

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

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 Jenny Gardiner MLC	The Nationals	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Roy Smith MLC	Shooters Party	
The Hon David Clarke MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Kayee Griffin MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Henry Tsang MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Christine Robertson MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens
The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Greg Pearce MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Don Harwin MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party
Dr John Kaye MLC	The Greens
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Michael Gallacher MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon John Robertson MLC	Australian Labor 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 five hearings, receiving 15 hours of evidence, to examine the portfolio areas of Transport, Illawarra, Planning, Redfern Waterloo, Fair Trading, Citizenship, Small Business, Science and Medical Research, Tourism and Hunter. The Committee subsequently held a further supplementary hearing to again examine the portfolio of Transport.

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 for their contributions to the Inquiry process.



Hon Jenny Gardiner 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
- 1.3 On 26 November 2008, the House extended the reporting date to Thursday 5 March 2009.³

Hearings

- 1.4 The Committee held six public hearings as follows:
 - Wednesday 15 October 2008 – Transport, Illawarra
 - Wednesday 15 October 2008 – Planning, Redfern Waterloo
 - Thursday 16 October 2008 – Fair Trading, Citizenship
 - Thursday 16 October 2008 – Small Business, Science and Medical Research
 - Thursday 16 October 2008 – Tourism, Hunter
 - Wednesday 19 November 2008 – Transport – supplementary hearing.
- 1.5 A brief summary of the key issues raised during the hearings is contained in Chapter 2.

Transcripts

- 1.6 Transcripts of the hearings are available on the Committee’s web page at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc4.

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

³ *LC Minutes* (26/11/08), 11703

Questions on notice

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

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Transport, Illawarra

2.1 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Transport and Illawarra was held on Wednesday 15 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Transport portfolio:

- Proposal for a North West Metro
- Land acquisition for a south-west rail link
- Proposal for a western Sydney fast rail service
- Newcastle heavy rail service
- Expansion of Port Botany
- Country Link rail services
- School Transport Scheme
- 131500 phone and Internet information service
- World Youth Day transport arrangements
- Accessibility arrangements for public transport users, including at Newtown Station
- Maldon-Dumbarton rail line
- Performance of trains running between Newcastle and Sydney
- Improvements in the safety of Sydney Ferries
- Benefits of the new 14-Day Rail Pass
- Customer satisfaction with City Rail services
- Integrated ticketing including the T-Card project
- Bus priority projects and transit lanes.

2.2 The following issues were raised in relation to the Illawarra portfolio:

- Redevelopment of the Wollongong CBD and within the Illawarra region
- 10th Anniversary of the WIN Stadium in Wollongong.

2.3 A supplementary hearing to examine the portfolio of Transport was held on Wednesday 19 November 2008. The following issues were raised:

- Changes to the School Student Transport Scheme announced in the Mini-Budget
- Deferral of the duplication of the Richmond Line announced in the Mini-Budget
- Suspension of country rail services announced in the Mini-Budget
- Costs of buses to replace trains due to rail maintenance work
- Delivery timetable for articulated buses
- Management of non-operational Rail Corp property
- Expenditure from the Public Transport Facilities Fund
- Management of and funding for commuter car parks at railway stations, including announcements in the Mini-Budget
- Delivery of outer-suburban rail carriages
- Response to recommendations made by the Auditor-General, including improving the performance of the Rail Corp fleet
- Redundancy payments to Rail Corp employees
- Expression of interest process for the integrated ticketing project
- Planning for the CBD Metro project
- Comparisons between single and double-deck rail carriages
- Proposed train station at the University of Western Sydney
- Upgrade of Town Hall and Wynyard train stations
- Response to the Walker Report on the operation of the Sydney Ferries Corporation
- Employees entitled to free use of public transport
- Benchmarking the performance of the Sydney Ferries Corporation
- Expression of interest process for private sector operation of Sydney Ferries
- Matters relating to the staffing of Sydney ferries, including productivity and remuneration
- Discontinuation of the Manly Jet Cat ferry service
- Planning for the South West rail link
- Delivery dates for various rail projects.

Planning, Redfern Waterloo

2.4 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Planning and Redfern Waterloo and was held on Wednesday 15 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Planning portfolio:

- Regulation of political donations from property developers
- New codes for complying development, including the outcome of trials in various local government areas
- Re-zoning of the Hilltop Shooting Complex
- Metropolis 9th World Congress in Sydney
- Lower Hunter Regional Strategy and the reasons for selecting the Huntlee New Town housing site
- Initiatives to streamline the planning system, including delivery of school infrastructure
- State infrastructure levies
- Assessment of major projects under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, including publication of submissions made regarding Part 3A applications, and the Minister's intended approach to assessing these projects
- Future of Callan Park
- Processes followed by the Department of Planning for complying with orders for papers made by the Legislative Council
- Availability of new land for housing development and the role of the Growth Centres Commission
- Processing times for development applications
- Strategic planning for rural lands
- Reform of the building certification process
- Parkland development, including the Western Sydney Parklands and Sydney Olympic Park
- V8 Super Car race at Sydney Olympic Park
- World Youth Day.

2.5 The following issues were raised in relation to the Redfern Waterloo portfolio:

- Redevelopment of the Redfern Waterloo area
- Plans for public housing
- Plans for the North Eveleigh site and rail workshops.

Fair Trading, Citizenship

2.6 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Fair Trading and Citizenship was held on Thursday 16 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Fair Trading portfolio:

- Collapse of Beechwood Homes
- Early warning system to identify companies with a high number of complaints made against them
- Blue Haven Pools
- Applications from the Department of Housing to the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal
- Late lodgement of statutory returns by incorporated associations
- Product Safety Commission
- Consumer protection in relation to fuel-saving devices
- Home Warranty Insurance Scheme
- Guttering standards.

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

- Assistance to Sudanese refugees and migrants
- Settlement of new migrants in non-metropolitan areas
- Community Relations Commission (CRC) interpreting and translating service
- The Australian flag
- Budget for the CRC
- Community Development Grants Program
- CRC initiatives to promote community harmony.

Small Business, Science and Medical Research

2.8 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Small Business, and Science and Medical Research was held on Thursday 16 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Small Business portfolio:

- Levels of taxation for small businesses in NSW, including payroll tax
- Levels of 'red tape' faced by small businesses
- Challenges currently facing small businesses
- State Plan priorities for small businesses
- Events to support small businesses in 2008

- Assistance provided by the Aboriginal Round Table to Aboriginal business people
- Efforts to address the impact of climate change on small businesses.

2.9 The following issues were raised in relation to the Science and Medical Research portfolio:

- Levels of funding for science and medical research
- Nanotechnology, its applications and health impacts
- Allocation of scientific leveraging funding
- Scientific research currently underway in New South Wales.

Tourism, Hunter

2.10 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Tourism and the Hunter was held on Thursday 16 October 2008. The following issues were raised in relation to the Tourism portfolio:

- Performance of the NSW tourism industry including tourist numbers
- Funding levels for initiatives to promote tourism, including regional tourism
- Impact of tourism on national parks
- Initiatives targeted at the seniors' tourist market
- Efforts to address unregulated holiday lettings
- Initiatives to ensure continued growth in tourism, including for regional areas
- Tourism promotion in emerging markets such as China.

2.11 The following issues were raised in relation to the Hunter portfolio:

- GPT Group's redevelopment proposal for the Newcastle CBD
- Impacts of mining on Hunter Valley residents
- Ministerial office space and staff numbers in Newcastle and Sydney
- Infrastructure projects in Newcastle
- Improvements to transport services in Newcastle
- Efforts to address alcohol-related crime in Newcastle
- Support for the manufacturing industry in the Hunter Valley
- Initiatives to promote indigenous employment in the mining industry.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

1. Transport, Illawarra – Wednesday 15 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon David Campbell MP	Minister for Transport and Minister for the Illawarra
Mr Jim Glasson	Director-General, Ministry of Transport
Mr Rob Mason	Chief Executive Officer, RailCorp
Mr Peter Rowley	Chief Executive Officer, State Transit Authority
Mr Geoff Smith	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Ferries Corporation

2. Planning, Redfern Waterloo – Wednesday 15 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Kristina Keneally MP	Minister for Planning and Minister for Redfern Waterloo
Mr Sam Haddad	Director-General, Department of Planning
Mr Chris Wilson	Executive Director, Major Project Assessments, Department of Planning
Mr Jason Perica	Executive Director, Strategic Sites and Urban Renewal, Department of Planning
Mr Peter Despinidic	Director, Finance and Business Services, Department of Planning
Mr Robert Domm	Chief Executive Redfern Waterloo Authority and Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
Mr Alan Marsh	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Olympic Park
Mr Angus Dawson	Chief Executive Officer, Growth Centres Commission

3. Fair Trading, Citizenship – Thursday 16 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Virginia Judge MP	Minister for Fair Trading, Minister for Citizenship and Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts
Mr Stepan Kerkyasharian	Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, Community Relations Commission
Mr Hakan Harman	Director, Financial and Corporate Services, Community Relations Commission
Ms Lyn Baker	Commissioner, Office of Fair Trading
Mr Rod Stowe	Deputy Commissioner, Office of Fair Trading
Mr Steve Griffin	Assistant Commissioner, Home Building Service, Office of Fair Trading
Ms Elizabeth Tydd	Assistant Commissioner, Compliance and Legal, Office of Fair Trading
Mr Michael Silk	Executive Director, Fair Trading Services, Office of Fair Trading

4. Small Business, Science and Medical Research – Thursday 16 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Tony Stewart MP	Minister for Small Business, Minister for Science and Medical Research and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)
Mr Barry Buffier	Director-General, Department of State and Regional Development
Mr Derek Van Dyk	Acting Executive Director, Office for Science and Medical Research, Department of State and Regional Development
Ms Julie Scott	Executive Director, Small Business Development Division, Department of State and Regional Development

5. Tourism, Hunter – Thursday 16 October 2008

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Jodi McKay MP	Minister for Tourism and Minister for the Hunter
Mr Barry Buffier	Director-General, Department of State and Regional Development
Ms Lyndel Grey	General Manager, Tourism NSW
Ms Jennifer Collinson	Acting Regional Coordinator, Hunter Department of Premier and Cabinet
Mr John Scott	Director Regional and Strategic Issues, Department of Premier and Cabinet.

6. Transport – Wednesday 19 November 2008 (supplementary hearing)

Name	Position and Organisation
Mr Jim Glasson	Director-General, Ministry of Transport
Mr Rob Mason	Chief Executive Officer, RailCorp
Mr Peter Rowley	Chief Executive Officer, State Transit Authority
Mr Geoff Smith	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Ferries Corporation

Appendix 2 Tabled documents

Thursday 16 October 2008

Public Hearing, Jubilee Room, Parliament House

1. *Gutter Installation by Bluescope Steel* – Tendered by Ms Hale

Thursday 16 October 2008

Public Hearing, Jubilee Room, Parliament House

2. *Lobbying achieves changes to the retirement village' media release by the Retirement Village Association Australia* – Tendered by Ms Cusack

Appendix 3 Minutes

Minutes No. 13

Thursday 25 September 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Members Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney at 1:00pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
 Ms Lynda Voltz (*Deputy Chair*)
 Mrs Melinda Pavey (*Mr Clarke*)
 Ms Christine Robertson (*Ms Griffin*)
 Mr Roy Smith
 Mr Henry Tsang

2. Substitutes

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from the Government Whip that Ms Robertson would be substituting for Ms Kayee Griffin.

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from the Opposition Whip that Mrs Pavey would be substituting for Mr Clarke.

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That draft Minutes No 12 be confirmed.

4. 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 that a sandwich lunch would be provided for the Committee on the two days of hearings.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That the Committee thank the Secretariat for the organisation of the Budget Estimates hearings.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1:10pm until 9:15am Wednesday, 15 October 2008.

Steven Reynolds
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 14

Wednesday, 15 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.00 am

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
 Ms Lynda Voltz (*Deputy Chair*) (from 9.15 am)
 Mr Matthew Mason-Cox (*Clarke*)
 Ms Lee Rhiannon (*Hale*) (from 9.15 am)

Ms Penny Sharpe (Griffin)
Mr Roy Smith
Mr Henry Tsang (from 9.25 am)
Mr Greg Pearce (Participating) (from 12 pm)

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 Mason-Cox to substitute for Mr Clarke
- Ms Rhiannon to substitute for Ms Hale
- Ms Sharpe to substitute for Ms Griffin.

3. Participating members

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

- Mr Pearce – to examine the Illawarra portfolio.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

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

5. Conduct of hearing

Allocation of question time

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe 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.

Order for examination of portfolios

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe: That the Transport portfolio be examined from 9:00 am until 12:15 pm and that the Illawarra portfolio be examined from 12:15 pm until 1:00 pm.

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 Mason-Cox: 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 confidentiality is requested, after these answers have been circulated to committee members.

Morning/afternoon break

The Chair advised that there would be a brief break at 10.30 am and 3.30 pm.

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 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 Jim Glasson, Director-General, Ministry of Transport
- Mr Rob Mason, Chief Executive Officer, RailCorp
- Mr Peter Rowley, Chief Executive Officer, State Transit Authority
- Mr Geoff Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Ferries Corporation.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Transport and the Illawarra 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.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1:00 pm until Wednesday, 15 October 2008 at 2.00 pm.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 15

Wednesday, 15 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00 pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
 Ms Lynda Voltz (*Deputy Chair*)
 Mr Tony Catanzariti (Griffin)
 Ms Sylvia Hale
 Mr Don Harwin (Clarke)
 Mr Roy Smith
 Mr Henry Tsang

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 Griffin
- Mr Harwin to substitute for Mr Clarke.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008– From Secretariat to Minister Keneally, Minister for Planning and Minister for Redfern Waterloo 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 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 Sam Haddad, Director-General, Department of Planning
- Mr Chris Wilson, Executive Director, Major Project Assessments, Department of Planning
- Mr Jason Perica, Executive Director, Strategic Sites and Urban Renewal, Department of Planning
- Mr Peter Despinidic, Director Finance and Business Services, Department of Planning
- Mr Robert Domm, Chief Executive Officer, Redfern Waterloo Authority and Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
- Mr Alan Marsh, Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Olympic Park
- Mr Angus Dawson, Chief Executive Officer, Growth Centres Commission

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Planning and Redfern Waterloo 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 6pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 6 pm until Thursday, 16 October 2008 at 9.00 am.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 16

Thursday, 16 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.07 am

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
Ms Lynda Voltz (*Deputy Chair*)
Ms Catherine Cusack (*Clarke*)
Ms Sylvia Hale
Dr John Kaye (*participating*)
Ms Christine Robertson (*Griffin*)
Mr Roy Smith
Mr Henry Tsang

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 Clarke
- Ms Robertson to substitute for Ms Griffin.

3. Participating members

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

- Dr Kaye.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008– From Secretariat to Minister Judge, Minister for Fair Trading and Minister for Citizenship regarding the Minister’s scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2008-2009.

5. Conduct of hearing

Order for examination of portfolios:

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That the Citizenship portfolio be examined from 9:15 am until 10:15 am and that the Fair Trading portfolio be examined from 10:30 am until 1:00 pm.

Morning break

The Chair advised that there would be a brief break at 10:15 am.

6. Supplementary hearings

Ms Cusack moved:

- That the Committee conduct a supplementary hearing for the Transport portfolio and that the Minister for Transport be invited to attend this hearing
- That the supplementary hearing for the Transport portfolio be held on either 19 or 20 November, depending on the Ministers’ availability

Question put and lost.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That the Committee defer a decision to hold a supplementary hearing relating to the portfolio of Transport until after the receipt of answers to questions on notice.

7. 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 Stepan Kerkyasharian, Chairperson and Executive Director, Community Relations Commission
- Mr Hakan Harman, Director, Financial and Corporate Services, Community Relations Commission
- Ms Lyn Baker, Commissioner, Office of Fair Trading
- Mr Rod Stowe, Deputy Commissioner, Office of Fair Trading
- Mr Steve Griffin, Assistant Commissioner, Home Building Service, Office of Fair Trading
- Ms Elizabeth Tydd, Assistant Commissioner, Compliance and Legal, Office of Fair Trading
- Mr Michael Silk, Executive Director, Fair Trading Services, Office of Fair Trading.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Fair Trading and Citizenship open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

Ms Hale tendered the following document:

- ‘Gutter Installation’ by Bluescope Steel.

Ms Cusack tendered the following document:

- ‘Lobbying achieves changes to the retirement village bill’ media release by the Retirement Village Association Australia.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12:42 pm. The public and media withdrew.

8. Other business

Order for examination of portfolios - Small Business, Science & Medical Research

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Votz: That the Small Business portfolio be examined first and for two-thirds of the allocated hearing time, and the Science and Medical Research Portfolio be examined for the remaining one-third of the allocated hearing time.

9. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 12:42 pm until Thursday, 16 October 2008 at 2.00 pm.

Ms Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 17

Thursday, 16 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00 pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)

Ms Lynda Voltz (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr David Clarke

Dr John Kaye (Hale)

Ms Christine Robertson (Griffin)

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Henry Tsang

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:

- Dr Kaye to substitute for Ms Hale
- Ms Robertson to substitute for Ms Griffin.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 29 September 2008– From Secretariat to Minister Stewart, Minister for Small Business and Minister for Science and Medical Research, 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 Stewart 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 Barry Buffier, Director-General, Department of State and Regional Development

- Mr Derek Van Dyk, Acting Executive Director, Office for Science and Medical Research, Department of State and Regional Development
- Ms Julie Scott, Executive Director, Small Business Development Division, Department of State and Regional Development.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Small Business and Science and Medical Research 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. The public and media withdrew.

5. Other business

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 3.48pm until Thursday, 16 October 2008 at 4.00 pm.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 18

Thursday, 16 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4.00 pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
 Ms Lynda Voltz (*Deputy Chair*)
 Mr David Clarke
 Mr Greg Donnelly (Griffin)
 Mr Michael Gallacher (participating)
 Ms Sylvia Hale
 Mr Roy Smith
 Mr Henry Tsang

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 Donnelly to substitute for Ms Griffin.

3. Participating members

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

- Mr Gallacher.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

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

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 Minister McKay 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:

- Ms Lyndel Grey, General Manager, Tourism NSW
- Ms Jennifer Collinson, Acting Regional Coordinator, Hunter Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Mr John Scott, Director, Regional and Strategic Issues, Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Mr Barry Buffier, Director-General, Department of State and Regional Development was examined on his previous oath.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Tourism and the Hunter 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 6.00 pm. The public and media withdrew.

6. Deliberative meeting

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: 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:

- Illawarra
- Planning
- Redfern Waterloo
- Fair Trading
- Citizenship
- Small Business
- Science and Medical Research
- Tourism
- Hunter.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 6.03 pm until Thursday 23 October 2008.

Madeleine Foley
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 19

Thursday 23 October 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney at 5.50 pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (Chair)
 Ms Lynda Voltz (Deputy Chair)
 Mr David Clarke
 Ms Kayee Griffin
 Ms Lee Rhiannon (Hale)
 Mr Roy Smith
 Mr Henry Tsang

2. *****3. Previous minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That draft Minutes Nos 13 - 18 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Sent

- 20 October 2008 – Letters from the secretariat, requesting answers to budget estimates questions on notice by 5pm Monday 10 November 2008, to:
 - Minister Campbell – Transport, Illawarra
 - Minister Keneally – Planning, Redfern-Waterloo.
- 21 October 2008 – Letters from the secretariat, requesting answers to budget estimates questions on notice by 5pm Tuesday 11 November 2008, to:
 - Minister Judge – Fair Trading, Citizenship
 - Minister Stewart – Small Business, Science and Medical Research
 - Minister McKay – Tourism, Hunter.

5. *****5.1 *******5.2 *******6. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 6:15pm until Friday 7 November 2008.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 20

Friday 7 November 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney at 11.45am

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (Chair)
Ms Lynda Voltz (Deputy Chair)
Mr John Ajaka (Clarke) (to 1pm)
Mr David Clarke (from 1pm)
Ms Kayee Griffin
Ms Lee Rhiannon
Mr Roy Smith
Mr Henry Tsang

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from the Opposition Whip that Mr Ajaka would be substituting for Mr Clarke for the purposes of the meeting, until 1pm.

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That draft Minutes Nos 19 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 27 October 2008 – Letter from Ms Lyn Baker, Commissioner for Fair Trading, to the Director, raising a point of clarification concerning Ms Baker's evidence during the Budget Estimates hearing on Thursday 16 October 2008

5. ***

6. ***

7. ***

8. ***

9. ***

10. ***

11. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 5.15pm until Monday 10 November 2008 (public hearing)

Rachel Simpson
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 22

Thursday 13 November 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Members Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney at 1:00 pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
Ms Lynda Voltz (*Deputy Chair*)
Mr David Clarke

Ms Kayee Griffin
 Ms Sylvia Hale
 Mr Roy Smith
 Mr Henry Tsang

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That draft Minutes Nos 20 and 21 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 10 November 2008 – From the Minister for Planning and Redfern Waterloo, providing clarification of the evidence given during the Budget Estimates hearing on 15 October 2008.
- Letters providing answers to questions taken on notice during the Budget Estimates hearings on Tuesday 14 October 2008:
 - 10 November – Minister Campbell (Transport, Illawarra)
 - 10 November – Minister Keneally (Planning, Redfern Waterloo) (previously circulated).
- Letters providing answers to questions taken on notice during the Budget Estimates hearings on Friday 17 October 2008:
 - 11 November – Minister Judge (Fair Trading, Citizenship)
 - 11 November – Minister Macdonald (A/Small Business)
 - 11 November – Minister McKay (A/Science and Medical Research)
 - 11 November – Minister McKay (Tourism, Hunter).

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Clarke: That, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorise the publication of the correspondence from Minister Keneally, and that the correspondence be made available on the Committee's website.

4. Budget Estimates supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Clarke: That the Committee hold a supplementary Budget Estimates hearing to consider matters relating to the Transport portfolio, and that Minister Campbell be invited to attend.

Mr Clarke moved: That the Committee hold a supplementary Budget Estimates hearing to consider matters relating to the Fair Trading portfolio.

Question put and negatived.

Mr Clarke moved: That the Committee hold a supplementary Budget Estimates hearing to consider matters relating to the Planning portfolio.

Question put and negatived.

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

- Illawarra
- Planning
- Redfern Waterloo
- Fair Trading
- Citizenship
- Small Business

- Science and Medical Research
- Tourism
- Hunter.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That the Committee hold two hearings on Wednesday 19 November 2008 as follows:

- Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing for the Transport portfolio, 2-5pm.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1.20 pm until 10.15am, Wednesday 19 November 2008.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 24

Thursday 19 November 2008

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney at 1:57 pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
Ms Amanda Fazio (Tsang)
Ms Kayee Griffin
Mr Matthew Mason-Cox (Clarke)
Ms Lee Rhiannon (Hale)
Mr John Robertson (Voltz)
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:

- Ms Fazio to substitute for Mr Tsang
- Mr Mason-Cox for Mr Clarke
- Ms Rhiannon for Ms Hale
- Mr Robertson for Ms Voltz.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following item of correspondence:

Sent

- 13 November 2008 – To the Hon David Campbell MP, Minister for Transport, from the Principal Council Officer, inviting the Minister to nominate witnesses for the supplementary Budget Estimates hearing on Wednesday 19 November 2008.

4. Reporting date

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Fazio: That the Committee seek an extension of its reporting date from the House, from Tuesday 3 March to Thursday 5 March 2009.

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 following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at the initial Budget Estimates hearing:

- Mr Jim Glasson, Director-General, Ministry of Transport
- Mr Rob Mason, Chief Executive Officer, Rail Corp
- Mr Peter Rowley, Chief Executive Officer, State Transit Authority
- Mr Geoff Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Ferries Corporation.

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

The witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4:03 pm until 10am, Monday 15 December 2008.

Madeleine Foley

Clerk to the Committee