



## PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

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

### Appointment

1. Eight portfolio committees reflecting government ministers' portfolio responsibilities be appointed as follows:
  - (a) **Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance**  
Premier  
Treasurer  
Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources  
Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety  
The Legislature  
Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical  
Research
  - (b) **Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health**  
Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast  
Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast
  - (c) **Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education**  
Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney  
Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education
  - (d) **Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Regional NSW**  
Agriculture, Regional New South Wales, Western New South Wales  
Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism, Sport
  - (e) **Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Justice and Communities**  
Attorney General  
Police and Counter Terrorism  
The Hunter  
Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion  
Women, Seniors, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
  - (f) **Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport and the Arts**  
Transport  
Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, Jobs and  
Tourism  
Regional Transport and Roads

- (g) **Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment**  
Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage  
Planning and Public Spaces
- (h) **Portfolio Committee No. 8 – Customer Service**  
Local Government  
Customer Service and Digital Government, Emergency Services, Youth Justice  
Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation, Science and  
Technology, Building, Corrections.

### **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 calendar 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. The committee is to elect the Chair and Deputy Chair in accordance with the standing orders.
9. The Chair of the committee is to be a non-government member.

### **Conduct of the committee proceedings**

10. Unless the committee decides otherwise:
  - (a) all inquiries are to be advertised via social media, stakeholder emails and a media release distributed to all media outlets in New South Wales,

- (b) 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,
- (c) attachments to submissions are to remain confidential,
- (d) 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,
- (e) 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,
- (f) transcripts of evidence taken at public hearings are to be published,
- (g) supplementary questions are to be lodged with the Committee Clerk within two business days, 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,
- (h) 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, and
- (i) media statements on behalf of the committee are to be made only by the Chair

*[Resolved 10 May 2023, Minutes No 2, Item 67, pp 65-67, as amended 24 May 2023, Minutes No. 5, Item 12, p 108, 23 August 2023, Minutes No. 20, Item 11, p 386, and 11 October 2023, Minutes No. 29, Item 11, p 558.]*