



## PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

That notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the standing orders:

### Appointment

1. Seven portfolio committees reflecting government ministers' portfolio responsibilities be appointed as follows:
  - (a) **Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance**
    - Premier
    - Treasury
    - Special Minister of State, Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts
    - Finance and Small Business
    - Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney
    - The Legislature
    - Industry and Trade
  - (b) **Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health**
    - Health and Medical Research
    - Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women
  - (c) **Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education**
    - Education and Early Childhood Learning
    - Skills and Tertiary Education
  - (d) **Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Regional New South Wales, Water and Agriculture**
    - Regional New South Wales
    - Agriculture and Western New South Wales
    - Water, Property and Housing
  - (e) **Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Legal Affairs**
    - Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence
    - Police and Emergency Services
    - Counter Terrorism and Corrections
    - Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans
    - Families, Communities and Disability Services
  - (f) **Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport and Customer Service**
    - Regional Transport and Roads
    - Transport and Roads
    - Customer Service
    - Better Regulation and Innovation
  - (g) **Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment**
    - Planning and Public Spaces
    - Energy and Environment

### **Referral of inquiries**

2. A committee:
  - (a) is to inquire into and report on any matter relevant to the functions of the committee which is referred to the committee by resolution of the House, and
  - (b) may self-refer an inquiry into any matter relevant to the public administration of portfolios allocated to the committee.
3. A committee meeting to consider a self-reference under paragraph 2(b) must be convened at the request of any three committee members in writing to the Committee Clerk.
4. The Committee Clerk must convene a meeting within seven days of the receipt of the request, providing that members are given at least 24 hours' notice.
5. A majority of committee members is required to adopt the self-reference.
6. Whenever a committee resolves to self-refer a matter, the terms of reference are to be reported to the House on the next sitting day.

### **Membership**

7. Each committee is to consist of seven members, comprising:
  - (a) three government members,
  - (b) two opposition members, and
  - (c) two crossbench members.

### **Chair and Deputy Chair**

8.
  - (1) The committee is to elect the Chair and Deputy Chair in accordance with the standing orders.
  - (2) The Chair of the committee is to be a non-government member.

### **Conduct of committee proceedings**

9. Unless the committee decides otherwise:
  - (a) submissions to inquiries are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration,
  - (b) attachments to submissions are to remain confidential,
  - (c) the Chair's proposed witness list is to be circulated to provide members with an opportunity to amend the list, with the witness list agreed to by email, unless a member requests the Chair to convene a meeting to resolve any disagreement,
  - (d) the sequence of questions to be asked at hearings is to alternate between opposition, crossbench and government members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each,

- (e) transcripts of evidence taken at public hearings are to be published,
- (f) supplementary questions are to be lodged with the Committee Clerk within two days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, following the receipt of the hearing transcript, with witnesses requested to return answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions within 21 calendar days of the date on which questions are forwarded to the witness, and
- (g) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration.

*[Resolved 8 May 2019, Minutes No. 2, Item 130, pp 112-117, as amended 12 October 2021, Minutes No. 94, Item 11, p 2402]*