and for other purposes. The bill introduces a scheme to record strikes against social housing tenants for breaches of agreements, and to seek a termination order on the basis of three or more breaches occurring within 12 months.

*Proceedings:* The bill was received from the Legislative Assembly on 13 October 2015 and read a first time. In his second reading speech the Parliamentary Secretary (Mr Colless) indicated that the primary goal of the bill was to address the illegal and disruptive behaviour engaged in by a minority of tenants in the social housing system in New South Wales and thereby create better, safer communities. The Parliamentary Secretary stated that the bill is a critical part of the Government's reform

of the social housing system and provides legislative underpinnings to policies that seek to provide a better experience for the vast majority of law-abiding tenants.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill, arguing that social housing tenants in New South Wales should be able to live free from antisocial and illegal behaviour. The Opposition did however note that there needed to be appropriate safeguards in place to prevent unfair or unintended consequences, and foreshadowed amendments to this effect during the committee stage.

The Greens opposed the bill, stating that the ability to evict tenants through a 'three strikes and you're out' policy takes away the dignity and security of public housing tenants in New South Wales.

The Greens moved that the bill be referred to General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 for inquiry and report, but while supported by the Opposition, the motion was negated.

The second reading was agreed to.

In the committee stage The Greens moved seven amendments, one of which included removing the 'one strike and you're out' provision for using social housing premises for serious offences such as drug manufacture or supply. The amendment did not garner any support and was negated on division (5:29). The Opposition moved 13 amendments, several of which aimed to increase the time frame for tenants to make submissions in response to a strike notice. While supported by The Greens they were not supported by either the government or Christian Democratic Party and were lost on division (13:19). The Christian Democratic Party successfully moved five amendments with the aim to extend the discretion of the Tribunal when determining strike eviction orders.

The bill was reported to the House with the Christian Democratic Party amendments, read a third time and returned to the Assembly.

On 15 October 2015 the House received a message advising that the Assembly had agreed with the Council's amendments to the bill.

### **State Arms, Symbols and Emblems Amendment Bill 2015**

The bill originated in the Legislative Assembly.

*Summary:* The bill amends the State Arms, Symbols and Emblems Act 2004 to recognise the fish fossil *Mandageria fairfaxi* as a state emblem. Currently the State has the following emblems: platypus (animal emblem), kookaburra (bird emblem), waratah (floral emblem), blue groper (fish emblem) and the black opal (gemstone emblem).

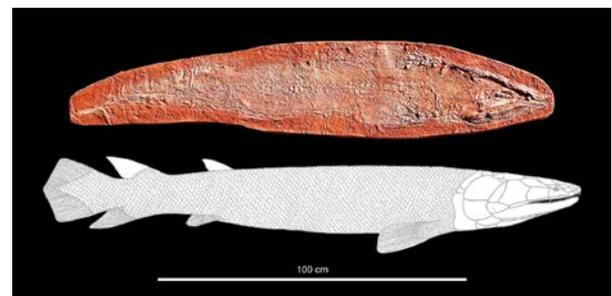
*Proceedings:* The bill was received from the Legislative Assembly on 9 September 2015. Debate on the second reading of the bill commenced on 13 October 2013. In his second reading speech, the Minister (Mr Gay) indicated that the bill introduces into the inventory of State Arms, symbols and emblems *Mandageria fairfaxi* as the official State fossil emblem of New South Wales. The Minister stated that there is currently no legislated form

of State fossil emblem in New South Wales and the inclusion of the paleontologically significant *Mandageria fairfaxi* is supported by a wide range of palaeontologists and geologists including those of the Australian Museum and the Geological Survey of NSW. The Minister also stated that a naming competition had commenced among the state's primary school students to establish a nickname for the fossil.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill, stating that the selection of a fish fossil emblem recognises the significant scientific heritage of the State and country. The Greens supported the bill noting that *Mandageria fairfaxi* is also an emblem for the science of evolution. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill as it adds to the list of officially recognised State Arms, symbols and emblems, highlighting the importance of a particular fossil.

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

### **The new State fossil emblem *Mandageria fairfaxi***



### **Property, Stock and Business Agents Amendment (Underquoting Prohibition) Bill 2015**

The bill originated in the Legislative Assembly.

*Summary:* The bill amends the Property, Stock and Business Agents Act 2002 to address underquoting in the real estate industry. The bill includes a requirement for an agent's estimated selling price to be included in an agency agreement for sale of residential property and prohibits a real estate agent from representing to a prospective buyer a selling price that is less than the estimated selling price.

*Proceedings:* The bill was received from the Legislative Assembly on 16 September 2015 and read a first time. Debate on the second reading of the bill commenced on 13 October 2015. The second reading speech of the Minister (Mr Ajaka) was incorporated into Hansard. In that speech, the Minister noted that whilst the current Act prohibits underquoting, the provisions lack rigour and have an unnecessarily high evidentiary burden which makes it difficult to prosecute an offence. The bill addresses these concerns by providing clarity about when underquoting occurs and strengthening the offence provisions, thereby increasing consumer certainty and ensuring agents know their obligations.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill acknowledging the bill is a good addition to consumer protection in New South Wales. The Opposition also asked the Government to guarantee that sufficient resources are made available to Fair Trading to ensure that effective

and rigorous enforcement takes place with regular reporting of successful prosecutions.

The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill stating that the bill is a first step towards eradicating the deceptive practice of underquoting by real estate agents. However it was noted that the legislation does not require disclosure to the buyer of the estimated selling price provided to the seller and states only what must not be said to prospective buyers. The Christian Democratic Party raised concerns that the likely result is that in order to avoid prosecution agents will provide even less information to prospective buyers. It was proposed that regulations would further clarify the legislation and provide greater transparency in marketing.

The Greens similarly supported the bill but asked the Government to consider a proposal for the vendor to arrange for one independent building and pest inspection report to be disclosed to prospective buyers to avoid the unnecessary expense of each obtaining separate reports.

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

### **Fair Trading Amendment (Information About Complaints) Bill 2015**

The bill originated in the Legislative Assembly.

*Summary:* The bill amends the Fair Trading Act 1987 to allow the Commissioner for Fair Trading to publish information about complaints received by the Commissioner, including the names of persons or businesses that are the subject of the greatest number of complaints. It does not allow the publication of the identity of the person who made a complaint. NSW Fair Trading receives around 45,000 complaints each year.

*Proceedings:* The bill was received from the Legislative Assembly on 13 October 2015 and read a first time. The second reading speech of the Parliamentary Secretary (Mr MacDonald) was incorporated into Hansard. In that speech, the Parliamentary Secretary stated that information about traders who have been the subject of complaints to New South Wales Fair Trading can be used to improve services, inform the community about trends in the market, create new business models, and devise innovative ways to help consumers gain better value in the marketplace. Mr MacDonald noted that the release of complaint data is one means of so-called 'reputational regulation' – influencing business behaviour by means of public release of performance data. The data provides consumers with valuable information that can guide purchasing decisions and hold businesses to account. The Parliamentary Secretary indicated that the details of the Fair Trading Complaints register, including how many businesses should be listed on it and what complaint details will be included, will be developed following a public consultation process.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill but noted that, in addition to the Fair Trading Act, the bill will also allow, but not require, publication of complaints received by the Commissioner under 'any other legislation administered by the Minister'. Therefore the range of complaints could cover matters as diverse as biofuels, boarding houses,

residential parks, plumbing and drainage, retirement villages and agricultural tenancies. The Greens supported the bill noting that it is a step towards open information and ensuring that traders who repeatedly violate the rights of consumers are exposed. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill commenting that it further enhances open government and transparency in relation to consumer complaints.

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

### **Crimes Amendment (Off-road Fatal Accidents) Bill 2015**

The bill originated in the Legislative Council.

*Summary:* The bill amends the Crimes Act 1900 and the Road Transport Act 2013 to extend to off-road motor vehicle accidents the existing powers of police to arrest and test any participant in a fatal road accident for alcohol and drug use, and to make related amendments to the procedural provisions dealing with evidence of intoxication in proceedings for dangerous driving offences under the Crimes Act 1900.

*Proceedings:* Leave was granted to bring in the bill on 15 October 2013. The bill was presented, read a first time and printed. In his second reading speech, the Minister (Mr Gay) indicated that the bill is a response to the tragic deaths of Eliza Wannan and William Dalton-Brown on 27 January 2010 in an accident that occurred in a paddock on private property near Molong. The bill removes the ambiguity for police investigating such accidents by giving them the power to collect evidence and arrest drivers. The bill does not change the existing random breath or roadside drug testing powers.

Debate was adjourned for five calendar days.

#### *Bills introduced and read a first time*

The following bills from the Assembly were introduced, read a first time, and their second reading set down for a later hour:

- (1) Local Government Amendment (Councillor Misconduct and Poor Performance) Bill 2015.
- (2) Electricity Supply Amendment (Energy Savings Scheme) Bill 2015.
- (3) Energy Legislation Amendment (Retail Electricity and Gas Pricing) 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.

#### *Bill*

### **National Parks and Wildlife Amendment (Reservation of Lot 490) Bill 2015 (Mr Secord, Australian Labor Party)**

The bill originated in the Legislative Council.

*Summary:* The bill amends the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* to reserve certain Crown land known as Lot 490 as a regional park.

*Proceedings:* Leave was granted to bring in the bill on 15 October 2015. The bill was presented, read a first time and printed. In his second reading speech, Mr Secord stated the object of the bill is to protect 26 hectares of important and unique coastal reserve and wildlife corridor located at Kingsliffe, Tweed Shire, known locally as Lot 490. The bill names the park as 'Kingsliffe National Park' although Mr Secord indicated there would be community discussion on the final name.

Mr Secord described Lot 490 as home to the Glossy Black Cockatoo, blossom bats, two species of wallabies and other native flora and fauna which are under threat from urban growth and property development. Mr Secord emphasised the urgency of the bill due to the threat from a proposed development, and that the Crown Lands Office has vested Lot 490 to Government Property NSW to be sold. A public petition to save Lot 490 from commercial development acquired over 16,000 signatures. Mr Secord also raised concerns that a land claim under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* was not being progressed by the Government and argued that Lot 490 could join other NSW national parks and reserves that are jointly managed with the Aboriginal community. Debate was adjourned for five calendar days.

#### *Motions*

### **Inaugural Broken Heel Festival (Mrs Mitchell, The Nationals)**

*Summary:* The motion called on the House to note the inaugural Broken Heel Festival, a tribute to the Australian film 'The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert', held in Broken Hill from 11 to 13 September 2015, and to recognise the importance of Australian film in showcasing regional towns and cities.

*Proceedings:* Debate on the motion commenced on 15 October 2015. Mrs Mitchell noted the innovative festival was essentially a drag festival celebrating the iconic film. Some 60 per cent of the film was shot in and around Broken Hill, which is now known not only for mining and other tourism attractions but also as something of a gay and lesbian icon due to the film. The festival, held over several days with multiple events, was widely supported by not only locals but also by the wider gay and lesbian community.

Members of the Government, the Opposition, The Greens and the Christian Democratic Party all spoke in support of the motion, noting the importance of cultural activities such as festivals in supporting regional economic development and the unique ability of the New South Wales film industry to showcase the state's diverse cultural heritage and thriving regional communities. Members recalled positive memories of visits to Broken Hill and other parts of regional New South Wales.

The motion was agreed to.

### **Flexible working arrangements (Mrs Houssos, Australian Labor Party)**

*Summary:* The motion calls on the House to note the changing nature of work in many industries and workplaces and how the trade union movement has championed the concept of a work-life balance. The motion also calls on the House to recognise the importance of flexible working arrangements in allowing workers to attain a work-life balance and to encourage the public and private sectors to make increasing use of these arrangements.

*Proceedings:* Debate on the motion commenced on 15 October 2015. In speaking to the motion, Mrs Houssos noted her support for the concept of 'work to live not live to work' and cited examples of mutually beneficial workplace flexibility practices that had increased productivity. Mrs Houssos emphasised the particular importance of flexible working arrangements for regional towns in order to take advantage of untapped and unrealised productivity from those currently unable to work due to personal circumstances. Members of the Opposition also spoke in support of the motion, arguing that flexible work practices assist in moving towards a more equitable balance between men and women in the workplace and in areas such as responsibility for child care.

The Christian Democrat Party supported the motion, noting the particular importance of flexible working practices for working mothers. The Animal Justice Party also supported the motion, emphasising how flexible workplaces assist employees who are also primary carers for family members with mental or physical ill health.

Debate was interrupted.

#### *Motions taken as formal business*

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

- (1) Mr Bob Whan AM (Mr Veitch)
- (2) National Gonski Week (Dr Kaye)
- (3) International Day of the Girl Child (Dr Faruqi)
- (4) Anti-Poverty Week (Dr Kaye)
- (5) General Purpose Standing Committee No 6 - Extension of reporting date (Mr Green)
- (6) International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day (Mrs Mitchell)
- (7) Community and Primary Health Care Nursing Week (Mrs Taylor)
- (8) National Carers Week 2015 (Ms Cotsis)
- (9) World Cerebral Palsy Day (Ms Cotsis)
- (10) The Ella Centre (Ms Cotsis)
- (11) Loud Shirt Day 2015 (Ms Cotsis)
- (12) Mr Patrick Francis (Scoop) Sullivan OAM (Mr Veitch)

- (13) 2015 Zonta International District 24 Conference (Mrs Taylor)
- (14) Wendy Whiteley's Secret Garden (Mr Mallard)
- (15) World Homeless Day (Ms Barham)
- (16) Carers Week 2015 (Ms Barham).

## Petitions

*Government responses tabled to the following petitions*

- (1) The plaza carpark at Kooloonbung Creek (response from the Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Lands and Water)
- (2) The Biosecurity Bill 2015 (response from the Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Lands and Water)
- (3) Transforming electricity generation in New South Wales to 100 per cent renewables (response from the Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy)
- (4) Child care centre at Sutherland Hospital (response from Minister for Health).

## Reports tabled

**Register of Disclosures by members of the Legislative Council** for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

**Inspector of Custodial Services:** 'Old and Inside: Managing aged offenders in custody', September 2015.

**Independent Commission Against Corruption:** Annual report, for year ended 30 June 2015.

**Auditor-General:** Financial Audit Report of the Auditor-General entitled 'Focusing on Treasury and State Finance', October 2015.

## 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 report tabled*

**Legislation Review Committee:** 'Legislation Review Digest No. 7/56 of 2015', dated 13 October 2015.

*Committee reports debated*

**Select Committee on the Supply and Cost of Gas and Liquid Fuels in New South Wales:** The House concluded the take-note debate of the report entitled 'Supply and cost of gas and liquid fuels in New South Wales', dated February 2015.

**Select Committee on the Planning Process in Newcastle and the Broader Hunter Region:** The House continued the take-note debate of the committee's final report entitled 'The planning process in Newcastle and the broader Hunter region', dated March 2015.

**Select Committee on the Leasing of Electricity Infrastructure:** The House continued the take-note

debate of the committee's report entitled 'The leasing of electricity infrastructure', dated June 2015.

## Inquiry activities

### Select Committee on the Closure of Public Schools in New South Wales

The committee has received 41 submissions and held its only hearing in August. The report is expected to be tabled on 22 October 2015.

### Select Committee on the Legislative Council committee system

An issues paper is being prepared before the committee calls for submissions in November.

### General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

*Inquiry into elder abuse in New South Wales*

The closing date for submissions is 15 November 2015. The committee will conduct a public hearing in Sydney on 20 November 2015.

### General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

*Inquiry into reparations for the stolen generations in New South Wales.*

The closing date for submissions was extended until 18 October 2015. The committee will be attending Aboriginal cultural awareness and inter-cultural communication training on 16 October 2015, before conducting a public hearing in Sydney on 5 November and a site visit and hearing in Cootamundra and Wagga Wagga on 6 November 2015.

*Inquiry into registered nurses in New South Wales nursing homes.*

The committee has received over 160 submissions and has conducted three public hearings. The report is due to be tabled on 30 October 2015.

### General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6

*Inquiry into local government in New South Wales*

The committee has completed all of the hearings scheduled for this inquiry. The committee's final report is due to be tabled by 30 October 2015.

*Inquiry into vocational education and training.*

The committee will be conducting a site visit to Dubbo on 3 November, and will hold a final public hearing in Sydney on 9 November 2015. The reporting date has been extended to 15 December 2015.

### Law and Justice Committee

*Inquiry into remedies for the serious invasion of privacy in New South Wales.*

The committee has received 32 submissions and will be holding two public hearings in Sydney on 30 October and 16 November 2015.

*Inquiry into the security classification and management of inmates sentenced to life imprisonment*

The closing date for submissions is 25 October 2015. The committee will be conducting public hearings on 23 and 27 November 2015.

### **Social Issues Committee**

*Inquiry into service coordination in communities with high social needs.*

The committee has received 49 submissions. The committee has held two public hearings and conducted site visits to Mount Druitt and Claymore. Further hearings and site visits will be held in November.

### **State Development Committee**

*Inquiry into economic development in Aboriginal communities.*

The committee has received 11 submissions and will be attending Aboriginal cultural awareness and inter-cultural communication training on 16 October 2015 before it holds its first public hearing in November. Further hearings and site visits will be held in the first half of 2016.

*Regional planning processes in NSW*

The closing date for submissions is 11 December 2015. The committee will begin conducting hearings in March 2016.

## **Adjournment debate**

### **Tuesday 13 October 2015**

Narrabri business awards (Mrs Mitchell); Parliamentary study tour (Mr Secord); World Animal Day (Dr Faruqi); Antique firearms (Mr Borsak); Free Trade Agreements (Ms Voltz); Multiculturalism (Dr Phelps); National Rugby League (Mr MacDonald).

### **Wednesday 14 October 2015**

Shanghai Ghetto (Mr Wong); Aboriginal custodianship of land (Mr Brown); Same-sex marriage (Mr Khan); Trans-Pacific Partnership (Mr Primrose); Bylong coal project (Mr Buckingham); Women in Prison Advocacy Network (Ms Cusack).

### **Thursday 15 October 2015**

Anti-poverty Week (Ms Barham); North Coast surf life saving clubs (Mr Franklin); Melanoma (Ms Voltz); Domestic violence (Mr Green); Rural Fire Service (Mr Amato) Social cohesion (Ms Cotsis); Capitalism (Dr Phelps).

## **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