

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Budget Estimates 2008-2009

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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 2008-2009 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. That the initial hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Monday 13 October 2008

GPSC 1	Roads	9.15 am - 11.00 am
GPSC 2	Health, Central Coast	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Ports & Waterways	11.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Finance, Infrastructure, Regulatory Reform	2.00 pm - 4.30 pm
GPSC 2	Ageing, Disability Services	2.00 pm - 4.30 pm
GPSC 1	The Legislature	4.45 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 2	Aboriginal Affairs	4.45 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Two: Tuesday 14 October 2008

GPSC 1	Treasury	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 3	Local Government	9.15 am - 11.45 am
GPSC 3	Mental Health	12.00 pm - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Premier	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC 3	Police	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
GPSC 3	Lands	4.15 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC 3	Emergency Services	5.15 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 1	Arts	5.15 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Three: Wednesday 15 October 2008

GPSC 2	Education & Training	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 4	Transport & Illawarra	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 2	Women	2.00 pm - 2.45 pm
GPSC 2	Community Services	3.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 4	Planning, Redfern Waterloo	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Four: Thursday 16 October 2008

GPSC 5	Climate Change and the Environment	9.15 am - 11.45 am
GPSC 4	Fair Trading, Citizenship	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 5	Commerce	12.00 pm - 1.00 pm
GPSC 4	Small Business, Science & Medical Research	2.00 pm - 3.45 pm
GPSC 5	Primary Industries, Mineral Resources	2.00 pm - 6.30 pm
GPSC 4	Tourism, Hunter	4.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Five: Friday 17 October 2008

GPSC 5	Energy	9.15 am - 11.15 am
GPSC 3	Attorney General, Justice, Industrial Relations	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 5	State Development	11.30 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 3	Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
GPSC 5	Water, Rural Affairs, Regional Development	2.00 pm - 4.15 pm
GPSC 5	Housing, Western Sydney	4.30 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 3	Juvenile Justice, Volunteering, Youth	4.15 pm - 6.00 pm

4. That an initial round of supplementary hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: 17 November 2008

GPSC 1

GPSC 2

Day Two: 18 November 2008

GPSC 1

GPSC 3

Day Three: 19 November 2008

GPSC 4

GPSC 2

Day Four: 20 November 2008

GPSC 4

GPSC 5

Day Five: 21 November 2008

GPSC 5

GPSC 3

5. That the committees may hold additional supplementary hearings after 21 November 2008 as required.

6. That each scheduled day for the initial round of hearings will begin at 9:15 am and conclude by 6:00 pm except on Thursday 16 October 2008 on which day hearings may conclude by 6.30 pm.
7. The committees must hear evidence in public.
8. 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.
9. There is no provision under this resolution for a Minister to make an opening statement before the committee commences questioning
10. A daily Hansard record is to be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
11. The committees are to present a final report to the House by the first sitting day in March 2009.
12. Members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee during a Budget Estimates hearing and up to two days following.
13. 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.

The terms of reference were referred to the Committee by the House on 5 December 2007, see *LC Minutes* (5/12/2007), 423-426, amended by *LC Minutes* (26/6/2008) 721-723, amended by *LC Minutes* (24/09/2008) 785-787

Committee membership

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Trevor Khan MLC	The Nationals	
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Roy Smith MLC	Shooters Party	
The Hon Helen Westwood MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

Ms Sylvia Hale MLC	The Greens
The Hon Don Harwin MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Ian West MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon David Clarke MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Mick Veitch MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Eddie Obeid MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Duncan Gay MLC	The Nationals
Mr Ian Cohen MLC	The Greens
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Henry Tsang MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Robyn Parker MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party

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Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Budget Estimates 2008-2009. 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.

During the initial round of hearings the Committee held eight hearings, receiving 15 hours of evidence, to examine the portfolio areas of Local Government, Mental Health, Police, Lands, Emergency Services, Attorney General, Justice, Industrial Relations, Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation, Juvenile Justice, Volunteering and Youth.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank the Ministers and their officers, and the Committee Secretariat who assisted the Committee during this important Inquiry. I am grateful to my fellow committee members for their contributions to the Inquiry process.



Hon Amanda Fazio MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2008-2009 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On 5 December 2007, the Legislative Council resolved ‘that the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2008-2009 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.’¹
- 1.2 The resolution (referred to as the Budget Estimates Resolution) required each committee to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the House by the first sitting day in March 2009.²

Hearings

- 1.3 The Committee held eight public hearings as follows:
- Tuesday 14 October 2008 – Local Government
 - Tuesday 14 October 2008 – Mental Health
 - Tuesday 14 October 2008 – Police
 - Tuesday 14 October 2008 – Lands
 - Tuesday 14 October 2008 – Emergency Services
 - Friday 17 October 2008 – Attorney General, Justice, Industrial Relations
 - Friday 17 October 2008 – Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation
 - Friday 17 October 2008 – Juvenile Justice, Volunteering, Youth.
- 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/gpsc3.

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 *LC Minutes* (5/12/2007), 423-426

² *LC Minutes* (5/12/2007), 423-426, amended by *LC Minutes* (26/6/2008) 721-723, amended by *LC Minutes* (24/09/2008) 785-787

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Local Government

2.1 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Local Government was held on Tuesday 14 October 2008. The following issues were raised:

- Regulation of caucusing on development applications
- Matters relating to individual local councils, including the Fairfield, Port Macquarie Hastings, Canterbury and Lane Cove Councils
- Approval process for redundancy payments to former Wollongong Council staff
- Integrated planning and asset management
- Findings of Better Practice reviews of councils
- Government response to the May 2006 Independent Inquiry into the Financial Sustainability of NSW Local Government (the Allen Report)
- Improving access to local government services for Aboriginal people
- Support for local governments when entering strategic alliances
- Safety measures relating to dogs, and the Safe Pets Out There (SPOT) program
- Representation of women in local government.

Mental Health

2.2 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Mental Health was held on Tuesday 14 October 2008. The following issues were raised:

- Treatment facilities for patients with anorexia nervosa
- Segregation of men and women in mental health facilities
- Delivery of mental health infrastructure projects
- Delivery of mental health services in the Illawarra
- Role of, and support for, consumer mental health workers
- Admission of mental health patients to hospital emergency departments.

Police

2.3 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Police was held on Tuesday 14 October 2008. The following issues were raised:

- Complaints being examined by the Police Integrity Commission
- Joint investigations conducted by the Police Integrity Commission and the NSW Crime Commission
- Allegations concerning Mark Standen, formerly of the NSW Crime Commission
- Actions to control irresponsible and dangerous drivers, such as wheel clamping
- Use of Taser stun guns, including their regulation, decisions as to which officers are allowed to use them, and the training of these officers
- Wearing of name-badges by police officers
- Timeframe for responding to Freedom of Information requests
- Response to attempted child abductions
- Data on alcohol sales and the link to alcohol-related violence.

Lands

2.4 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Lands was held on Tuesday 14 October 2008. The following issues were raised:

- Development of Port Macquarie Marina and the impact on Westport Park reserve
- Travelling stock reserves in the Hunter and perpetual grazing leases
- Establishment of Harrington Beach State Park
- Funding for the manual opening of the Manning River at Farquhar inlet
- Sale of the road reserve at Wallaga Beach
- Time taken to process Aboriginal land claims.

Emergency Services

2.5 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Emergency Services was held on Tuesday 14 October 2008. The following issues were raised:

- Fires in the Australian Capital Territory in January 2003
- Maintenance and upgrade of State Emergency Services facilities
- Funding of the marine coastal patrol
- Retained or part-time fire stations

- Volunteer bush fire fighters, including the cadetship program
- Transfer of rescue units from the NSW Ambulance Service to NSW Fire Brigades
- Preparedness for the upcoming bushfire season including hazard reduction work
- Movement of nuclear materials
- Climate change and future funding of the Emergency Services portfolio.

Attorney General, Justice, Industrial Relations

2.6 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Attorney General, Justice and Industrial Relations was held on Friday 17 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Attorney General portfolio:

- Budget for the Attorney General portfolio and the impact on court facilities and staff numbers
- Law Access service
- Court Services restructure and re-grading of positions
- Progress towards a uniform national spent convictions law
- Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Warrants) Act, including preventative detention orders and covert search powers
- Operation and funding of the regional solicitors scheme
- Trends in use of mediation
- Allocation of resources in response to shifting workloads
- Process for making judicial appointments
- Operation of the Crimes (Serious Sex Offenders) Act
- Initiatives for dealing with juvenile offenders
- Levels of public confidence in the judicial system
- Contract to develop the Justice Link information technology system
- Ramifications from the arrest of Mark Standen, formerly of the NSW Crime Commission
- Technology for vulnerable witnesses in rural and regional areas.

2.7 The following issues were raised in relation to the Justice portfolio:

- Number of staff employed in the media unit of the Department of Corrective Services and their salaries
- Staff levels at Albury and Wagga Wagga correctional facilities
- Levels of overtime paid to Corrective Services staff

- Impact of the Mini-Budget on the Corrective Services portfolio
- Operation of correctional facilities by private enterprise
- Future of Long Bay Prison Hospital
- Management of high security inmates who are a threat to the correctional system.

2.8 The following issues were raised in relation to the Industrial Relations portfolio:

- Future of the NSW industrial relations system and the impact of the anticipated Commonwealth reforms, including the future of the NSW Industrial Relations Commission
- Procurement process and site inspections of contracted suppliers
- Services provided by the Office of Industrial Relations.

Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation

2.9 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Gaming and Racing, and Sport and Recreation, was held on Friday 17 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Gaming and Racing portfolio:

- Betting Exchange Operations/BETFARE
- The Cameron Review
- Just Enough Faith Foundation (JEFF)
- Measures to control problem gambling
- Political donations from the hotel and gaming industries
- Responsible Gambling Fund
- Review of the NSW Registered Clubs Industry by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Review Tribunal
- Measures to control problem drinking
- Licences for small bars.

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

- Volunteers in sport
- Legacy of Olympic venues
- Improving amenity and patronage of Centennial Park
- Sports Rage
- Gender parity in sport
- Female boxing

- V8 Super Cars and Eastern Creek raceway
- Indigenous Youth Leadership Sports Camp
- Funding for people with mental illnesses to participate in sport.

Juvenile Justice, Youth, Volunteering

2.11 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Juvenile Justice, Youth and Volunteering was held on Friday 17 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Juvenile Justice portfolio:

- Juniperina Detention Centre
- Number of funded places in the Juvenile Justice system
- Transfers to Kariiong Detention Centre
- Disciplinary investigations of employees of the Department of Juvenile Justice
- Amendments to the Bail Act and the impact on the number of young people on remand
- Number of young people on remand because they are unable to meet bail conditions regarding suitable accommodation
- Transfer of juvenile detainees to adult prisons
- Programs to reduce re-offending by young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- NSW Inter-Agency Plan to tackle child sexual abuse in Aboriginal communities
- Behaviour management in detention centres.

2.12 The following issues were raised in relation to the Youth portfolio:

- Strategies to address youth homelessness and mental health issues
- Youth Homelessness Summit
- Closure of the Port Macquarie skate park and Police and Citizens' Youth Club
- Compliance audit of employers by the Commission on Children and Young People
- Suicide rates among gay and lesbian young people.

2.13 The following issues were raised in relation to the Volunteering portfolio:

- Impact of volunteers on the NSW economy
- Development of an Australian Standard for Volunteering
- Participation of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse groups.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

1. Local Government – Tuesday 14 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Barbara Perry MP	Minister for Local Government
Mr Garry Payne	Director-General, Department of Local Government
Mr Grahame Gibbs	Director, Performance Management and Compliance, Department of Local Government

2. Mental Health – Tuesday 14 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Barbara Perry MP	Minister for Mental Health
Dr Richard Matthews	Deputy Director-General, Strategic Development, Department of Health
Mr David McGrath	Director of Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Department of Health

3. Police – Tuesday 14 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Tony Kelly MLC	Minister for Police
Mr Les Tree	Director-General, Ministry for Police
Mr Andrew Scipione	Commissioner, NSW Police Force
Ms Fran McPherson	Executive Director, Corporate Services, NSW Police Force
Mr John Pritchard	Commissioner, Police Integrity Commission
Mr Phillip Bradley	Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission

4. Lands – Tuesday 14 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Tony Kelly MLC	Minister for Lands
Mr Warwick Watkins	Director-General, Department of Lands; Registrar General; Surveyor General and Soil Conservation Commissioner
Mr Bob Costello	Director, Finance and Corporate Support, Department of Lands.

5. Emergency Services – Tuesday 14 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Tony Kelly MLC	Minister for Emergency Services
Mr Philip McNamara	Director-General, State Emergency Service
Mr John Benson	Deputy Commissioner, NSW Fire Brigades
Mr David Bailey	Director, Finance and Administration, NSW Fire Brigades
Ms Michelle McCabe	Executive Officer to the Commissioner, NSW Fire Brigades
Mr Shane Fitzsimmons	Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service

Name	Position and Organisation
Mr Peter Hennessy	Director of Finance, NSW Rural Fire Service

6. Attorney General, Justice, Industrial relations – Friday 17 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Hatzistergos MLC	Attorney General and Minister for Justice and Industrial Relations
Mr Laurie Glanfield	Director-General, Attorney General's Department
Ms Patricia Manser	Deputy Director-General, Office of Industrial Relations
Mr Don Jones	Assistant Director-General, Industrial Relations Service Delivery, Office of Industrial Relations
Mr Ron Woodham	Commissioner, Department of Corrective Services
Mr Gerry Schipp	Deputy Commissioner, Corporate Services, Department of Corrective Services
Mr Luke Grant	Assistant Commissioner, Offender Services, Department of Corrective Services

7. Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation – Friday 17 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Kevin Greene MP	Minister for Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation
Ms Carol Mills	Director-General, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation
Mr Michael Foggo	Commissioner, Officer of Liquor, Gaming and Racing, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation

8. Juvenile Justice, Volunteering and Youth – Friday 17 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Graham West MP	Minister for Juvenile Justice, Volunteering and Youth
Mr Peter Muir	Director-General, Department of Juvenile Justice
Ms Valda Ruisis	Deputy Director-General (Operations), Department of Juvenile Justice
Mr Kevin Hogan	Acting Deputy Director-General (Management Services), Department of Juvenile Justice
Mr Tony Wiseheart	Project Director, Volunteering Unit, Office of Strategic Operations, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Ms Gillian Calvert	Commissioner, Commission for Children and Young People
Ms Jennifer Mason	Director-General, Department of Community Services
Ms Sonja Stewart	Executive Director Communities Division, Department of Community Services

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes No. 10

Wednesday 24 September 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 10.46am

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka (*Deputy Chair*) (10:50 am)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Mr Trevor Khan

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That draft Minutes No 9 be confirmed.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft Minutes No 8 be amended to include the apologies of Mr Donnelly and Ms Westwood.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft Minutes No 8, as amended, be confirmed.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009

The Clerk advised the arrangements for the 2008-09 Budget Estimates hearings regarding catering, briefing sessions for members and their staff, filming and witness requests.

The Committee noted no lunch would be provided during the one-hour break between morning and afternoon hearings.

Mr John Ajaka joined the meeting.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11am until 9am Tuesday, 14 October 2008.

Steven Reynolds

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 11

Tuesday, 14 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9 am

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (Chair)

Mr John Ajaka (Deputy Chair)

Ms Sylvia Hale (Rhiannon)

Mr Don Harwin (Khan)

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Ian West (Donnelly)

Ms Helen Westwood

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Hale to substitute for Ms Rhiannon
- Mr Harwin to substitute for Mr Khan
- Mr West to substitute for Mr Donnelly.

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence received:

- 13 October 2008 – From the Attorney General's Office to the Secretariat regarding the order of questioning for the examination of the portfolios of Attorney General, Justice and Industrial Relations on Friday 17 October 2008.

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From the Secretariat to Minister Perry, Minister for Local Government, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Harwin: That during the Budget Estimates hearing on Friday 17 October 2008 for the portfolios of Attorney General, Justice and Industrial Relations, the Attorney General portfolio be examined for 1 ¾ hours, the Justice portfolio for 1 hour, and the Industrial Relations portfolio for 1 hour, and that the portfolios be examined in that order.

4. **Conduct of hearing**

Allocation of question time

Resolved, on the motion of Mr West: That for the initial round of hearings into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009, the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Cross Bench and Government members, in that order, with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Return date for answers to questions on notice

The Committee indicated their intention not to vary the Budget Estimates Resolution requiring answers to questions on notice to be returned within 21 days.

Publication of answers to questions on notice

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Harwin: That, according to section 4 of the Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975 and Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorise the Clerk of the Committee to publish the answers provided to questions on notice, except those answers for which a request for confidentiality is requested, after these answers have been circulated to committee members.

5. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded the Minister that she did not need to be sworn, as she had sworn an oath to her office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Garry Payne, Director-General, Department of Local Government
- Mr Grahame Gibbs, Director, Performance Management and Compliance, Department of Local Government.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Local Government open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 11.46 am. The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11.46 am until Tuesday, 14 October 2008 at 12 pm.

Simon Johnston

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 12

Tuesday, 14 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 12.00 pm

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (Chair)

Mr David Clarke (Khan)

Mrs Melinda Pavey (Ajaka)

Ms Lee Rhiannon

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Mick Veitch (Westwood)

Ms Lynda Voltz (Donnelly)

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Clarke to substitute for Mr Khan
- Mrs Pavey to substitute for Mr Ajaka
- Mr Veitch to substitute for Ms Westwood
- Ms Voltz to substitute for Mr Donnelly.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From Secretariat to Minister Perry, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Mental Health), regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

4. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Perry that she did not need to be sworn, as she had sworn an oath to her office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Dr Richard Matthews, Deputy Director-General, Strategic Development, Department of Health.
- Mr David McGrath, Director of Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Department of Health

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

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 1.00 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 1.00 pm until Tuesday, 14 October 2008 at 2.00 pm.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 13

Tuesday, 14 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00 pm

1. **Members present**

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Tony Catanzariti (Westwood)

Mr Mike Gallacher (Khan)

Ms Sylvia Hale (Rhiannon)

Mr Eddie Obeid (Donnelly)

Mr Roy Smith

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Catanzariti to substitute for Ms Westwood
- Mr Gallacher to substitute for Mr Khan
- Ms Hale to substitute for Ms Rhiannon
- Mr Obeid to substitute for Mr Donnelly

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From Secretariat to Minister Kelly, Minister for Police, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

4. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded the Minister that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Les Tree, Director-General, Ministry for Police
- Mr Andrew Scipione, Commissioner, NSW Police Force
- Ms Fran McPherson, Executive Director, Corporate Services, NSW Police Force
- Mr John Pritchard, Commissioner, Police Integrity Commission
- Mr Phillip Bradley, Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Police open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.03 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4.03 pm until Tuesday, 14 October 2008 at 4.15 pm.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 14

Tuesday, 14 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4.15 pm

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Mr Duncan Gay (Ajaka)

Ms Sylvia Hale (Rhiannon)

Mr Eddie Obeid (Westwood)

Mrs Melinda Pavey (Khan)

Ms Lee Rhiannon

Mr Roy Smith

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Gay to substitute for Mr Ajaka
- Ms Hale to substitute for Ms Rhiannon
- Mr Obeid to substitute for Ms Westwood
- Mrs Pavey to substitute for Mr Khan.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From Secretariat to Minister Kelly, Minister for Lands, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

4. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Kelly that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Warwick Watkins, Director-General, Department of Lands; Registrar General; Surveyor General and Soil Conservation Commissioner
- Mr Bob Costello, Director, Finance and Corporate Support, Department of Lands.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Lands open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5:00 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 5:00 pm until Tuesday, 14 October 2008 at 5.15 pm.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 15

Tuesday, 14 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 5.15 pm

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr Duncan Gay (*Ajaka*)

Mr Ian Cohen (*Rhiannon*)

Mr Matthew Mason-Cox (*Khan*)

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Henry Tsang (*Donnelly*) (from 5:20 pm)

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Cohen to substitute for Ms Rhiannon
- Mr Gay to substitute for Mr Ajaka
- Mr Matthew Mason-Cox to substitute for Mr Khan
- Mr Tsang to substitute for Mr Donnelly.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From Secretariat to Minister Kelly, Minister for Emergency Services, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

4. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Kelly that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Philip McNamara, Director-General, State Emergency Service
- Mr John Benson, Deputy Commissioner, NSW Fire Brigades
- Mr David Bailey, Director, Finance and Administration, NSW Fire Brigades
- Ms Michelle McCabe, Executive Officer to the Commissioner, NSW Fire Brigades
- Mr Shane Fitzsimmons, Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service
- Mr Peter Hennessy, Director of Finance, NSW Rural Fire Service.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Emergency Services open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 6:02 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. Deliberative meeting

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That the Committee defer consideration of whether to hold supplementary hearings to consider matters relating to the following portfolios until the answers to questions on notice have been received:

- Local Government
- Mental Health
- Police
- Lands
- Emergency Services.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 6:10 pm until Friday, 17 October 2008 at 9.00 am.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 16

Friday, 17 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.03 am

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Mr Mike Gallacher (Khan)

Ms Sylvia Hale (participating)

Ms Lee Rhiannon

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Gallacher to substitute for Mr Khan.

3. Participating members

The Chair advised that the following members would be attending the meeting as participating members:

- Ms Hale.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From Secretariat to Minister Hatzistergos, Attorney General, Minister for Justice and Minister for Industrial Relations, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.
- 16 October 2008 – From the Office of the Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering and Minister for Youth to the Chair regarding the order of questioning for the examination of the portfolios of Juvenile Justice, Volunteering and Youth on Friday 17 October 2008.

Resolved, on the motion that Mr Ajaka: That for the hearing to examine the Juvenile Justice, Volunteering and Youth portfolios on Friday 17 October, Juvenile Justice be examined for the first 1 ¼ hours and Volunteering and Youth for the remaining 30 minutes.

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That the Committee defer consideration of whether to hold supplementary hearings to consider matters relating to the following portfolios until the answers to questions on notice have been received:

- Attorney General
- Justice
- Industrial Relations
- Gaming and Racing
- Sport and Recreation
- Juvenile Justice
- Youth
- Volunteering.

6. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded the Attorney General that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Laurie Glanfield, Director-General, Attorney General's Department
- Ms Patricia Manser, Deputy Director-General, Office of Industrial Relations
- Mr Don Jones, Assistant Director-General, Industrial Relations Service Delivery, Office of Industrial Relations
- Mr Ron Woodham, Commissioner, Department of Corrective Services
- Mr Gerry Schipp, Deputy Commissioner, Corporate Services, Department of Corrective Services
- Mr Luke Grant, Assistant Commissioner, Offender Services, Department of Corrective Services.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Attorney General, Justice and Industrial Relations open for examination.

The Attorney General and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

During evidence, the Attorney General offered to supply the Committee with a briefing on how the Justice Link system works.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12:57 pm. The public and media withdrew.

7. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 12:57 pm until Friday, 17 October 2008 at 2.00 pm.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 17

Friday, 17 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00 pm

1. **Members present**

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Mr Trevor Khan

Ms Robyn Parker (*Ajaka*)

Ms Lee Rhiannon

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Parker to substitute for Mr Ajaka.

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From Secretariat to Minister Greene, Minister for Gaming and Racing and Minister for Sport and Recreation, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

4. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded the Minister that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Ms Carol Mills, Director-General, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation
- Mr Michael Foggo, Commissioner, Officer of Liquor, Gaming and Racing, Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Gaming and Racing and Sport and Recreation open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3:48 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 3:48 pm until Friday, 17 October 2008 at 4.15 pm.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 18

Friday, 17 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4.15 pm

1. **Members present**

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Greg Donnelly

Ms Catherine Cusack (Khan)

Ms Lee Rhiannon

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Mick Veitch (Westwood)

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that she had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Cusack to substitute for Mr Khan
- Mr Veitch to substitute for Ms Westwood.

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008 – From Secretariat to Minister West, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Volunteering and Minister for Youth, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

4. **Conduct of hearing**

Order for examination of portfolios

At Meeting no. 16, the Committee resolved that: The Juvenile Justice portfolio be examined for the first 1 ¼ hours and the Volunteering and Youth portfolios be examined for the remaining 30 minutes.

5. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2008-2009**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded the Minister that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Peter Muir, Director-General, Department of Juvenile Justice

- Ms Valda Ruis, Deputy Director-General (Operations), Department of Juvenile Justice
- Mr Kevin Hogan, Acting Deputy Director-General (Management Services), Department of Juvenile Justice
- Mr Tony Wiseheart, Project Director, Volunteering Unit, Office of Strategic Operations, Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Ms Gillian Calvert, Commissioner, Commission for Children and Young People
- Ms Jennifer Mason, Director-General, Department of Community Services
- Ms Sonja Stewart, Executive Director Communities Division, Department of Community Services.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Juvenile Justice, Volunteering and Youth open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5:58 pm. The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 5:58 pm *sine die*.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 19

Thursday 13 November 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 6.40 pm

1. Members present

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Chair*)

Mr John Ajaka

Mr Trevor Khan

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Apologies

Mr Donnelly

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That Draft Minutes No.'s 10-18 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letters providing answers to questions taken on notice during the Budget Estimates hearings on Tuesday 14 October 2008:
 - 7 November – Minister Perry (Local Government)
 - 7 November – Minister Perry (Mental Health)
 - 7 November – Minister Kelly (Police)

- 7 November – Minister Kelly (Lands)
 - 7 November 2008 – Minister Kelly (Emergency Services).
- Letters providing answers to questions taken on notice during the Budget Estimates hearings on Friday 17 October 2008:
 - 12 November – Attorney General Hatzistergos (Attorney General, Justice, Industrial Relations)
 - 12 November – Minister Greene (Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation)
 - 12 November – Minister West (Juvenile Justice, Volunteering, Youth).

Sent

- 17 October 2008 – Letters from the Secretariat requesting answers to Budget Estimates questions on notice by 5 pm Friday 7 November 2008, to:
 - Minister Perry – Local Government, Mental Health
 - Minister Kelly – Police, Lands, Emergency Services.
- 22 October 2008 – Letters from the Secretariat requesting answers to Budget Estimates questions on notice by 5 pm Wednesday 12 November 2008, to:
 - Attorney General Hatzistergos – Attorney General, Justice, Industrial Relations
 - Minister Greene – Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation
 - Minister West – Juvenile Justice, Youth, Volunteering.

5. Budget Estimates – question on notice for Juvenile Justice portfolio

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ajaka: That Minister West be requested to provide the answer to Ms Rhiannon's question by 5 pm Friday 28 November 2008.

6. Budget Estimates supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Ajaka: That the Committee hold no further hearings to consider matters relating to the portfolios of:

- Local Government
- Mental Health
- Lands
- Emergency Services
- Attorney General
- Justice
- Industrial Relations
- Gaming and Racing
- Sport and Recreation
- Juvenile Justice
- Youth
- Volunteering.

Mr Khan moved: That the Committee hold a further hearing to examine the Police portfolio on Friday 21 November for two hours.

Question put.

Committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Ajaka, Mr Khan

Noes: Ms Fazio, Mr Smith, Ms Westwood.

Question resolved in the negative.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 6.50 pm *sine die*.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee