

General Purpose Standing Committee No 2

Budget Estimates 2005 - 2006

Ordered to be printed according to the Resolution of the
House

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Terms of Reference

1. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2005-2006 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 two 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. That a daily Hansard record of the hearings of a committee on the Budget Estimates be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
10. That the Leader of the Government is to provide to each Committee, by Friday 1 July 2005, a schedule outlining the attendance of relevant ministers to appear before each committee, for the committee's consideration.
11. A committee must not meet to hear evidence on any day on which the House sits except during any adjournment for meal breaks or after the adjournment of the House.
12. The committees may hold supplementary hearings as required.
13. The committees present a final report to the House by the last sitting day of the second sitting week in 2006—put and passed.

(Minutes of Proceedings No 103, 6 May 2005, Item 7)

Committee Membership

The Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC	Australian Democrats	
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC¹	The Greens	
The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Christine Robertson MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Henry Tsang MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Other Members who attended the hearings

The Hon Jan Burnswoods MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Kayee Griffin MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Don Harwin MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Charlie Lynn MLC	Liberal Party
Rev the Hon Dr Gordon Moyes MLC	Christian Democratic Party
Rev the Hon Fred Nile MLC	Christian Democratic Party
The Hon Eddie Obeid MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Robyn Parker MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Australian Labor Party
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens
The Hon John Ryan MLC	Liberal Party

¹ Ms Hale was nominated by the cross bench as a member of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 in place of Rev Dr Moyes on 20 October 2005. Rev Dr Moyes was a member of the Committee during the initial round of estimates hearings. Minutes of Proceedings No 125, 8 November 2005, Item 17

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Chair's Foreword

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 has examined the Budget Estimates for 2005-2006 for the portfolio areas of:

- Health
- Community Services
- Youth
- Ageing
- Disability Services
- Tourism and Sport and Recreation
- Women
- Gaming and Racing
- Central Coast
- Aboriginal Affairs

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

The Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2005-2006 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On 6 June 2005, the Legislative Council resolved that the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2005-2006 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees (GPSCs) for inquiry and report.²
- 1.2 Each Committee was required to examine the Budget Estimates for their relevant portfolios and report to the House by the last sitting day of the second sitting week in 2006.³

Extension to the reporting date

- 1.3 On 1 March 2006, the Legislative Council resolved that the reporting date for the GPSC 2 inquiry into the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2005-2006 be extended to Thursday, 6 April 2006.⁴
- 1.4 On 30 March 2006, the Legislative Council resolved that the reporting date for the inquiry be further extended to Thursday, 11 May 2006.⁵

GPSC 2 Portfolio responsibilities

- 1.5 On 14 September 2005, the Legislative Council resolved that the resolution appointing the five GPSCs be amended to reflect changes to Government Ministers' portfolio responsibilities.⁶
- 1.6 The following portfolio responsibilities were allocated to GPSC 2:
- Health
 - Community Services
 - Youth
 - Ageing
 - Disability Services
 - Tourism and Sport and Recreation
 - Women

² Minutes of Proceedings No 103, 6 May 2005, Item 7, para 1

³ Minutes of Proceedings No 103, 6 May 2005, Item 7, paras 2 & 13

⁴ Minutes of Proceedings No 136, 1 March 2006, Item 4

⁵ Minutes of Proceedings No 143, 30 March 2006, Item 3

⁶ Minutes of Proceedings No 114, 14 September 2005, Item 5

- Gaming and Racing
- Central Coast
- Aboriginal Affairs

Public hearings

1.7 General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 examined the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2005-2006 for its portfolios at a series of public hearings held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, 20 September 2005 – Health
- Thursday, 22 September 2005 – Ageing and Disability Services
- Thursday, 22 September 2005 – Community Services and Youth
- Friday, 23 September 2005 – Gaming and Racing, Central Coast
- Friday, 23 September 2005 – Aboriginal Affairs
- Friday, 23 September 2005 – Tourism, Sport and Recreation, Women
- Monday, 20 February 2006 – Ageing and Disability Services (supplementary hearing)
- Tuesday, 14 March 2006 – Health (supplementary hearing)
- Wednesday, 12 April 2006 – Disability Services (supplementary hearing)

1.8 Chapter 2 of this report provides a brief summary of some of the key issues raised during the hearings.

Transcripts

1.9 The full transcript of evidence taken at the 2005-2006 Budget Estimates hearings can be found at the Committee's web page at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2. Hard copies of the transcripts can be obtained by contacting the Secretariat of the General Purpose Standing Committees on 02 9230 3544.

Questions on notice

1.10 During the 2005-2006 Budget Estimates hearings, Ministers and departmental officials took a number of questions on notice. Copies of the questions and answers can be found on the web page or obtained from the Secretariat.

1.11 In addition, Committee Members lodged written questions on notice by placing questions on the Notice Paper on days that the House sat.

Chapter 2 Summary of issues

This chapter provides a summary by portfolio of the key issues raised as part of the General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2005-2006. For further details see the Hansard record of the hearings, available on the Committee's web page at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2.

Health

2.1 The Committee conducted a public hearing examining the portfolio of Health on Tuesday, 20 September 2005. The following issues were examined:

- access block and the incidence of patients being treated in emergency departments for an extended period without ever being admitted to other areas of the hospital
- recruitment of nurses and midwives back to hospitals through the Nurses Reconnect program
- the incidence of breast cancer, breast cancer mortality rates and the targeting of women of particular age groups through the Breast Screen Program
- the restructure and merging of various Area Health Services, and the impact on staff numbers
- the management and staffing of the Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals.

Supplementary hearing

2.2 The Committee conducted a supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Health on Tuesday, 14 March 2006. The following issues were examined:

- the delivery of services by the Greater Southern Area Health Service and the relationship of the Greater Southern Area Health Service with the Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice
- the workers' compensation performance of NSW Health and additional cash payments to NSW Health from the Treasury Managed Fund in recognition of good performance
- overdue accounts owed by NSW Health and the 45-day benchmark for paying creditors
- the powers of NSW Health under the *Public Health Act 1991*, especially in relation to the operation of the M5 East Tunnel
- the availability of community-based mental health services
- the operation of health care agreements between NSW and other jurisdictions, notably the Australian Capital Territory

- funding provided to NSW Health by the Commonwealth Government under the Australian Health Care Agreement.

Ageing and Disability Services

2.3 The Committee conducted a public hearing examining the portfolios of Ageing and Disability Services on Thursday, 22 September 2005. The following issues were examined:

- the increase in capital grants in 2005-2006 to non-profit organisations involved in ageing and disability care
- fees for home care and attendant care services
- funding for respite care in NSW and the number of respite beds available
- the adoption of public-private partnerships for the provision of community and residential care services.

Supplementary hearings

2.4 The Committee conducted a supplementary hearing examining the portfolios of Ageing and Disability Services on Monday, 20 February 2006. The following issues were examined:

- the provision of respite facilities for disabled youth, including by the former John Williams Respite Centre
- the supervision of licensed and unlicensed boarding houses by the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC)
- the provision of dental care to clients of DADHC
- the provision of accommodation support to clients of DADHC
- issues associated with the Redfern Waterloo Development plan, including the retention of medical services in the Redfern Waterloo area
- the adequacy of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1984* in relation to the management of disability care service providers.

2.5 The Committee conducted a further supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Disability Services on Wednesday, 12 April 2006. The following issues were examined:

- progress in relocating younger people with disabilities from nursing homes to more appropriate accommodation
- DADHC inspections of unlicensed boarding houses under the *Youth and Community Services Act 1979* and action taken as a result of such inspections, with specific reference to boarding houses in Petersham
- compliance of boarding houses with fire regulations
- wage costs arising from the new State and Community Services Award.

Community Services and Youth

- 2.6 The Committee conducted a public hearing examining the portfolios of Community Services and Youth on Thursday, 22 September 2005. The following issues were examined:
- the management of the Richmond Community Service Centre, including the number of child protection system caseworkers at the centre
 - the operation of the Department of Community Services' Helpline
 - the identification of new sites for community service centres
 - the regulation of the child care industry and the availability of child care places in the inner suburbs of Sydney.

Gaming and Racing, Central Coast

- 2.7 The Committee conducted a public hearing examining the portfolios of Gaming and Racing and Central Coast on Friday, 23 September 2005. The following issues were examined:
- funding, running costs and staffing of the Office of the Minister for Gaming and Racing
 - the final cost of the Temby Inquiry into the Panthers club, including the salaries of external lawyers and consultants
 - the legal impasse between TVN and Sky Channel in relation to the broadcasting of a number of Autumn Carnival races
 - initiatives to monitor and limit activities by clubs and hotels that encourage increased gambling
 - the viability of the club industry in NSW
 - initiatives to stop promotions that result in alcohol being provided to under age persons
 - implementation of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal report entitled *Gambling: Promoting a Culture of Responsibility*
 - public donations to the Boxing Day Tsunami relief fund
 - the provision of a range of services on the Central Coast.

Aboriginal Affairs

- 2.8 The Committee conducted a public hearing examining the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs on Friday, 23 September 2005. The following issues were examined:
- public comments made by the Minister for Redfern Waterloo in relation to the Redfern Waterloo Authority
 - the role of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in relation to the Pemulwuy Project (the Aboriginal Housing group redevelopment of the Block)

- the current status of the review of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*
- payments made under the Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment scheme
- the progress of the Aboriginal Community Development Program.

Tourism, Sport and Recreation, Women

2.9 The Committee conducted a public hearing examining the portfolios of Tourism, Sport and Recreation, and Women on Friday, 23 September 2005. The following issues were examined in relation to the Tourism portfolio:

- the increase in tourism to NSW from China and India
- measures to attract more tourists to rural and regional NSW, including to the Hunter
- tourism advertising campaigns run by the NSW Government
- tourism in the northern rivers region and the viability of the Casino to Murwillumbah railway.

2.10 The following issues were examined in relation to the Sport and Recreation portfolio:

- measures to address obesity in children
- campaigns to encourage older people to exercise
- the hosting of NRL State of Origin games in Sydney
- the ongoing viability of Luna Park
- the attraction of major sporting events to Sydney.

2.11 The following issues were examined in relation to the Women portfolio:

- the representation of women's issues to the Government
- sexual harassment in the workplace and government policies to address it
- the operation of the new Office for Women within the Premier's Department
- the availability of grants to fund projects run by women's groups
- fostering respect for women in sport.

Appendix 1 Witnesses

1. Health (20 September 2005)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Hatzistergos MLC	Minister for Health
Ms Robyn Kruk	Director General, Department of Health
Mr Robert McGregor	Deputy Director General, Health Systems Support, Department of Health
Mr Kenneth Barker	Chief Financial Officer, Department of Health
Dr Richard Matthews	Acting Deputy Director, Strategic Development, and Chief Executive, Justice Health Service, Department of Health
Dr Denise Robinson	Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director, General Population Health, Department of Health

2. Ageing and Disability Services (22 September 2005)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Della Bosca MLC	Minister for Ageing and Disability Services
Mr Brendan O'Reilly	Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Alison Wannan	Acting Deputy Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care

3. Community Services and Youth (22 September 2005)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Reba Meagher MP	Minister for Community Services and Youth
Dr Neil Shepherd	Director General, Department of Community Services
Mr Alan Ramsey	Executive Director, Corporate Services, Department of Community Services

4. Gaming and Racing, Central Coast (23 September 2005)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Grant McBride MP	Minister for Gaming and Racing and the Central Coast
Mr Ken Brown	Director General, Department of Gaming and Racing
Mr Michael Foggo	Director, Revenue and Resource Management, Department of Gaming and Racing
Ms Jill Hennessey	Former Director of Policy and Development, Department of Gaming and Racing
Ms Sylvana Sturevska	Acting Manager, Casino Community Benefit Fund, Department of Gaming and Racing
Mr Paul de Veaux	Acting Assistant Director, Office of Racing, Department of Gaming and Racing

5. Aboriginal Affairs (23 September 2005)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Milton Orkopoulos MP	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Ms Jody Broun	Director General, Department of Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Jonathon Wassell	Executive Director, Executive and Business Strategy, Department of Aboriginal Affairs

6. Tourism, Sport and Recreation, Women (23 September 2005)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Sandra Nori MP	Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, and Women
Mr Robert Adby	Director General, Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation
Mr Brian Newman	CEO, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Ms Sharon Boyd	Acting Director, Office for Women

7. Ageing and Disability Services – Supplementary hearing (20 February 2006)

Name	Position and Organisation
Mr Brendan O'Reilly	Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Ethel McAlpine	Deputy Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Carol Mills	Deputy Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Mr Stephen Mudge	Chief Finance Officer, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care

8. Health – Supplementary hearing (14 March 2006)

Name	Position and Organisation
Mr Keith Fletcher	CEO, Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice
Dr Marion Reeves	Chair, Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice
Ms Robyn Kruk	Director General, NSW Department of Health
Mr Robert McGregor	Deputy Director General, Health System Support, NSW Department of Health
Prof Katherine McGrath	Deputy Director General, Health System Performance, NSW Department of Health
Dr Richard Matthews	Deputy Director General, Strategic Development, NSW Department of Health
Mr Ken Barker	Chief Financial Officer, NSW Department of Health
Prof Debora Picone	Chief Executive, South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service
Dr Stephen Christley	Chief Executive, Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area Health Service
Assoc Prof Stuart Schneider	Chief Executive, Greater Southern Area Health Service
Mr Peter Gould	Director, Corporate Services, Greater Southern Area Health Service

9. Disability Services – Supplementary hearing (12 April 2006)

Name	Position and Organisation
Ms Carol Mills	Deputy Director General, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Janett Milligan	Director, Service Development and Planning, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care
Ms Alison Wannan	Director, Community Access, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care

Appendix 2 Minutes of proceedings

Minutes No 57

Tuesday, 20 September 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 7.45 pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)

Ms Kayee Griffin (Catanzariti)

Rev Dr Gordon Moyes (until 8:15)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans

Ms Robyn Parker (Pavey)

Ms Christine Robertson

Mr Henry Tsang

2. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Ms Griffin would be substituting for Mr Catanzariti and Ms Parker would be substituting for Ms Pavey for the purposes of this meeting.

3. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Deliberative Meeting

Correspondence

The Chair tabled the following items of correspondence received:

- Letter from the Hon John Della Bosca MLC forwarding the finalised schedule of Ministers' attendance for the 2005-2006 Budget Estimates hearings (received 30 August 2005)
- Letter from the Hon John Della Bosca MLC advising of changes to the finalised schedule of Ministers' attendance for the 2005-2006 Budget Estimates hearings (received 14 September 2005)

Conduct of Hearing

Resolved on the motion of Ms Parker: That the time allowed for return of answers to questions taken on notice be 14 days from the date the answers are forwarded to the Minister's office, and that the Minister be requested to advise the Committee if there is any difficulty in meeting this timeframe due to the complexity of the questions.

The Chair advised that the Revd Dr Moyes would be allocated questions for the first 10 minutes of the hearing due to his requirement to leave early, and that the remaining time will be allocated evenly between opposition, government and cross-bench members.

4. Budget Estimates 2004-2005 - Public Hearing

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

The Hon John Hatzistergos MLC, Minister for Health, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Health

Ms Robyn Kruk, Director General

Mr Robert McGregor, Deputy Director General, Health Systems Support

Mr Ken Barker, Chief Financial Officer

Dr Richard Matthews, Acting Deputy Director, Strategic Development, and Chief Executive, Justice Health Service

Dr Denise Robinson, Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director, General Population Health

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 Health open for examination.

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

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Health concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

5. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Deliberative***Supplementary hearings***

Resolved on motion of Dr Chesterfield-Evans: That the Committee conduct a further hearing on a date to be determined by the Chair after consulting with Committee members to consider further the health portfolio.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 10.05 pm until 5.15 pm on Thursday, 22 September 2005 in Room 814/815.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 58

Thursday, 22 September 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 5.15 pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)

Mr Tony Catanzariti

Rev Fred Nile (Moyes)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans

Mr John Ryan (Pavey)

Ms Christine Robertson

Mr Henry Tsang

2. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Mr Ryan would be substituting for Ms Pavey and Revd Nile would be substituting for Revd Dr Moyes for the purposes of this meeting.

3. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Deliberative Meeting***Conduct of Hearing***

Resolved on the motion of Dr Chesterfield-Evans: That the time allowed for return of answers to questions taken on notice at this hearing and all subsequent Budget Estimates hearings in 2005-2006 be 14 days from the date the answers are forwarded to the Minister's office, and that the Minister be requested to advise the Committee if there is difficulty in meeting this timeframe, due to the complexity of the questions.

The Chair advised that Members would be allocated 20 minutes for questions alternating between government, opposition and cross bench members.

4. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing

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

The Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care.

Mr Brendan O'Reilly, Director General

Ms Alison Wannan, Acting Deputy Director General

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 Ageing and Disability Services open for examination.

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

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Ageing and Disability Services concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 7:30 pm until 7.45 pm on Thursday, 22 September 2005 in Room 814/815.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 59

Thursday, 22 September 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 7.45 pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)
 Ms Kayee Griffin (Catanzariti)
 Rev Fred Nile (Moyes)
 Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
 Mr John Ryan (Pavey)
 Ms Christine Robertson
 Ms Jan Burnswoods (Tsang)
 Ms Catherine Cusack (participating member)

2. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Ms Griffin would be substituting for Mr Catanzariti, Mr Ryan would be substituting for Ms Pavey, Ms Burnswoods would be substituting for Mr Tsang and Revd Nile would be substituting for Revd Moyes for the purposes of this meeting.

3. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing

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

The Hon Reba Meagher MP, Minister for Community Services and Youth, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Community Services

Dr Neil Shepherd, Director General
 Mr Alan Ramsey, Executive Director, Corporate Services
 Ms Donna Rygate, Executive Director, Office of the Director General

Commission for Children and Young People

Ms Gillian Calvert, Commissioner
 Ms Elizabeth McGee, Manager, Administration

Office of the Children's Guardian

Mr Tom Kenny, Manager, Children's Employment and Corporate

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 Community Services and Youth open for examination.

The Minister and her advisers answered questions from Members of the Committee.

Ms Meagher tendered the following document:

- Minister's opening statement

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Community Services and Youth concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

4. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Deliberative

Resolved on motion of Mrs Robertson: That under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the Authority of Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the Minister's opening statement.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 10.03 pm until 8.45 am on Friday, 23 September 2005 in the Jubilee Room.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 60

Friday, 23 September 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 9.05 am, Jubilee Room

1. Members Present

Revd Fred Nile (Moyes)
Mr Charlie Lynn (Forsythe)
Mr Eddie Obeid (Catanzariti)
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans (after item 2)
Ms Melinda Pavey
Ms Christine Robertson
Mr Henry Tsang (after item 2)

2. Election of Member to act as Chair for the meeting

In accordance with paragraph (3) of Standing Order 211, the Clerk called for nominations for a Member to act as Chair for the meeting.

Mr Obeid moved: That Revd Nile be elected to act as Chair of the Committee for the meeting.

Mr Lynn moved: That Ms Pavey be elected to act as Chair of the Committee for the meeting.

The Clerk informed the Committee that there being two nominations, in accordance with the practice of the House a ballot must be held.

The Clerk distributed ballot papers to Committee Members present.

Members lodged their votes.

The Clerk announced the result of the ballot as follows:

Revd Nile – 3 votes

Ms Pavey – 2 votes.

Revd Nile, having a majority of the Members present and voting, was therefore declared elected to act as Chair of the Committee for the meeting.

3. **Substitute arrangements**

Revd Nile took the Chair.

The Chair advised that Mr Obeid would be substituting for Mr Catanzariti, Mr Lynn would be substituting for Ms Forsythe, and that he would be substituting for Revd Moyes for the purpose of this meeting.

4. **Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing**

The Hon Grant McBride MP, Minister for Gaming and Racing and Central Coast, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Gaming and Racing:

Mr Ken Brown, Director General Gaming and Racing, Director Liquor and Gaming

Mr Michael Foggo, Director, Revenue and Resource Management

Ms Jill Hennessey, Former Director, Policy and Development

Mr Ken Browne, Acting Director, Policy and Research

Mr Albert Gardner, Assistant Director, Compliance

Mr Dominic Herschel, Assistant Director, Office of Charities

Ms Sylvana Sturevska, Acting Manager, Casino Community Benefit Fund

Mr Paul de Veaux, Acting Assistant Director, Office of Racing

Mr Brian Farrell, Chief Executive Officer, Casino Control Authority

Mr John Gregor, Assistant Director, Revenue and Resource Management

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 Central Coast, open for examination.

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

The Chair advised the witnesses that the Committee had resolved to allow 35 days for the return of answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Gaming and Racing and Central Coast concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

5. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 11.05 am until 11.15 am on Friday, 23 September 2005 in the Jubilee Room.

John Young

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 61

Friday, 23 September 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 11.23 am, Jubilee Room

1. Members Present

Revd Gordon Moyes

Mr Don Harwin (Forsythe)

Mr Peter Primrose (Catanzariti)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans (after item 4)

Ms Catherine Cusack (Pavey) (after item 2)

Mr Eddie Obeid (Robertson) (after item 2)

Mr Henry Tsang (after item 2)

2. Election of Member to act as Chair for the meeting

In accordance with paragraph (3) of Standing Order 211, the Clerk called for nominations for a Member to act as Chair for the meeting.

Mr Harwin moved: That Revd Moyes be elected to act as Chair of the Committee for the meeting.

There being no further nominations, the Clerk declared Revd Moyes elected to act as Chair of the Committee for the meeting.

3. Substitute arrangements

Revd Moyes took the Chair.

The Chair advised that Mr Harwin would be substituting for Ms Forsythe, Mr Primrose would be substituting for Mr Catanzariti, Ms Cusack would be substituting for Ms Pavey, and Mr Obeid would be substituting for Ms Robertson for the purposes of this meeting.

4. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Deliberative Meeting

Resolved on motion of Mr Harwin: That the time allowed for return of answers to questions taken on notice at the hearing be 21 calendar days.

5. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing

The Hon Milton Orkopoulos MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Aboriginal Affairs:

Ms Jody Broun, Director General

Mr Jonathon Wassell, Executive Director, Executive and Business Strategy

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 Aboriginal Affairs open for examination.

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

The Chair advised the witnesses that the Committee had resolved to allow 21 calendar days for the return of answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Aboriginal Affairs concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1.30 pm until 1.45 pm on Friday, 23 September 2005 in the Jubilee Room.

John Young

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 62

Friday, 23 September 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 1.45 pm, Jubilee Room

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe
 Mr Greg Donnelly (Catanzariti)
 Rev Gordon Moyes
 Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
 Ms Catherine Cusack (Pavey)
 Ms Kayee Griffin (Robertson)
 Ms Amanda Fazio (Tsang)
 Ms Lee Rhiannon (participating member)

2. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Mr Donnelly would be substituting for Mr Catanzariti, Ms Cusack would be substituting for Ms Pavey, Ms Griffin would be substituting for Ms Robertson and Ms Fazio would be substituting for Mr Tsang for the purposes of this meeting.

3. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing

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

The Hon Sandra Nori MP, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation and Women, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

- Mr Robert Adby, Director General, Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation
- Mr Brian Newman, CEO, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- Ms Sharon Boyd, Acting Director, Office for Women

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 Tourism, Sport and Recreation and Women, open for examination.

The Minister and her advisers answered questions from Members of the Committee.

Ms Nori tendered the following documents:

- Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation – Overview (13 pages)
- Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation – Statement of Financial Position
- Sydney Olympic Park Authority, Overview and Budget (3 pages)
- Minister for Tourism and Sport and Recreation, Minister for Women – Legislative Assembly, Questions on Notice, various, across portfolio.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Tourism, Sport and Recreation and Women concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 3.03 pm *sine die*.

Julie Langsworth

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 63

Monday, 5 December 2005

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 9.15 am, Room 1136

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)
Mr Tony Catanzariti
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
Ms Melinda Pavey
Ms Sylvia Hale

2. Apologies

Ms Christine Robertson

3. Confirmation of minutes

Resolved on motion of Mr Catanzariti: That Minutes no 56 – 62 be confirmed.

4. ***

5. ***

6. Budget Estimates 2005-2006

Correspondence

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence received:

- Ms Sally Crossing, Chair, Cancer Voices NSW, to Chair re the Budget Estimates hearing with the Minister for Health, questioning why the Isolated Patients Transport Assistance Scheme was not raised (21 September 2005)

Supplementary hearings

Resolved on motion of Ms Pavey: That in addition to a supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Health (as previously resolved), the Committee hold a supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Ageing, Disability Services.

Resolved on motion of Ms Hale: That supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Health and Ageing, Disability Services be held during the week of 20 – 24 February 2006 (and that preferably both hearings be held on the same day).

Resolved on motion of Ms Pavey: That the Committee Secretariat circulate an email to Members seeking nominations by COB Friday, 9 December 2006 for additional witnesses for the supplementary hearings (in addition to the witnesses who appeared during the initial round of hearings).

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 9.45 am *sine die*.

Stephen Frappell

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 64

Monday, 20 February 2006

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 9.50 am, Room 814/815

1. **Members Present**

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)
 Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
 Mr Greg Donnelly (Catanzariti)
 Ms Sylvia Hale
 Ms Christine Robertson
 Mr John Ryan (Pavey)
 Mr Henry Tsang

2. **Substitute arrangements**

The Chair advised that Mr Ryan would be substituting for Ms Pavey, and that Mr Donnelly would be substituting for Mr Catanzariti for the purposes of this meeting.

3. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 – Deliberative meeting

Conduct of Hearing

Resolved on motion of Mr Ryan: That the time allowed for return of answers to questions taken on notice be 14 days from the date the answers are forwarded to the Minister.

The Chair advised that time for questions would be allocated evenly between opposition, government and cross-bench Members in 20 minute blocks.

4. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing

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

The following officials from the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care were admitted:

- Mr Brendan O'Reilly, Director General
- Ms Ethel McAlpine, Deputy Director General
- Ms Carol Mills, Deputy Director General
- Mr Stephen Mudge, Chief Finance 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 Ageing and Disability Services open for examination.

The officials answered questions from Members of the Committee.

Mr Ryan tabled the following document:

- Letter from Myree Harris RSJ, Convener, Coalition for Appropriate Supported Accommodation for People with Disabilities to Claire Edwards, Director of Nursing, Mental Health Services, dated 7 February 2006.

Resolved on motion of Ms Robertson: That under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the authority of Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the document tabled by Mr Ryan.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Ageing and Disability Services concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11.48 am *sine die*.

Michael Phillips

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 65

Thursday, 9 March 2006

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 9:50 am, Parkes Room

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)
 Ms Sylvia Hale (Deputy Chair)
 Mr Tony Catanzariti
 Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
 Ms Melinda Pavey
 Ms Kayee Griffin (Tsang)
 Ms Christine Robertson

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that Ms Griffin would be substituting for Mr Tsang

3. Confirmation of minutes 63 and 64

Resolved on motion of Mr Catanzariti: That Minutes no 63 be confirmed.

Resolved on motion of Ms Robertson: That Minutes no 64 be confirmed.

4. Budget Estimates 2005-2006***Witnesses for public hearing – Tuesday, 14 March 2006 (Health portfolio)***

Resolved on motion of Ms Pavey: That the following additional witnesses be invited to the supplementary budget estimates hearing of GPSC 2 on Tuesday, 14 March:

- The Chief Executive, Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service
- The Finance Director, Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service
- The Chief Executive, South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service
- The Finance Director, South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service
- Mr Keith Fletcher, CEO, Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice (and any accompanying board member from the Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice)

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 10:15 am until 1.30 pm on Tuesday, 14 March 2006 in Room 814/815.

Stephen Frappell

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 66

Tuesday, 14 March 2006

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 1.30 pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)
 Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)

Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
Ms Sylvia Hale
Ms Melinda Pavey
Ms Christine Robertson
Mr Henry Tsang

2. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence received:

- ***
- Letter from Dr Michael Holland, obstetrician and gynaecologist in Moruya, re his financial difficulties with the Greater Southern Area Health Service.

3. ***

4. ***

5. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 – Deliberative meeting

The Chair advised that time for questions would be allocated evenly between opposition, government and cross-bench Members.

6. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing

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

The following witnesses were admitted:

Mr Keith Fletcher
CEO, Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice

Dr Marion Reeves
Chair, Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice

NSW Department of Health

Ms Robyn Kruk
Director-General

Mr Robert McGregor
Deputy Director General, Health System Support

Prof Katherine McGrath
Deputy Director General, Health System Performance

Dr Richard Matthews
Deputy Director General, Strategic Development

Mr Ken Barker
Chief Financial Officer

South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service

Professor Debora Picone
Chief Executive

Mr John Roach
Director Corporate Services

Northern Sydney and Central Coast Area Health Service

Dr Stephen Christley
Chief Executive

Mr Graeme Harding
Area Director Financial Services

Greater Southern Area Health Service

Assoc Prof Stuart Schneider
Chief Executive

Mr Peter Gould
Director Corporate Services

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 Health open for examination.

The witnesses answered questions from Members of the Committee.

Mr Keith Fletcher tabled the following document:

- The core concerns of the Murray Division of General Practice regarding the Greater Southern Area Health Service

Mr Ken Barker tabled the following document:

- 'Australian Trade Payments Remain in Decline', D&B Media Release, 12 December 2005.

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

7. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 – Deliberative meeting

Tabled documents

Resolved on motion of Ms Robertson: That under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the authority of Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the documents accepted by the Committee during today's hearing.

Supplementary hearing

Resolved on motion of Ms Pavey: That the Committee conduct a further hearing of up to 1½ hour duration to examine the Disability Services portfolio on a date to be determined following consultation with the Committee Members.

8. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4.50 pm *sine die*.

Katherine Fleming

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 67

Wednesday, 12 April 2006

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 9.45 am, Waratah Room

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)
Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
Ms Sylvia Hale
Mr John Ryan (Pavey)
Ms Christine Robertson
Mr Henry Tsang

2. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Mr Ryan would be substituting for Ms Pavey for the purposes of this meeting.

3. Confirmation of Minutes 65 and 66

Resolved on motion of Mr Catanzariti: That minutes No. 65 and 66 be confirmed.

4. ***

5. ***

6. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 – Deliberative meeting

Conduct of Hearing

The Chair advised that time for questions would be allocated evenly between opposition, government and cross-bench Members.

7. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 - Public Hearing

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

The following officials were admitted:

Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care

Ms Carol Mills
Deputy Director-General

Ms Janett Milligan
Director, Service Development and Planning

Ms Alison Wannan
Director, Community Access

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 Disability Services open for examination.

The officials answered questions from Members of the Committee.

Mr Ryan tabled the following document:

- Summary of issues at various disability support establishments

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

8. Budget Estimates 2005-2006 – Deliberative meeting

Tabled documents

Resolved on motion of Ms Robertson: That under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the authority of Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the document tabled by Mr Ryan.

Committee report

Resolved on motion of Ms Robertson: That the Committee secretariat prepare a draft report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2005-2006.

9. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11:30 am *sine die*.

Stephen Frappell

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 68

Tuesday, 9 May 2006

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

At Parliament House at 6.35 pm, Members' Lounge

1. Members Present

Ms Patricia Forsythe (Chair)
Mr Tony Catanzariti (Deputy Chair)
Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans
Ms Melinda Pavey
Ms Christine Robertson

2. Confirmation of Minutes 67

Resolved on motion of Mr Catanzariti: That minutes No. 67 be confirmed.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2005-2006

Consideration of Chair's draft report

Resolved on motion of Ms Pavey:

- That the Chair's report be the report of the Committee and be signed by the Chair and presented to the House in accordance with Standing Orders 230 and 231, together with the minutes, answers to questions on notice, transcripts, correspondence and tabled documents.
- That pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* the Committee authorises the publication of all minutes, answers to questions on notice, correspondence, and tabled documents.
- That the Committee Secretariat be permitted to correct typographical, stylistic and grammatical errors in the report prior to tabling.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 6.40 pm *sine die*.

Stephen Frappell

Clerk to the Committee