

General Purpose Standing Committee No 4

Budget Estimates 2001-2002

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How to contact the committee

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Terms of Reference

- 1) That the Budget Estimates and related documents presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.
- 2) That the Committees consider the Budget Estimates in accordance with the allocation of portfolios to the Committees.
- 3) For the purposes of this inquiry any Member of the House may attend a meeting of a Committee in relation to the Budget Estimates and question witnesses, participate in the deliberations of the Committee at such meeting and make a dissenting statement relating to the Budget Estimates, but may not vote or be counted for the purpose of any quorum.
- 4) The Committees must hear evidence on the Budget Estimates in public.
- 5) Not more than 3 Committees are to hear evidence on the Budget Estimates simultaneously.
- 6) When a Committee hears evidence on the Budget Estimates, the Chair is to call on items of expenditure in the order decided on and declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.
- 7) The Committees may ask for explanations from Ministers in the House, or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
- 8) The report of a Committee on the Budget Estimates may propose the further consideration of any items.
- 9) A daily Hansard record of the hearings of a Committee on the Budget Estimates is to be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
- 10) The Committees have leave to sit during the sittings or any adjournment of the House.
- 11) The Committees present a final report to the House by Thursday 6 September 2001.

These terms of reference were referred to the Committee by the Legislative Council on 29 May 2001 (Minutes of Proceedings No 100, p 969)

Committee Membership

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC National Party *Chair*

Hon Ian Cohen MLC Greens *Deputy Chair*

Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Charlie Lynn MLC Liberal Party

Hon Ian Macdonald MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon David Oldfield MLC One Nation Party

Hon Janelle Saffin MLC Australian Labor Party

Other Members who attended the hearings

Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC Liberal Party

Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Tony Kelly MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Doug Moppett MLC National Party

Hon John Jobling MLC Liberal Party

Hon Don Harwin MLC Liberal Party

Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Greg Pearce MLC Liberal Party

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Chair's Foreword

General Purpose Standing Committee No 4 has examined the Budget Estimates for 2001-2002 for the portfolio areas of:

Urban Affairs and Planning, Aboriginal Affairs, Housing

Transport, Roads

Gaming and Racing, Hunter Development

Public Works and Services

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the relevant Ministers and officers of the departments and organisations who appeared before it.

The Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC
Chair

Introduction

Referral of the 2001-2002 Budget Estimates

On 29 May 2001, the Legislative Council resolved that the Budget Estimates and related documents presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Funds be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.¹ Each Committee was required to examine the Budget Estimates for their relevant portfolios and report to the House by Thursday 6 September 2001.²

Examination of the Budget Estimates

General Purpose Standing Committee No 4 examined the Budget Estimates and related documents for its portfolios at a series of public hearings held on the following dates:

- 20 June 2001 Gaming and Racing and Hunter Development
- 21 June 2001 Transport and Roads
- 22 June 2001 Public Works and Services
- 29 June 2001 Urban Affairs and Planning, Aboriginal Affairs and Housing

This report summarises the main issues discussed at each hearing. The full transcript of evidence taken at these hearings can be found at the Committee's Web page accessible via the Parliament's home page at: **www.parliament.nsw.gov.au**. Hard copies of the transcript can be obtained by contacting the General Purpose Standing Committee Secretariat on **02 9230 3544**

During these hearings, Ministers took a number of questions on notice. In addition the Committee lodged written questions on notice in relation to several portfolio areas. The Committee has received written answers to questions placed on notice. The Committee was disappointed that the information provided in response to many of its questions on notice to the Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Carl Scully, MP, was unsatisfactory. Indeed, the Minister failed to provide useful answers to many questions.

Copies of the questions and answers can be found at the Committee's Web page at the above address or by contacting the Committee Secretariat. Appendix 3 contains details of response times for questions placed on notice by the Committee as part of the 2001-2002 Budget Estimates inquiry.

A number of documents were tabled during the Committee's public hearings. A list of tabled documents appears at Appendix 2. Where possible, copies of these documents have been placed at the Committee's Web page accessible via the above address. Arrangements for the inspection of tabled documents can be made by contacting the General Purpose Standing Committee Secretariat on the above telephone number.

Relevant minutes of the Committee's proceedings appear at Appendix 4.

¹ Minutes of Proceedings, No 100, 29 May 2001. See Appendix 1 for more information about the General Purpose Standing Committees.

² Resolution of 29 May 2001, para 11.

Chapter 1 Gaming and Racing, Hunter Development

The Committee heard from the Hon Richard Face MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing, and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development, together with Mr Ben Chard, Regional Coordinator for Hunter Development, Premier's Department, Mr K M Brown, Director General, Department of Gaming and Racing, Mr D Loewenthal, Deputy Director General, Director of Liquor and Gaming, Department of Gaming and Racing, Mr M Foggo, Director, Revenue and Resource Management, Department of Gaming and Racing, Mr R Harrex, Director, Casino Surveillance Division, Department of Gaming and Racing, Ms J Hennessy, Director, Policy and Development, Department of Gaming and Racing, Mr Brian Farrell, Chief Executive Officer, Casino Control Authority and Mr Steve Rosier, Chief Executive Officer, Greyhound Racing Authority, at a public hearing held on 20 June 2001.

A list of issues discussed at the hearing is provided below. For further details on these matters, see the Hansard record for the hearing.

Hunter Development

- Steel River Project
- Austeel steel mill project
- Hunter Advantage Fund
- Industrial development at Kooragang Island
- Unemployment in the Newcastle region
- Redevelopment of BHP landholdings and port facilities
- Belmont Wetlands.

Gaming and Racing

- Betting limits at Star City Casino and investigations into cash transactions
- Problem gambling in hotels, clubs and the Casino
- Incentives to reduce participation in gambling in NSW
- Criminal elements in gambling
- The McClelland Inquiry
- Inspection of Gaming Devices
- Central Monitoring System

- Liquor licensing prosecutions and approval delays
- Ministerial office expense issues
- Compliance Division
- Staff levels in Assessments Branch and Compliance Division
- Trackside.

Chapter 2 Roads and Transport

The Committee heard from the Hon Carl Scully MP, Minister for Transport and Minister for Roads together with Lucio Di Bartolomeo, Acting Chief Executive Officer, State Rail Authority, Peter Scarlett, Chief Financial Officer, State Rail Authority, Michael Deegan, Director General, Department of Transport, Alan Cook, Acting Executive Director, Transport Finance and Asset Management, Department of Transport, John Stott, Chief Executive Officer, State Transit Authority, Colin Menzies, General Manager Sydney Ferries, State Transit Authority, Carl Davison, Manager, Business Analysis and Planning, State Transit Authority, John Cowling, Chief Executive Officer, Rail Infrastructure Corporation, Paul Forward, Chief Executive Officer, Roads and Traffic Authority, Mike Hannon, Director, Road Network Infrastructure, Roads and Traffic Authority, Noel Hancock, Director, Finance, Roads and Traffic Authority, Barry Garrett, Acting General Manager, Financial Management and Accounting, Roads and Traffic Authority, Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, Waterways Authority, Ken Bywater, Manager, Finance, Waterways Authority, Brian Stanwell, Manager, Marine Assets, Waterways Authority, Kerry Doyle, General Manager, Policy and Planning, Waterways Authority, at a public hearing on 21 June 2001.

A list of issues discussed at the hearing is provided below. For further details on these matters, see the Hansard record for the hearing. During the course of this hearing one document was tabled. For a list of tabled documents see Appendix 2.

Transport

- Staff bonuses
- Cost of fare free days
- Cabcharge expenses
- Transport services in peak periods
- On-time running of services
- Vacancy of State Rail CEO position
- Infrastructure related speed restrictions on rail network
- Passenger numbers on fare free days
- Availability of free public transport
- Crime on rail facilities and passenger safety
- Drug dealing on train services
- Easter Show train travel

- Staffing levels
- Gas powered and environmentally friendly buses
- Maintenance of diesel bus fleet
- Increasing rail capacity and train carriages
- Western Sydney orbital link
- Parramatta-Chatswood rail link
- Development of rail infrastructure compared to road networks
- Commuter rail links
- Ferry accidents
- Rail accident at Kingsgrove
- Display of on-time running on Internet
- Customer satisfaction survey
- Reliability of East Hills line
- Feasibility study into high-speed rail for Newcastle
- Compensation to Bondi Beach Railway Company
- Broken Hill rail car project
- Suitability of JetCats on Manly service
- Airport Rail Link
- Privatisation of Freightcorp
- School student transport to non-government schools

Roads

- Spit Bridge
- Cessnock Bypass
- Upgrade of F3

- Pacific Highway upgrade
- M5 East Stack
- M4/M5 Cashback rebates
- RTA information access fees
- Olympic plates
- Road fatalities
- Road accident taskforce
- SafetyCams
- Road maintenance reform package
- Flood damaged roads
- Road funding in regional NSW
- Hunter Valley road upgrade
- Occupational health and safety of road toll collectors
- Roadside advertising
- Emissions testing
- Biodiesel
- Cross-city tunnel

Chapter 3 Public Works and Services

The Committee heard from the Hon Morris Iemma MP, Minister for Public Works and Services, together with the following advisors from the Department of Public Works and Services, Adrian Renouf, Director, Executive Services Division, Rosemarie Risgalla, Director Policy Division, Carolyn Burlew, Group General Manager, Asset and Environmental Services Group, Tony Collins, Group General Manager, Project Management Group, Alan Griffin, Group General Manager, Strategic Procurement Services Group, Stephen Mudge, Manager, Corporate Finance, Rhonda Asmar, Ministerial and Executive Services Unit, at a public hearing held on 22 June 2001.

A list of issues discussed at the hearing is provided below. For further details on these matters, see the Hansard record for the hearing.

- Employee-related and operating expenses
- Operating surpluses and losses
- Amelioration payment to the Menzies Company
- State Asset Acquisition Program
- Desk cards for staff members
- State Fleet
- Superannuation expenses
- Displaced employees
- Suicide of a departmental employee
- Consolidated Fund allocation to the Minister's Office
- Property and asset disposal
- Workers compensation claims
- Voluntary redundancy program
- Construction and maintenance contracts
- School security
- Auditor General's Report
- Central Business District Core Accommodation Strategy
- Risk management and policy development

Chapter 4 Urban Affairs and Planning, Aboriginal Affairs, Housing

The Committee heard from the Hon Dr Andrew Refshauge MP, Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Housing, together with Mr David Papps, Acting Director General, Department of Urban Affairs, Annette Gallard, Acting Director General, Department of Housing, Paul Vevers, Acting Executive Director, Department of Housing, Bob Davidson, Acting Director General, Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Ken Kanovski, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, Paul Campbell, Manager, Financial Services, Central Corporate Service Unit, at a public hearing on 29 June 2001.

A list of issues discussed at the hearing is provided below. For further details on these matters, see the Hansard record for the hearing.

Urban Affairs and Planning

- Redevelopment of Prince Henry Hospital
- Landcom
- Ministerial meetings with Sydney property developers and consultants
- Australand proposal at Kurnell
- Former ministerial staff employed by property developers
- Chief Executive Officers salaries
- Planfirst
- Amendment to Part 3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
- The Coastal Package
- Purchases under the Coastal Land Acquisition Program
- Grants program for heritage buildings
- Kosciusko Regional Environment Plan
- State Environmental Planning Policies
- Staff salary packages
- Sydney Entertainment Centre

- Fox Studios
- St Mary's Regional Environment Plan

Aboriginal Affairs

- Violence in Aboriginal communities
- Aboriginal Housing Office
- Aboriginal Infrastructure Program
- Employment status of Department of Aboriginal Affairs staff
- NSW State Reconciliation Committee
- Chief Executive Officers' Forum
- Grants program
- Labor Caucus Backbench Aboriginal Affairs Committee
- Review of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*
- Discretionary grants
- Home Instruction Program for Preschool Children (HIPPY) educational program
- Aboriginal Community Development Program
- Aboriginal deaths in custody
- Aboriginal housing in metropolitan areas

Housing

- Department of Housing estate in Casino
- Permanent evictions of tenants found guilty of intimidation
- Complaints against tenants
- Tenants' ownership of overseas properties
- Department of Housing waiting lists
- Asset Acquisition Program

- Sale of commercial assets
- Location of departmental leases
- Cost of vandalism
- New supply of public housing
- Provision for people with disabilities
- Affordable housing guidelines
- Provision for homeless people
- Public housing subsidies

Appendix 1

Establishment, Powers, and Portfolios of the General Purpose Standing Committees

Establishment, powers and portfolios of the General Purpose Standing Committees

Establishment of the General Purpose Standing Committees

The five General Purpose Standing Committees of the Legislative Council were first established in 1997.³ The committees were reappointed on 13 May 1999, shortly after the commencement of the present Parliament.⁴ Since the inception of the General Purpose Standing Committees, the Budget Estimates and related papers have been referred to them for inquiry and report.

The General Purpose Standing Committees have a majority of non-government members. Of the five General Purpose Standing Committees, three are chaired by Cross Bench members and two are chaired by Opposition members.

The functions of the General Purpose Standing Committees are to inquire into and report on:

- any matters referred to them by the House,
- the expenditure, performance or effectiveness of any department of government, statutory body or corporation,
- any matter in any annual report of a department of government, statutory body or corporation.⁵

Powers of the General Purpose Standing Committees

The General Purpose Standing Committees have power to:

- send for and examine persons, papers, records and things
- adjourn from place to place
- make visits of inspection within the State
- request the attendance of and examine members of the House
- publish, before presentation to the House, submissions received and evidence taken in public and
- report from time to time their proceedings, evidence taken in public and recommendations.⁶

³ Minutes of Proceedings, No 65, 7 May 1997, p. 677.

⁴ Minutes of Proceedings, No 3, 13 May 1999, p. 62 (hereafter referred to as Resolution of 13 May 1999).

⁵ Resolution of 13 May 1999, para 3.

⁶ Resolution of 13 May 1999, para 8.

Portfolios

The five General Purpose Standing Committees have responsibility for Government Ministers' portfolio responsibilities,⁷ which are as follows:

General Purpose Standing Committee No 1

Premiers, Arts and Citizenship
 Treasury, State Development
 Education and Training
 The Legislature
 Special Minister of State, Assistant Treasurer, Industrial Relations

General Purpose Standing Committee No 2

Health
 Community Services, Ageing, Disability Services, Women
 Small Business, Tourism
 Mineral Resources, Fisheries

General Purpose Standing Committee No 3

Police
 Attorney General
 Fair Trading, Sport and Recreation, Corrective Services
 Juvenile Justice, Youth

General Purpose Standing Committee No 4

Urban Affairs and Planning, Aboriginal Affairs, Housing
 Transport, Roads
 Gaming and Racing, Hunter Development
 Public Works and Services

General Purpose Standing Committee No 5

Information Technology, Energy, Forestry, Western Sydney
 Agriculture, Land and Water Conservation
 Environment, Emergency Services
 Local Government, Regional Development, Rural Affairs

⁷ Resolution of 13 May 1999, para 1.

Appendix 2

Documents Tabled at Committee Hearings

Tabled documents

Thursday 21 June 2001 – Transport and Roads

- Document entitled 'Particle Cleaning in Norwegian Urban Road Tunnels'.

Appendix 3

Response Times for Questions on Notice

Response time for questions on Notice

The Committee did not formally resolve to set specific dates by which a response to questions on notice would be sought. In each case, the Committee discussed an appropriate time frame for the provision of written answers with the Minister at the conclusion of the hearing and obtained the Minister's agreement to that time frame. The agreed time frames appear in the table below. The return date for answers in the table was calculated from the date that questions were sent to the Minister's office.

Minister	Hearing Date	Agreed Time Period	Date Questions Sent	Return Date for Answers	Date Answers Received
Hon Dr A J Refshauge MP	29 June 2001	35 Days	06 July 2001	10 August 2001	8 August 2001
Hon J R Face MP	20 June 2001	35 Days	28 June 2001	2 August 2001	7 August 2001
Hon P C Scully MP	21 June 2001	35 Days	28 June 2001	2 August 2001	13 August 2001
Hon Morris Iemma MP	22 June 2001	35 Days	28 June 2001	2 August 2001	27 July 2001

Appendix 4

Minutes of Proceedings

Minutes No 21

Wednesday 20 June 2001

At Parliament House at 6.15 pm

1. Members Present

Mr Cohen (in the Chair)
Ms Amanda Fazio
Ms Forsythe (Lynn)
Mr Macdonald
Mr Oldfield
Mr Pearce (Gardiner)
Ms Saffin

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Budget Estimates 2001-2002

The Chair advised that Ms Forsythe would be representing Mr Lynn and Mr Pearce would be representing Ms Gardiner.

The Chair made a statement to Members regarding the broadcasting of proceedings.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved on the motion of Ms Forsythe that the following allocations of time be adhered to during the hearing: Hunter Development: Opposition Members 30 minutes, Mr Cohen 15 minutes and Mr Oldfield 15 minutes; Gaming and Racing: Opposition Members 30 minutes, Mr Cohen 15 minutes and Mr Oldfield 15 minutes.

The Hon Richard Face MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing and Minister Assisting the Premier on Hunter Development was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Hunter Development

Mr Ben Chard, Regional Coordinator, Premier's Department

Department of Gaming and Racing

Mr K M Brown, Director General

Mr D Loewenthal, Deputy Director General, Director of Liquor and Gaming

Mr M Foggo, Director, Revenue and Resource Management

Mr R Harrex, Director, Casino Surveillance Division

Ms J Hennessy, Director, Policy and Development

Casino Control Authority

Mr Brian Farrell, Chief Executive Officer

Greyhound Racing Authority

Mr Steve Rosier, Chief Executive Officer

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on Budget Estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Gaming and Racing and Hunter Development open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Gaming and Racing and Hunter Development concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public and media withdrew.

The committee deliberated.

Resolved on motion of Mr Pearce, that written questions on notice relating to the portfolio areas of Gaming and Racing and Hunter Development be placed on the Notice Paper in the House.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 8.30 pm until 6.30 pm on Thursday 21 June 2001.

Rob Stefanic

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 22

Thursday 21 June 2001

At Parliament House at 6.35 pm

1. **Members Present**

Mr Cohen (in the Chair)

Mr Jobling (Gardiner)

Mr Kelly (Fazio)

Mr Lynn

Mr Macdonald

Mr Oldfield

Mr West (Saffin)

2. **Apologies**

Nil

3. **Budget Estimates 2001-2002**

The Chair advised that Mr Kelly would be representing Ms Fazio, Mr West would be representing Ms Saffin and Mr Jobling would be representing Ms Gardiner.

The Chair made a statement to Members regarding the broadcasting of proceedings.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Oldfield that the following allocations of time be adhered to during the hearing: one hour be allocated for each of the two portfolio areas as follows – Opposition Members 20 minutes, Cross Bench Members 20 minutes, Government Members 20 minutes. Allocated time not utilised by Government Members will be shared equally between Opposition and Cross Bench Members.

The Hon Carl Scully MP, Minister for Transport and Minister for Roads was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

State Rail Authority

Lucio Di Bartolomeo, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Peter Scarlett, Chief Financial Officer

Department of Transport

Michael Deegan, Director General

Alan Cook, Acting Executive Director, Transport Finance and Asset Management

State Transit Authority

John Stott, Chief Executive Officer

Colin Menzies, General Manager Sydney Ferries

Carl Davison, Manager, Business Analysis and Planning

Rail Infrastructure Corporation

John Cowling, Chief Executive Officer

Roads and Traffic Authority

Paul Forward, Chief Executive Officer

Mike Hannon, Director, Road Network Infrastructure

Noel Hancock, Director, Finance

Barry Garrett, Acting General Manager, Financial Management and Accounting

Waterways Authority

Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive Officer

Ken Bywater, Manager, Finance

Brian Stanwell, Manager, Marine Assets

Kerry Doyle, General Manager, Policy and Planning

Minister's office

Lisa Hunt, Chief of Staff

Chris Bowen, Senior Policy Officer

Sean Kennedy, Senior Policy Adviser

Vish Beri, Senior Policy Advisor

Jodi Brough, Senior Media Adviser

Simon Carroll, Policy Officer

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Jobling that if Minister Scully, has to absent himself from the hearings to attend a division, the Committee will adjourn until the Minister returns.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Transport and Roads open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

The Minister tendered a document entitled 'Particle Cleaning in Norwegian Urban Road Tunnels' to support his evidence.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Jobling that the Committee accept the document.

The Minister withdrew in order to attend a division in the Legislative Assembly.

The Committee adjourned.

The Minister returned from the division.

The Committee resumed.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Transport and Roads continued.

The Minister withdrew in order to attend a division in the Legislative Assembly.

The Committee adjourned.

The Minister returned from the division.

The Committee resumed.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Transport and Roads continued.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Transport and Roads concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public and media withdrew.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Jobling, that under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the Authority of Standing Order 252, the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the document tabled by the Minister entitled 'Particle Cleaning in Norwegian Urban Road Tunnels'

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 10.10 pm until 4.00 pm Friday 22 June 2001.

Rob Stefanic

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 23

Friday 22 June 2001

At Parliament House at 4.00 pm

1. Members Present

Mr Cohen (in the Chair)
 Ms Burnswoods (Macdonald)
 Ms Fazio
 Mr Lynn
 Mr Moppett (Gardiner)
 Mr Oldfield
 Mr West (Saffin)

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Budget Estimates 2001-2002

The Chair advised that Ms Burnswoods would be representing Mr Macdonald, Mr West would be representing Ms Saffin and Mr Moppett would be representing Ms Gardiner.

The Chair made a statement to Members regarding the broadcasting of proceedings.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Moppett that the following allocations of time be adhered to during the hearing: One hour be allocated for each of the two portfolio areas – Opposition Members 20 minutes, Cross Bench Members 20 minutes, Government Members 20 minutes. Allocated time not utilised by Government Members will be shared equally between Opposition and Cross Bench Members.

The Hon Morris Iemma MP, Minister for Public Works and Services, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Public Works and Services

Adrian Renouf, Director, Executive Services Division
 Rosemarie Risgalla, Director Policy Division
 Carolyn Burlew, Group General Manager, Asset and Environmental Services Group
 Tony Collins, Group General Manager, Project Management Group
 Alan Griffin, Group General Manager, Strategic Procurement Services Group
 Stephen Mudge, Manager, Corporate Finance
 Rhonda Asmar, Ministerial and Executive Services Unit

Office of the Minister for Public Works and Services

Mark Sutton, Chief of Staff
Vince Badalatti, Policy Adviser
Robert Furolo, Policy Adviser

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Public Works and Services open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Public Works and Services concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 5.40 pm.

Beverley Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 24

Friday 29 June 2001

At Parliament House at 9.00 am

1. Members Present

Mr Cohen (in the Chair)
Ms Fazio
Mr Harwin (Gardiner)
Mr Lynn
Mr Macdonald
Mr Oldfield
Ms Saffin

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Budget Estimates 2001-2002

The Chair advised that Mr Harwin would be representing Ms Gardiner.

The Chair made a statement to Members regarding the broadcasting of proceedings.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Lynn that the following allocations of time be adhered to during the hearing: 40 minutes be allocated for the portfolio areas of Urban Affairs and Planning and Aboriginal Affairs: Opposition Members 20 minutes and Cross Bench Members 20 minutes. 30 minutes allocated for the portfolio area of Housing: Opposition Members 15 minutes and Cross Bench Members 15 minutes.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Lynn that if Minister Refshauge, has to absent himself from the hearings to attend a division, the Committee will adjourn until the Minister returns.

The Hon Dr Andrew Refshauge MP, Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Housing, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Urban Affairs

David Papps, Acting Director General

Department of Housing

Annette Gallard, Acting Director General
Paul Vevers, Acting Executive Director

Department of Aboriginal Affairs

Bob Davidson, Acting Director General

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority

Ken Kanovski, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Central Corporate Service Unit

Paul Campbell, Manager, Financial Services

**Office of the Minister for Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning, Minister for
Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Housing**

Debbie Willcox, Chief of Staff

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Urban Affairs and Planning, Aboriginal Affairs and Housing open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Urban Affairs and Planning, Aboriginal Affairs and Housing concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public and media withdrew.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Harwin, that any additional questions relating to the portfolio areas of Urban Affairs and Planning, Aboriginal Affairs and Housing be lodged with the Director of the General Purpose Standing Committees by the end of the working day after transcripts are received.

Resolved on the motion of Ms Fazio, that under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the authority of the Standing Order 252, the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the answers provided to questions placed on notice by the Committee as part of the 2001-2002 Budget Estimates and related Papers inquiry, after these answers have been circulated to Committee Members.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11.20 am.

Beverley Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 25

5 September 2001

At Parliament House at 4.05 pm

1. Members Present

Ms Gardiner (in the Chair)
Mr Lynn
Mr Saffin

2. Apologies

Mr Cohen
Mr Oldfield

3. Confirmation of minutes

Resolved on motion of Ms Saffin that the minutes of meeting numbers 21, 22, 23 and 24 be confirmed.

4. Tabled documents

The Chair tabled the following items of correspondence:

4.1 Correspondence sent

- Letter dated 28 June 2001 from the Chair to the Hon Carl Scully MP regarding questions on notice.
- Letter dated 28 June 2001 from the Chair to the Hon Richard Face MP regarding questions on notice.
- Letter dated 28 June 2001 from the Chair to the Hon Morris Iemma MP regarding questions on notice.
- Letter dated 6 July 2001 from the Deputy Chair to the Hon Andrew Refshauge MP regarding questions on notice.

4.2 Correspondence received

- Letter received on 27 July 2001 from the Hon Morris Iemma MP regarding answers to questions on notice.
- Facsimile received on 31 July 2001 from the Office of the Hon Carl Scully MP regarding answers to questions on notice.
- Letter received on 7 August 2001 from the Hon Richard Face MP regarding answers to questions on notice.
- Letter received on 13 August 2001 from the Hon Carl Scully MP regarding answers to questions on notice.
- Letter received on 13 August 2001 from the Hon Andrew Refshauge MP regarding answers to questions on notice.

5. Draft report on Budget Estimates 2001-2002

The Chair submitted her draft report entitled "Budget Estimates 2001-2002", which having been circulated to each member of the Committee was accepted as having been read.

The Committee proceeded to consider the draft report.

Ms Saffin moved that the following sentences be deleted from the Introduction:

"The Committee was disappointed that the information provided in response to many of its questions on notice to the Minister for Transport and Roads, The Hon. Carl Scully, MP, was unsatisfactory. Indeed, the Minister failed to provide useful answers to many questions."

Debate ensued.

The Committee divided.

Ayes 1

Ms Saffin

Noes 2

Ms Gardiner

Mr Lynn

The question was resolved in the negative.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Lynn that the report be adopted as the report of the Committee.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Lynn that the report be signed by the Chair and presented to the House in accordance with the resolution referring the Budget Estimates to the Committee.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Lynn that transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions and relevant correspondence be tabled in the House with the report and made public.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4.10 pm.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee