

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Budget Estimates 2014-2015

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How to contact the committee

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Terms of reference

1. That upon tabling, the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2014-2015 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 initial hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Monday 18 August 2014

GPSC2	Health, Medical Research	9.00 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC2	Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC5	Primary Industries	10.30 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC5	Natural Resources, Lands and Water, Western NSW	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Day Two: Tuesday 19 August 2014

GPSC3	Transport, The Hunter	9.00 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC3	The Legislature	2.00 pm - 2.45 pm
GPSC3	Local Government	3.00 pm - 4.30 pm
GPSC2	Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra	9.00 am - 12.00 pm
GPSC2	Mental Health	12.15 pm - 1.15 pm
GPSC2	Education	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Three: Wednesday 20 August 2014

GPSC4	Police and Emergency Services, Sport and Recreation	9.00 am - 1.30 pm
GPSC4	Attorney General, Justice	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC5	The Environment, Heritage, The Central Coast	9.00 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC5	Resources and Energy, Special Minister of State	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Four: Thursday, 21 August 2014

GPSC3	Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services, Tourism and Major Events, Small Business, The North Coast	9.00 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC3	Roads and Freight	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC1	Planning, Women	9.00 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC1	Premier, Infrastructure, Western Sydney	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Five: Friday 22 August 2014

GPSC1	Treasury, Industrial Relations	9.00 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC1	Finance and Services	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC4	Fair Trading	9.00 am - 10.30 am
GPSC4	Hospitality, Gaming and Racing, The Arts	10.45 am - 12.15 pm
GPSC4	Family and Community Services	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm

3. That an initial round of supplementary hearings be scheduled during the week of 7 to 10 October 2014.
4. That each scheduled day for the initial round of hearings will begin at 9.00 am and conclude by 6.00 pm.
5. The committees must hear evidence in public.
6. 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.
7. There is no provision under this resolution for a Minister to make an opening statement before the committee commences questions.
8. A daily Hansard record is to be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
9. The committees are to present a final report to the House by 19 December 2014.
10. Members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee during a Budget Estimates hearing and up to two days following.
11. All answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing, and questions on notice lodged up to two days following the hearing, must be provided within 21 days, or as otherwise determined by the committee.

These terms of reference were referred to the Committee by the House on 12 November 2013, see *LC Minutes* (12/11/13), p 2161, Item 31; amended by *LC Minutes* (15/05/2014)2527-2529, Item 21.

Committee membership

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Paul Green MLC	Christian Democratic Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Jan Barham MLC	The Greens	
The Hon David Clarke MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Jenny Gardiner	The Nationals	
The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Helen Westwood	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
Dr Mehreen Faruqi MLC	The Greens
Dr John Kaye MLC	The Greens
Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC	Christian Democratic Party
The Hon Adam Searle MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Steve Whan MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Ernst Wong MLC	Australian Labor Party

Table of contents

	Chair's foreword	viii
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
	Referral of the 2014-2015 Budget Estimates	1
	Hearings	1
	Transcripts	1
	Questions on notice	1
Chapter 2	Issues raised during hearings	3
	Health, Medical Research	3
	Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs	4
	Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra	4
	Mental Health	5
	Education	6
Appendix 1	Witnesses at hearings	7
Appendix 2	Tabled documents	10
Appendix 3	Minutes	11

Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-2015. This annual inquiry into the Budget Estimates ensures parliamentary oversight of the Budget, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Council.

The inquiry consisted of four hearings to examine the portfolio areas of:

- Health, Medical Research
- Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs
- Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra
- Mental Health
- Education.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the ministers and their officers who assisted the committee during this important inquiry. I am grateful to my fellow committee members and the secretariat staff for their contributions to the inquiry process.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melinda Pavey'.

Hon Melinda Pavey MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2014-2015 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On 12 November 2013 the Legislative Council resolved to hold the initial hearings of the General Purpose Standing Committees' inquiry into the Budget Estimates during the weeks commencing 18 August and 25 August 2014.¹
- 1.2 On 15 May 2014, the Legislative Council further resolved that 'the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2014-2015 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report'.² The resolution required each committee to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the House by 19 December 2014. Furthermore, the resolution stipulated that the initial hearings would be held in the week commencing 18 August and the initial round of supplementary hearings be scheduled during the week of 7-10 October.

Hearings

- 1.3 The Committee held five public hearings as follows:
- Monday 18 August 2014 – Health, Medical Research
 - Monday 18 August 2014 – Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs
 - Tuesday 19 August 2014 – Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra
 - Tuesday 19 August 2014 – Mental Health
 - Tuesday 19 August 2014 – Education.
- 1.4 A brief summary of the key issues raised during the hearings is contained in Chapter 2.

Transcripts

- 1.5 Transcripts of the hearings are available on the Committee's web page at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2.

Questions on notice

- 1.6 Questions taken on notice, and the answers to these questions, are also available on the Committee's web page.

¹ *Minutes*, Legislative Council, 12 November 2013, p 2161.

² *Minutes*, Legislative Council, 15 May 2014, pp 2527-2529.

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

This chapter provides a brief summary by portfolio of the key issues raised during the hearings.

Health, Medical Research

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Health was held on Monday 18 August 2014. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of the Health portfolio:

- tender process for the construction of a private hospital in the Northern Beaches
- working conditions of employees and financial arrangements relating to the new private hospital in the Northern Beaches
- donations made to the Liberal Party, New South Wales division
- closure of John Hunter eye clinic
- Manning Hospital at Taree
- Ebola virus breakout
- Shoalhaven hospital
- maternity service at Bourke
- impact of the Commonwealth Government Budget
- attendance at emergency departments in New South Wales
- loose-fill asbestos installation in houses
- patients in hospitals awaiting discharge who are ventilator dependent
- filling of junior medical officer positions
- immunisation and mental health support for school students
- tattoo inks.

2.2 The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of the Medical Research portfolio:

- impact of the Commonwealth Government Budget on funding for medical research
- national science strategy
- health impacts of coal seam gas exploration and mining on local communities
- management of particulate dust, specifically with respect to coal
- health impacts of saturated fat
- health messaging approaches
- funding for the research component of teaching and research
- childhood obesity programs

- funding for brain cancer research
- health impacts of wind turbines
- the Westmead medical research precinct
- donations made to the Liberal Party, New South Wales division
- Get Healthy NSW program
- closure of NSW Food Authority laboratory facilities.

Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolio of Citizenship and Communities was held on Monday 18 August 2014. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of the Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs portfolio:

- services for refugee and humanitarian entrants
- funding of the Community Relations Commission grants program
- closure of support services for muslim women
- centenary of ANZAC commemorations
- spending on the Veterans' Affairs community grants program
- variation in the Aboriginal Affairs budget
- strategies to address racism and violence against women
- steps to improve aboriginal mental health.

Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra

2.4 A hearing examining the portfolio of Ageing, Disability Services, the Illawarra was held on Tuesday 19 August 2014. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of the Ageing, Disability Services portfolio:

- transitioning of state disability services to the non-government sector or Commonwealth as a result of the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- funding for the Community Support Program for people with physical and neurological disabilities
- funding allocated for advocacy and information services during 2014 - 15
- redevelopment of the Stockton Centre and relocation of residents to new accommodation
- young people living in residential aged care
- impact of commonwealth funding cuts on services provided to dementia patients

- recruitment and workforce planning strategies for meeting the additional 25,000 staff required following the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- operation of the NSW Elder Abuse Hotline
- funding and services for aboriginal people with disabilities and their carers.

2.5 A hearing examining the portfolio of The Illawarra was held on Tuesday 19 August 2014. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of The Illawarra portfolio:

- Restart NSW Illawarra Infrastructure Fund and allocation of grants
- City of Sydney Amendment (Elections) Bill 2014 and subsequent discussions with Wollongong City Council
- illegal donations for election funding
- feral deer in the Illawarra and control measures.

Mental Health

2.6 A hearing examining the portfolio of Mental Health was held on Tuesday 19 August 2014. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of the Mental Health portfolio:

- Mental Health Commission's mental health strategy for NSW
- mental health facilities at Cumberland Hospital, Morriston, and Queanbeyan
- measures used to record the time taken for a person discharged from a mental health service to be seen by a caseworker
- recent incident at the Mental Health Unit at Coffs Harbour
- strategies in place to assist schools in which a member of the student body has taken their own life
- strategies in place to manage Post Traumatic Stress Disorder for members of the NSW Police Force and war veterans
- accountability measures in place to record mental health expenditure
- service delivery models used at Queanbeyan Hospital, Maitland and in the lower Hunter
- expansion of Campbelltown Health Service
- services available to treat mental illness among the homeless
- impact of illicit drugs on mental illness
- review of the Mental Health Act 2007.

Education

2.7 A hearing examining the portfolio of Education was held on Tuesday 19 August 2014. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of the Education portfolio:

- cuts to the Commonwealth funding for education in Australia
- impacts of the cuts to Gonski funding
- the effects of the Smart and Skilled reforms
- a reduction in the programs for students with special needs and from non-English speaking backgrounds
- Special Religious Education
- National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program
- drug and alcohol abuse and possession in schools
- investigation into the Australasian College, Broadway
- funding for English as a Second Language [ESL] teaching
- cadet units in schools
- political donation by Registered Training Organisations (RTOs)
- investment in and the deployment of the Learning Management and Business Reform Program.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Health, Medical Research - Monday 18 August 2014

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Jillian Skinner MP	Minister for Health, and Minister for Medical Research
Dr Mary Foley	Secretary, NSW Health
Dr Rohan Hammett	Deputy Secretary, NSW Health
Dr Kerry Chant	Deputy Secretary & Chief Health Officer, NSW Health
Mr Ken Whelan	Deputy Secretary, NSW Health
Ms Karen Crawshaw	Deputy Secretary, NSW Health
Mr John Roach	Chief Financial Officer, NSW Health

Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veteran Affairs - Monday 18 August 2014

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Victor Dominello MP	Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Veteran Affairs
Mr Hakan Haram	CEO, Community Relations Commission
Mr Jason Ardler	General Manager, Aboriginal Affairs
Mr Darren Mitchell	Director, Veterans' Affairs
Mr Gregor Macfie	Director, Policy, Commission for Children & Young People
Ms Helen Rogers	Executive Director, Communities Policy and Programs, NSW Department of Education and Communities
Mr Phillip Peace	Chief Financial Officer, NSW Department of Education and Communities

Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra - Tuesday 19 August 2014

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for the Illawarra
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Family and Community Services
Mr Jim Longley	Chief Executive, Ageing Disability and Home Care, Family and Community Services
Ms Samantha Taylor	Deputy Chief Executive, Ageing Disability and Home Care (People and Choice), Family and Community Services
Mr Alastair Hunter	Deputy Chief Executive, Ageing Disability and Home Care (Service Delivery), Family and Community Services
Mr Stephen Mudge	Chief Financial Officer, Family and Community Services
Mr Philip Berry	Coordinator, NDIS Cross-Agency, Family and Community Services
Mr Anthony Body	Senior Regional Coordinator Illawarra & South East,

Mental Health - Tuesday 19 August 2014

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Jai Rowell MP	Minister for Mental Health
Mr Ken Whelan	Deputy Secretary, System Purchasing and Performance, NSW Ministry of Health
Mr Peter Carter	Director, Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Office, NSW Ministry of Health
Dr Kerry Chant	Chief Health Officer and Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health, NSW Ministry of Health

Education - Tuesday 19 August 2014

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Adrian Piccoli MP	Minister for Education
Dr Michele Bruniges	Secretary, Department of Education and Communities
Mr Peter Riordan	Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services, Department of Education and Communities
Mr Phillip Peace	Chief Financial Officer, Department of Education and Communities
Mr Greg Prior	Deputy Secretary Schools, Department of Education and Communities
Ms Leslie Loble	Deputy Secretary Office of Education, Department of Education and Communities
Mr Tom Alegounarias	President, Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW
Ms Pamela Christie	Managing Director, TAFE NSW

Appendix 2 Tabled documents

Monday 18 August 2014

Health, Medical Research

- 1 Several brochures addressing healthy lifestyle options, as listed below:
 - NSW Aboriginal Knockout Health Challenge – Eat right – Get Active
 - Snapshot June 2014 - Childhood Overweight and Obesity – Healthy Children Initiative
 - Snapshot June 2014 – Adult Overweight and Obesity
 - NSW Get Healthy Information and Coaching Service - The first five years 2009-2013

Appendix 3 Minutes

Minutes no. 43

Monday 18 August 2014

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 8.53 am

1. Members present

Mrs Pavey, *Chair*

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair* (from 9.25 am)

Mr Clarke

Mr Donnelly (substituting for Mr Moselmane)

Miss Gardiner

Dr Kaye (substituting for Ms Barham)

Mr Whan (participating).

2. Apologies

Ms Westwood.

3. Substitutions

The Chair advised that the following members would be substituting for the hearing:

- Mr Donnelly for Mr Moselmane
- Dr Kaye for Ms Barham.

4. Participating member

The Chair advised that Mr Whan would be attending the meeting as a participating member.

5. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Clarke: That draft minutes no. 42 be confirmed.

6. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 25 July 2014 – Email from Mr Alasdair Cameron, Minister Ajaka's office to Budget Estimates secretariat advising of witnesses attending hearing into Ageing, Disability Services and The Illawarra.
- 31 July 2014 – Email from Mr Mitchell Potts, Minister Skinner's office to Budget Estimates secretariat advising of witnesses attending hearing into Health, Medical Research.
- 1 August 2014 – Email from Mr Tom Green, Minister Dominello's office to Budget Estimates secretariat advising of witnesses attending hearing into Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs and Veterans Affairs.
- 1 August 2014 – Email from Kim Withers, Minister Piccoli's office to Budget Estimates secretariat advising of witnesses attending hearing into Education.
- 1 August 2014 – Email from Mr Michael Shaw, Minister Rowell's office to Budget Estimates secretariat advising of witnesses attending hearing into Mental Health.
- 12 August 2014 – Email from Mr Tom Green, Minister Dominello's office regarding procedural issue of timing and grouping of portfolio areas during Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veteran Affairs hearing.

Sent

- 8 July 2014 – Letter from Committee Director to the Hon Victor Dominello MP, Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Veteran Affairs, inviting the minister to the Budget Estimates 2014/15 hearings
- 8 July 2014 – Letter from Committee Director to the Hon John Ajaka MLC, Minister for Ageing, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for the Illawarra, inviting the minister to the Budget Estimates 2014/15 hearings
- 8 July 2014 – Letter from Committee Director to the Hon Jai Rowell MP, Minister for Mental Health, inviting the minister to the Budget Estimates 2014/15 hearings
- 8 July 2014 – Letter from Committee Director to the Hon Adrian Piccoli MP, Minister for Education, inviting the minister to the Budget Estimates 2014/15 hearings
- 8 July 2014 – Letter from Committee Director to the Hon Jillian Skinner MP, Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, inviting the minister to the Budget Estimates 2014/15 hearings.

7. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-2015

7.1 Allocation of questioning

The Chair noted that the Committee had previously resolved that for the initial round of hearings into the Budget Estimates 2014-2015, the sequence of questions to be asked during the hearing would rotate between opposition, cross bench and government members, in that order, with an equal amount of time allocated to each group.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That with no questions asked by government members on Monday 18 August 2014 the:

- Health Portfolio be examined from 9.00 am until 11.00 am.
- Medical Research Portfolio be examined from 11.15 am until 12.25 pm.

7.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2014-2015 – Health, Medical Research

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting and webcasting of proceedings and other matters. The chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

Minister Skinner MP was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Dr Mary Foley, Secretary, NSW Health
- Dr Rohan Hammett, Deputy Secretary, NSW Health
- Dr Kerry Chant, Deputy Secretary & Chief Health Officer, NSW Health
- Mr Ken Whelan, Deputy Secretary, NSW Health
- Ms Karen Crawshaw, Deputy Secretary, NSW Health
- Mr John Roach, Chief Financial Officer, NSW Health.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Health, Medical Research open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Donnelly tendered the following documents:

- Letter dated 28 April 2014 from Tricia Bulic, General Manager, Manning Hospital, Hunter New England Local Health District, to all Maternity Staff and Visiting Medical Officers, advising directions to be taken in response to a number of issues concerning the obstetric service.

Ms Skinner tendered the following documents:

- Several brochures addressing healthy lifestyle options, as listed below:
NSW Aboriginal Knockout Health Challenge – Eat right – Get Active
Snapshot June 2014 - Childhood Overweight and Obesity – Healthy Children Initiative
Snapshot June 2014 – Adult Overweight and Obesity
NSW Get Healthy Information and Coaching Service - The first five years 2009-2013

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12. 23 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

7.3 Tendered documents

Mr Green moved: That the committee accept and keep confidential the following document tendered during the **Health, Medical Research** hearing held on **Monday 18 August 2014**, with a view to revisiting the decision at a later date:

- Letter dated 28 April 2014 regarding Manning Hospital, tendered by Mr Donnelly.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Clarke, Miss Gardiner, Mr Green, Mrs Pavey

Noes: Mr Donnelly, Dr Kaye.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the **Health, Medical Research** hearing held on **Monday 18 August 2014** :

- Several brochures addressing healthy lifestyle options, as listed below:
 - NSW Aboriginal Knockout Health Challenge – Eat right – Get Active
 - Snapshot June 2014 - Childhood Overweight and Obesity – Healthy Children Initiative
 - Snapshot June 2014 – Adult Overweight and Obesity
 - NSW Get Healthy Information and Coaching Service - The first five years 2009-2013

7.4 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee hold a further meeting to deliberate on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Health, Medical Research on a date to be determined following receipt of answers to questions on notice.

8. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 12.38 pm, until 1.45 pm, Monday 18 August 2014, Macquarie Room (*Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veteran Affairs*).

Jenelle Moore

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes no. 44

Monday 18 August 2014

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.45 pm

1. Members present

Mrs Pavey, *Chair*

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*

Ms Barham

Mr Clarke

Mr Donnelly (substituting for Ms Westwood)

Dr Faruqi (substituting for Ms Barham - Citizenship and Communities)

Miss Gardiner

Mr Moselmane

Mr Wong (participating)

2. Apologies

Ms Westwood

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-2015

3.1 Allocation of questioning

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That with no questions asked by government members on Monday 18 August 2014 the:

- Citizenship and Communities portfolios be examined from 2.00 pm until 3.00 pm
- Veterans' Affairs portfolio be examined from 3.00 pm until 3.20 pm.
- Aboriginal Affairs portfolio be examined from 3.35 pm until 4.15 pm.

3.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2014-2015 – Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans' Affairs

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting and webcasting of proceedings and other matters. The chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

Minister Dominello MP was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Mr Hakan Harman, CEO, Community Relations Commission
- Mr Gregor Macfie, Director, Policy, Commission for Children and Young People
- Ms Helen Rogers, Executive Director, Communities Policy and Programs, NSW Department of Education and Communities
- Mr Phillip Peace, Chief Financial Officer, NSW Department of Education and Communities
- Mr Darren Mitchell, Director, Veterans' Affairs
- Mr Jason Ardler, General Manager, Aboriginal Affairs.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans' Affairs open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Green joined the meeting.

Dr Faruqi left the meeting.

Ms Barham joined the meeting.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.17 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

3.3 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee hold a further meeting to deliberate on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans' Affairs on a date to be determined following receipt of answers to questions on notice.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.20 pm, until 8.45 am, Tuesday 19 August 2014, Room 814/815 (*Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra, Mental Health*).

Merrin Thompson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes no. 45

Tuesday 19 August 2014

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 8.45 am

1. Members present

Mrs Pavey, Chair

Mr Green, Deputy Chair (from 1.15 pm)

Mr Clarke

Miss Gardiner

Dr Kaye (substituting for Ms Barham – Mental Health)

Mr Searle (substituting for Mr Moslemane – Mental Health)

Ms Voltz (substituting for Ms Westwood – Mental Health)

Ms Westwood

Mr Wong (substituting for Mr Moselmane – Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra)

2. Apologies

Mr Green, Deputy Chair (until 1.15 pm)

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-2015

3.1 Allocation of questioning

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That with no questions asked by government members on Tuesday 19 August 2014 the:

- Ageing and Disability Services portfolios be examined from 9.00 am until 10.20 am
- The Illawarra portfolio be examined from 10.40 am until 11.20 am
- Mental Health portfolio be examined from 12.15 pm until 12.55 pm.

3.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2014-2015 – Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The chair made an opening statement regarding proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

Minister Ajaka MLC was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, Family and Community Services
- Mr Jim Longley, Chief Executive, Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Family and Community Services
- Ms Samantha Taylor, Deputy Chief Executive, Ageing, Disability and Home Care (People and Choice), Family and Community Services
- Mr Alastair Hunter, Deputy Chief Executive, Ageing, Disability and Home Care (Service Delivery), Family and Community Services
- Mr Stephen Mudge, Chief Financial Officer, Family and Community Services
- Mr Philip Berry, Coordinator, NDIS Cross-Agency, Family and Community Services
- Mr Anthony Body, Senior Regional Coordinator Illawarra & South East.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Ageing, Disability Services, and The Illawarra open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

Ms Barham left the meeting at 10:50.

Mr Shoebridge and Mr Wong left the meeting.

3.3 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2014-2015 – Mental Health

Mr Searle and Ms Voltz joined the meeting.

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The chair made an opening statement regarding proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

Minister Rowell MP was admitted and examined.

The following witness was sworn and examined:

- Mr Peter Carter, Director, Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Office, NSW Ministry of Health
- The following witnesses were admitted, having been previously sworn at an earlier hearing:
- Mr Ken Whelan, Deputy Secretary, System Purchasing and Performance, NSW Ministry of Health
- Dr Kerry Chant, Chief Health Officer and Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health, NSW Ministry of Health.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Mental Health open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12.59 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

3.4 Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 18 August 2014 – email from Ms Beverly Duffy, Clerk Assistant – Upper House Committees regarding the treatment of a confidential letter tendered at the hearing on 18 August 2014.
- 18 August 2014 – From Dr Mary Foley, Secretary, NSW Health to the Committee Clerk regarding a point of clarification following her appearance before the committee on Monday 18 August 2014.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the correspondence from Dr Foley be published.

3.5 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee hold a further meeting to deliberate on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra on a date to be determined following receipt of answers to questions on notice.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 1.04 pm, until 1.45 pm, Tuesday 19 August 2014, Room 814/815 (Education).

Donna Hogan
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes no. 46

Tuesday 19 August 2014

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.50 pm

1. Members present

Mrs Pavey, Chair
 Mr Clarke
 Mr Donnelly (substituting for Mr Moselmane)
 Miss Gardiner
 Dr Kaye (substituting for Ms Barham)
 Revd Nile (substituting for Mr Green)
 Ms Westwood

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-2015

2.1 Allocation of questioning

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Clarke: That with no questions asked by government members on Tuesday 19 August 2014 the Education portfolio be examined from 2.00 pm until 4.40 pm.

2.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2014-2015 – Education

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

Miss Gardiner and Dr Kaye joined the meeting.

The chair made an opening statement regarding proceedings and other matters. The chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

Minister Piccoli MP was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Dr Michele Bruniges, Secretary, Department of Education and Communities
- Mr Peter Riordan, Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services, Department of Education and Communities
- Mr Phillip Peace, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Education and Communities
- Mr Greg Prior, Deputy Secretary Schools, Department of Education and Communities
- Ms Leslie Loble, Deputy Secretary Office of Education, Department of Education and Communities
- Mr Tom Alegounarias, President, Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW
- Ms Pamela Christie, Managing Director, TAFE NSW.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Education open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Ms Westwood left the meeting at 4.30 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.45 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

2.2 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the committee hold a further meeting to deliberate on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Education on a date to be determined following receipt of answers to questions on notice.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.47 pm, *sine die*.

Shu-Fang Wei
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes no. 47

Tuesday 16 September 2014

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.18 pm

1. Members presentMrs Pavey, *Chair*Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*

Ms Barham

Mr Clarke

Miss Gardiner

Mr Moselmane

Ms Westwood

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Clarke: That draft minutes no. 43 – 46 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received (*previously circulated*)

- 10 September 2014 – From Minister Skinner providing answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions for the portfolios of Health, Medical Research
- 11 September 2014 – From Minister Dominello providing answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions for the portfolios of Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs
- 11 September 2014 – From Minister Ajaka providing answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions for the portfolios of Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra
- 11 September 2014 – From Minister Rowell providing answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions for the portfolio of Mental Health
- 11 September 2014 – From Minister Piccoli providing answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions for the portfolio of Education
- 12 September 2014 – From Minister Skinner providing corrections to answers to supplementary questions for the portfolios of Health, Medical Research
- 12 September 2014 – From Minister Dominello providing corrections to answers to supplementary questions for the portfolios of Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs.

Sent

- 21 August 2014 – From the Secretariat to Minister Skinner, Minister for Health, Medical Research, forwarding highlighted transcript and supplementary questions
- 21 August 2014 – From the Secretariat to Minister Dominello, Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs, forwarding highlighted transcript and supplementary questions
- 22 August 2014 – From the Secretariat to Minister Ajaka, Minister for Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra, forwarding highlighted transcript and supplementary questions
- 22 August 2014 – From the Secretariat to Minister Rowell, Minister for Mental Health, forwarding highlighted transcript and supplementary questions
- 22 August 2014 – From the Secretariat to Minister Piccoli, Minister for Education, forwarding highlighted transcript and supplementary questions.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-2015 – Supplementary hearings

Mr Clarke moved: That the committee hold no further hearings to consider matters relating to the portfolios of Health, Medical Research, Citizenship and Communities, Aboriginal Affairs, Veterans Affairs, Ageing, Disability Services, The Illawarra, Mental Health, Education.

Question put.

The Committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Clarke, Miss Gardiner, Mr Green, Mrs Pavey

Noes: Ms Barham, Mr Moselmane, Ms Westwood.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 2.24 pm, *sine die*.

Sarah Dunn

Clerk to the Committee

Draft minutes no. 48

Wednesday 12 November 2014

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, 1.09 pm

6. Members present

Mrs Pavey, *Chair*

Ms Barham

Mr Clarke

Miss Gardiner

Mr Moselmane

Ms Westwood

7. Apologies**8. Previous minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood : That draft minutes no. 47 be confirmed.

9. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2014-2015**9.1 Report deliberative**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Clarke:

- That the draft report be the report of the committee and that the committee present the report to the House;
- That the transcripts of evidence, submissions, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, minutes of proceedings and correspondence relating to the inquiry be tabled in the House with the report;
- That upon tabling, all transcripts of evidence, submissions, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, minutes of proceedings and correspondence relating to the inquiry not already made public, be made public by the committee, except for those documents kept confidential by resolution of the committee;
- That the committee secretariat correct any typographical, grammatical and formatting errors prior to tabling;
- That dissenting statements be provided to the secretariat within 24 hours of receipt of the minutes;
- That the report be tabled by Wednesday 19 November 2014.

10. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 1.10 pm *sine die*.

Stewart Smith

Clerk to the Committee