

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1

Budget Estimates 2007-2008

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How to contact the committee

Members of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1 can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

General Purpose Standing Committee 1

Legislative Council

Parliament House, Macquarie Street

Sydney New South Wales 2000

Internet www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc1

Email Budget.Estimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Telephone 02 9230 3544

Facsimile 02 9230 3416

Terms of Reference

1. That the resolution appointing five general purpose standing committees reflecting Government Ministers' portfolio responsibilities adopted by this House on 10 May 2007 be amended to reflect the changes to Government Ministers' portfolio responsibilities as follows:
 - (a) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
 - Premier
 - Citizenship
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Western Sydney
 - Treasury
 - Infrastructure
 - Hunter
 - The Legislature
 - Roads
 - Commerce
 - (b) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2
 - Education and Training
 - Industrial Relations
 - Assistant finance
 - Central Coast
 - Fair Trading
 - Youth
 - Volunteering
 - Ageing
 - Disability Services
 - Health
 - (c) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3
 - Police
 - Illawarra
 - Attorney General
 - Justice
 - Emergency Services
 - Water Utilities
 - Gaming and Racing
 - Sport and Recreation
 - Local Government
 - Aboriginal Affairs
 - (d) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4
 - Transport
 - Finance
 - Planning
 - Redfern Waterloo
 - Arts
 - Science and Medical Research

Women
 Community Services
 Small Business
 Regulatory Reform
 Ports

(e) General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Primary Industries
 State Development
 Mineral Resources
 Energy
 Lands
 Rural Affairs
 Regional Development
 Waterways
 Housing
 Tourism
 Climate Change and Environment
 Water.

2. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2007-2008 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.
3. The committees are to consider the Budget Estimates in accordance with the allocation of portfolios to the committees.
4. The committees must hear evidence in public.
5. Not more than two committees are to hear evidence simultaneously.
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. A daily Hansard record is to be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
8. That the Leader of the Government is to provide to each Committee, by Friday 13 July 2007, a schedule outlining the attendance of relevant ministers to appear before each committee, for the committee's consideration.
9. The committees may hold supplementary hearings as required.
10. The committees are to present a final report to the House by Friday 30 November 2007.¹
11. Committee members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee up to two days following a hearing.

¹ Extended to first sitting Thursday in March 2008 by resolution of the House Wednesday 7 November 2007, *Minutes of Proceedings, No 26*, 1st Session of the 54th Parliament, 7 November 2007, item 11

12. Questions lodged on notice are subject to standing order 67 and will be published in the Questions and Answers Paper.

Committee membership

Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC	Christian Democratic Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Kayee Griffin MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Dr John Kaye MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Ian West MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Other members who attended the hearings

The Hon Henry Tsang MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Marie Ficarra MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Greg Pearce MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Trevor Khan MLC	The Nationals
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens
The Hon Ms Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Duncan Gay MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon David Clarke MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Charlie Lynn MLC	Liberal Party
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC	The Greens
The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Don Harwin MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Eddie Obeid MLC	Australian Labor Party

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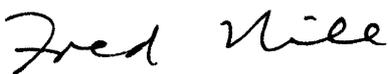
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Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present the report of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1 on the 2007-2008 Budget Estimates. The Committee examined the following portfolio areas:

- Premier
- Citizenship
- Juvenile Justice
- Western Sydney
- Treasury
- Infrastructure
- Hunter
- The Legislature
- Roads
- Commerce.

The Committee would like to thank the Ministers and other witnesses who gave evidence during the inquiry.



Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2007-2008 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On Thursday 28 June 2007, the Legislative Council resolved ‘that the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2007-2008 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.’²
- 1.2 Each Committee was to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the house by Friday 30 November 2007.³

Hearings

- 1.3 The Committee held five public hearings as follows:
- Monday 15 October 2007 – Premier, Citizenship
 - Friday 19 October 2007 – The Legislature
 - Monday 22 October 2007 – Juvenile Justice, Western Sydney
 - Friday 26 October 2007 – Treasury, Infrastructure, Hunter
 - Friday 26 October 2007 – Roads, Commerce.
- 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/gpsc1.

Questions on notice

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

² *Minutes of Proceedings, No 15*, 1st Session of the 54th Parliament, 28 June 2007, item 45

³ *Minutes of Proceedings, No 15*, 1st Session of the 54th Parliament, 28 June 2007, item 45, para 10

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Premier, Citizenship

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolios of Premier and Cabinet and Citizenship was held on Monday 15 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Benefits provided to former Premiers, Ministers, Presiding Officers
- Premier's Office – staffing, knowledge of Orkopoulos charges, etc
- Updates on NSW economy, reducing local crime, investment in infrastructure and measures to improve health system, drinking water supplies, State Plan, etc
- Owen inquiry
- Citizenship test
- Freedom of information legislation
- Casino licences, poker machines, etc
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Effectiveness of ICAC
- Federal intervention in Aboriginal communities, NSW issues
- Health – restructure of NSW Health, frontline services, emergency medicine, etc
- World Youth Day.

The Legislature

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolio of The Legislature was held on Friday 19 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Operating result for 2006/07 & supplementary funding received
- HR policies relating to Members Staff
- Lobbyists
- Parliament House security upgrade
- Catering services for members
- Proposed establishment of position of Executive Manager of joint services
- Proposed family friendly sitting hours
- Breast-feeding friendly work place policy

- Parliament's energy and water savings plan
- Disabled access
- Recent restructure and voluntary redundancies
- Parliamentary office holders' remuneration and allowances.

Juvenile Justice, Western Sydney

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolios of Juvenile Justice and Western Sydney was held on Monday 22 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Lock downs and staffing issues at Cobham Juvenile Justice Centre
- Relocation of Tweed Office to the Police Community Youth Club
- Register of reportable offences under the Commission for Children and Young People
- Restructure of the Department of Juvenile Justice
- Improvements to juvenile justice centres
- Programs to address reoffending
- Security classifications
- Drug detection measures
- Disciplinary and grievance procedures within the Department
- Qualification requirements for employees at juvenile justice centres
- Numeracy and literacy levels and education and training for detainees
- Detainees from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background
- Greater Western Sydney Economic Development Board
- Infrastructure in Western Sydney
- Mortgage defaults in Western Sydney.

Treasury, Infrastructure, Hunter

2.4 A hearing examining the portfolios of Treasury, Infrastructure and the Hunter was held on Friday 26 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Infrastructure investment – borrowing and debt levels
- Gross state product figures and projection
- Revenue from gambling
- Sale of electricity industry

- Unfunded superannuation liability
- Collection rate of criminal infringement notice fines
- Public Trading Enterprises credit ratings
- Fiscal Responsibility Act ratios, modelling and targets
- State based emissions trading scheme & future national trading scheme. State Plan target to reduce emissions to 1990 levels by 2025 and use of clean coal technology
- Capital investment requirements of Snowy Hydro Ltd
- Fraud in applications for first home owners grant
- State and Federal government funding of the State and the GST grant to the states
- Role of the Minister for the Hunter.

Roads, Commerce

2.5 A hearing examining the portfolios of Roads and Commerce was held on Friday 26 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- State budget for NSW roads funding
- Widening of the Spit Bridge
- Expenditure on cycle ways
- Impact on roads with Port Botany expansion
- Safety in road tunnels
- Congestion on Parramatta Road, Sydney
- Future operation of the Cross City Tunnel
- Gladesville Bridge inspections
- Victoria Road upgrade
- People First strategy
- Capital works for schools
- Redeployment program.

Appendix 1 Witnesses

1. Premier, Citizenship – Monday 15 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Morris Iemma MP	Premier, Minister for Citizenship
Ms Robyn Kruk	Director General, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Mr Alex Smith	Deputy Director General, Department of Premier and Cabinet

2. The Legislature – Friday 19 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Peter Primrose MLC	President of the Legislative Council of New South Wales
Ms Lynn Lovelock	Clerk of the Parliaments, Legislative Council
Mr Greg McGill	Financial Controller, Parliament of NSW
Mr Morgan Andrews	Manager, Parliamentary Security, Parliament of NSW

3. Juvenile Justice, Western Sydney – Monday 22 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Barbara Perry MP	Minister for Juvenile Justice and Minister for Western Sydney
Ms Jennifer Mason	Director General, Department of Juvenile Justice
Mr Peter Muir	Deputy Director General, Operations, Department of Juvenile Justice
Ms Stephanie Cross	Deputy Director General, Management Services, Department of Juvenile Justice
Ms Jane Moxon	Manager, Office for the Minister for Western Sydney
Mr Robert Lennon	Western Sydney Regional Coordinator, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Mr John Scott	Director, Strategic Projects, Department of Premier and Cabinet

4. Treasury, Infrastructure, Hunter – Friday 26 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Michael Costa MLC	Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for the Hunter
Mr Tony Newbury	Executive Director and Chief Commissioner of State Revenue, NSW Treasury
Mr John Pierce	Secretary, NSW Treasury

5. Roads, Commerce – Friday 26 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC	Minister for Roads and Minister for Commerce
Mr Les Wielinga	Chief Executive Officer, Roads and Traffic Authority
Mr Brett Skinner	Director, Finance and Commercial Development, Roads and Traffic Authority
Mr Michael Bushby	Director, Network Management, Roads and Traffic Authority
Mr John Lee	Director General, Department of Commerce
Mr Paul Hopkins	Deputy Director General, NSW Procurement, Department of Commerce
Mr Alan Marsh	Deputy Director General, Office of Public Works and Services, Department of Commerce

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes No. 2

Monday 15 October 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4:45pm

1. Members present

Revd Fred Nile (*Chair*)
 Ms Marie Ficarra (*Mason-Cox*)
 Ms Kayee Griffin
 Dr John Kaye
 Mr Trevor Khan
 Mr Greg Pearce (*Pavey*)
 Mr Henry Tsang (*Sharpe*)
 Mr Ian West
 Mr Trevor Khan
 Ms Lee Rhiannon

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Henry Tsang to substitute for Ms Penny Sharpe
- Ms Marie Ficarra to substitute for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox
- Mr Greg Pearce to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey

3. Participating members

The Chair advised that Mr Trevor Khan and Ms Lee Rhiannon would be attending the meeting as participating members.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Ms Penny Sharpe (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitutions for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox and Mrs Melinda Pavey (8 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Lee Rhiannon advising that she wishes to be a participating member at the GPSC 1 meeting at 5pm Monday 15 October for the premier's questions only.
- Letter from Mr Greg Pearce advising that Mr Trevor Khan wishes to be a participating member at the GPSC 1 meeting at 5pm Monday 15 October

Sent

- Letter to the Premier inviting him to appear before the Committee at 5pm on Monday, 15 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang: That the sequence of questions to be asked for today's hearing alternate between Opposition, Government and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Ficarra: That the Premier be requested to return answers to questions on notice taken during today's hearing within 21 days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Premier by the Committee Clerk.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Public Inquiry

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Morris Iemma MP, Premier and Minister for Citizenship, was admitted, accompanied by the following officers:

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Ms Robyn Kruk, Director-General

Mr Alex Smith, Deputy Director-General

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All departmental witnesses were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of the Premier and Citizenship open for examination.

The Premier and the officers accompanying the Premier answered questions from members of the Committee.

The Premier tendered a letter and media release from the NSW Police Force.

Ms Kruk tendered the document – 'Entitlements – former Office Holders and Members of Parliament', May 1997, 8th edition.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

7. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Deliberative meeting

Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang: That the Committee accept and publish, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the documents tendered during the public hearing.

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang: That the Committee consider whether to hold a supplementary hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of Premier and Citizenship after the answers to questions on notice taken during the hearing are returned.

8. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 9.00pm until 1:30pm on Friday, 19 October 2007 in Room 814/815.

Rachel Callinan

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 3

Friday 19 October 2007

Room 814-815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.15pm

1. Members presentRevd Fred Nile (*Chair*)Ms Catherine Cusack (*Mason-Cox*)Mr Greg Donnelly (*West*)Mr Duncan Gay (*Pavey*)

Ms Kayee Griffin

Dr John Kaye

Ms Penny Sharpe

Mr Trevor Khan

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Catherine Cusack to substitute for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox
- Mr Duncan Gay to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey
- Mr Greg Donnelly to substitute for Mr Ian West.

3. Participating members

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

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitutions for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox and Ms Melinda Pavey (8 October 2007).
- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Mr Ian West (18 October 2007).

Sent

- Letter to the Hon Peter Primrose MLC, President of the Legislative Council inviting him to appear before the Committee at 1.30pm on Friday, 19 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Greg Donnelly: That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Government and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Resolved on the motion of Ms Griffin: That the President be requested to return answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing within 21 days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the President by the Committee Clerk.

6. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Peter Primrose MLC, President of the Legislative Council, was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Department of the Legislative Council

Ms Lynn Lovelock, Clerk of the Parliaments

Parliament of New South Wales

Mr Greg McGill, Financial Controller

Mr Morgan Andrews, Manager Parliamentary Security

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from the department were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of the Legislature open for examination.

The President and the officers accompanying the President answered questions from members of the Committee.

Mr Donnelly took a point of order and requested Mr Kahn ask specific questions.

Mr Kahn directed a question to Mr Andrews. The Chair ruled that the question had already been answered by the President.

Mr Gay moved: That the committee dissent from the ruling of the Chair.

The President, witnesses, media and public withdrew. Mr Khan withdrew.

The committee deliberated. Mr Gay withdrew his motion.

The President, witnesses, media and public were readmitted.

The President tendered a document relating to the Parliamentary salaries and allowances.

The President tendered a document outlining suggested Legislative Council sitting times under proposed family friendly hours.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

7. Deliberative meeting

Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Griffin: That the Committee accept and publish, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the documents tendered during the public hearing.

8. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 3.35pm until 1.30pm on Monday 22 October 2007 in the Jubilee Room.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 4

Monday 22 October 2007

The Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.15pm

1. Members present

Revd Fred Nile (*Chair*)
 Ms Kayee Griffin (*Deputy Chair*)
 Mr David Clarke (*Mason-Cox*)
 Ms Sylvia Hale (*Kaye*)
 Mr Charlie Lynn (*Pavey*)
 Ms Penny Sharpe
 Mr Ian West

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr David Clarke to substitute for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox
- Mr Charlie Lynn to substitute for Ms Melinda Pavey
- Ms Sylvia Hale to substitute for Dr John Kaye

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitutions for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox and Ms Melinda Pavey (8 October 2007)
- Letter from Ms Sylvia Hale advising she will be substituting for Dr John Kaye at the GPSC 1 hearing at 1.30pm (22 October 2007)

Sent

- Letter sent to Minister Perry MP inviting her to appear before the Committee at 1:30pm, Monday 22 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

4. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Clarke: That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Government and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Lynn: That Juvenile Justice be examined for 1 hour and 45 minutes and Western Sydney be examined for 45 minutes.

Resolved, on motion of Ms Sharpe: That the Minister return answers to questions on notice taken during all Budget Estimates hearings within 21 days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk unless the Minister specifically requests otherwise.

5. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Barbara Perry MP, Minister for Juvenile Justice and Minister for Western Sydney, was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Department of Juvenile Justice

Ms Jennifer Mason, Director General

Mr Peter Muir, Deputy Director General (Operations)

Ms Stephanie Cross, Deputy Director General (Management Services)

Office of the Minister for Western Sydney

Ms Jane Moxon, Manager

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Mr Rob Lennon, Western Sydney Regional Coordinator

Mr John Scott, Director, Strategic Projects

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Juvenile Justice and Western Sydney open for examination.

The Minister and the officers accompanying the Minister answered questions from members of the Committee.

The Deputy Director-General tendered the following report: *NSW Young People in Custody – Health Survey*, NSW Department of Juvenile Justice

Minister tendered the opening statement for Western Sydney.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

6. Deliberative meeting

Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Griffin: That the Committee accept and publish, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the documents tendered during the public hearing.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4:07pm until 9am on Friday 26 October 2007 in Room 814/815.

Susan Want

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 5

Friday 26 October 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9am

1. Members present

Revd Fred Nile (*Chair*)

Mr Michael Gallacher (*Mason-Cox*)
 Ms Kayee Griffin
 Dr John Kaye
 Mr Eddie Obeid (*West*)
 Mr Greg Pearce (*Pavey*)
 Ms Penny Sharpe
 Ms Lee Rhiannon

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Eddie Obeid to substitute for Mr Ian West
- Mr Michael Gallacher to substitute for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox
- Mr Greg Pearce to substitute for Mrs Melinda Pavey.

3. Participating members

The Chair advised that Ms Rhiannon would be attending the meeting as a participating member.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitutions for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox and Ms Melinda Pavey (8 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Lee Rhiannon advising she will be a participating member in the GPSC 1 meeting scheduled for 9am, Friday 26 October (22 October 2007).

Sent

- Letter sent to the Treasurer inviting him to appear before the Committee at 9am, Friday 26 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe: That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Government, Opposition and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe: That Treasury and Infrastructure be examined from 9:00am until 12:30pm and the Hunter be examined from 12:30pm until 1:00pm.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 - Public hearing

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Michael Costa MLC, Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for the Hunter was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Office of Financial Management

Mr Tony Newbury, Executive Director and Chief Commissioner

NSW Treasury

Mr John Pierce, Secretary, Treasurer

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Treasury, Infrastructure and the Hunter open for examination.

The Treasurer and the officers accompanying the Treasurer answered questions from members of the Committee.

The Treasurer tabled the following document:

- Fax copy of correspondence received from The Audit Office of New South Wales, 1 June 2007.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

7. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 - Deliberative meeting

Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Dr John Kaye: That the Committee accept and publish, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the document tendered during the public hearing.

8. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1.00pm until 4.45pm on Friday 26 October 2007 in the Jubilee Room.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 6

Friday 26 October 2007

The Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 5pm

1. Members present

Revd Fred Nile (*Chair*)

Mr Duncan Gay (*Mason-Cox*)

Ms Kayee Griffin

Dr John Kaye (hearing only)

Mr Don Harwin (*Pavey*)

Ms Lynda Voltz (*Sharpe*)

Mr Ian West

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Lynda Voltz to substitute for Ms Penny Sharpe
- Mr Duncan Gay to substitute for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox
- Mr Don Harwin to substitute for Mrs Melinda Pavey.

3. Previous minutes

- Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That draft Minutes No.2, 3, 4 and 5 be confirmed.

4. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitutions for Mr Matthew Mason-Cox and Ms Melinda Pavey (8 October 2007)
- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Ms Penny Sharpe (18 October 2007)

Sent

- Letter sent to Minister Roozendaal inviting him to appear before the Committee at 5pm, Friday 26 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

5. **Conduct of hearing**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Gay: That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Government and Cross Bench members with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Gay: That Roads be examined from 5:00pm until 8:00pm and Commerce be examined from 8:00pm until 9:00pm.

The Committee previously resolved: That the Minister be requested to return answers to questions on notice taken during Budget Estimates hearings within 21 days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk unless the Minister specifically requests otherwise.

Mr Gay moved: That a recording of a radio interview with the Premier be played at the hearing as part of his questioning of the Minister.

The Committee divided:

Ayes: Ms Griffin, Ms Voltz, Mr West, Revd Nile

Noes: Mr Gay, Mr Harwin

Question resolved in the negative.

6. **Reporting date**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That the Chair, on behalf of the committee request the House for an extension of the 30 November reporting date until the first sitting Thursday in March 2008.

7. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 - Public hearing**

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC, Minister for Roads and Minister for Commerce was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Roads and Traffic Authority

Mr Les Wielinga, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Brett Skinner, Director, Finance and Commercial Development
Mr Michael Bushby, Director, Network Management

Department of Commerce

Mr John Lee, Director General

Mr Paul Hopkins, Deputy Director General, NSW Procurement

Mr Alan Marsh, Deputy Director General, Office of Public Works and Services

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. All witnesses from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn or affirmed. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Roads and Commerce open for examination.

The Minister and the officers accompanying the Minister answered questions from members of the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

8. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 - Deliberative meeting

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That the Committee consider whether or not to hold a further hearing after the return of answers to questions on notice to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of Roads and Commerce.

9. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 8:25pm *sine die*.

Julie Langsworth

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 7

Tuesday 20 November 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.30pm

1. Members present

Revd Mr Fred Nile (*Chair*)

Ms Kayee Griffin

Mr Don Harwin (*Pavey*)

Mr Matthew Mason-Cox

Ms Penny Sharpe

Mr Ian West

2. Apologies

Dr John Kaye

3. Substitutions

The Chair advised that he had received written advice from the Opposition Whip that Mr Harwin would be substituting for Mrs Pavey for the purposes of this meeting.

4. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr West: That draft Minutes No 6 be confirmed.

5. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence received.

- 7 November 2007 - Letter from Ms Robyn Kruk, Director General, Department of Premier and Cabinet enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 15 October 2007.
- 13 November 2007 - Letter from the Hon Barbara Perry MP, Minister for Juvenile Justice, Minister for Western Sydney and Minister Assisting the Premier on Citizenship enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 22 October 2007.
- 15 November 2007 – Letter from Hon Peter Primrose MLC, President of the Legislative Council enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing on 19 October 2007.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008***6.1 Publication of answers to questions taken on notice at public hearings***

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorises the publication of the answers to questions taken on notice at Budget Estimates 2007-2008 hearings with the exception of those answers for which confidentiality is requested.

6.2 Future inquiry activity

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Harwin: That the Committee adjourn until after all answers to questions taken on notice at the Budget Estimates hearings 2007-2008 are received.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 2.35 pm *sine die*.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 8

Thursday 29 November 2007

Room 1102, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.33pm

1. Members present

Revd Mr Fred Nile (*Chair*)

Ms Kayee Griffin

Dr John Kaye

Mrs Melinda Pavey

Mr Matthew Mason-Cox

Ms Penny Sharpe

Mr Ian West (*after item 3*)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Griffin: That draft Minutes No 7 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence received.

- 20 November 2007 - Letter from the Hon Michael Costa MLC, Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for the Hunter enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 26 October 2007.
- 20 November 2007 - Letter from the Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC, Minister for Roads and Minister for Commerce enclosing answers to questions taken on notice at the public hearing held on 26 October 2007.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008

4.1 Consideration of future inquiry activity

Mr Mason-Cox moved: That the Committee conduct supplementary hearings into the portfolio areas of Treasury and Premier.

The Committee deliberated.

Question put.

The Committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Mason-Cox, Dr Kaye, Mrs Pavey.

Noes: Ms Sharpe, Ms Griffin, Mr West, Revd Nile.

Question resolved in the negative.

4.2 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Chair tabled his draft report entitled *Budget Estimates 2007-2008* which having been previously circulated was taken as being read.

The Committee considered the draft report *in globo*.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe: That the draft report be the report of the Committee and presented to the House according to Standing Order 230.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1.40 pm *sine die*.

John Young

Clerk to the Committee