

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4

Budget Estimates 2007-2008

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How to contact the committee

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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

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. Extended to 13 March 2008 by resolution of the House Wednesday 27 February 2008, *Minutes of Proceedings, No 37*, 1st Session of the 54th Parliament, 27 February 2008, item 4.

11. Committee members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee up to two days following a hearing.
12. Questions lodged on notice are subject to standing order 67 and will be published in the Questions and Answers Paper.

Committee Membership

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

Other members who attended the hearings

The Hon Ian West MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Don Harwin MLC	Liberal Party
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens
The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Christine Robertson MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party
Dr John Kaye MLC	The Greens
The Hon Eddie Obeid MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Duncan Gay MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Robert Brown MLC	The Shooters Party

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Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present the report of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4 on the 2007-2008 Budget Estimates. The Committee examined the following portfolio areas:

- Transport
- Finance
- Planning
- Redfern Waterloo
- Arts
- Science and Medical Research
- Women
- Community Services
- Small Business
- Regulatory Reform
- Ports and Waterways

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



The Hon Jenny Gardiner 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 seven public hearings as follows:
- Monday 15 October 2007 – Planning, Redfern Waterloo, Arts
 - Monday 15 October 2007 – Transport, Finance
 - Friday 19 October 2007 – Community Services
 - Monday 22 October 2007 – Small Business, Regulatory Reform, Ports and Waterways
 - Friday 26 October 2007 – Women, Science and Medical Research
 - Monday 10 December 2007 – Transport (supplementary hearing)
 - Friday 15 February 2008 – Community Services (supplementary hearing).
- 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/gpsc4.

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.

Planning, Redfern Waterloo, Arts

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolios of Planning, Redfern Waterloo and the Arts was held on Monday 15 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Public libraries – funding, usage, staffing
- Funding of cultural institutions
- Opening of new sports store at Roseville which will be selling firearms
- Complaints of delays in the processing of development applications
- Development applications – ICAC position paper on corruption risks
- State infrastructure contribution, levies, brownfield sites
- Redfern-Waterloo – progress, development of railway station, public housing
- Assessing major development proposals and local environment plans
- Burwood - Inner West Subregional Strategy, development, planning
- Callan park – community consultation
- Environmental concerns - coastal erosion, coal industry
- Projects under part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*.

Transport, Finance

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolios of Transport and Finance was held on Monday 15 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Availability of the site-specific safety plan for Town Hall station, and rail tunnel evacuation plans
- Expenditure on rail maintenance and RailCorp review of maintenance procedures
- Issues associated with the T-card electronic ticketing system
- Progress of construction of new rail carriages under contract with Downer EDI and Reliance Rail, and the tender process associated with the contract
- Results of the 2007 annual survey on rail use and patronage figures for rail
- Epping-Chatswood rail link progress update
- Implementation of recommendations arising from the Waterfall train accident inquiry

- Contracted-out maintenance work and performance monitoring
- Walker Commission inquiry into ferries
- Capacity of the Balmain Shipyards
- Wage rates for Sydney Ferries staff
- Greenhouse gas emissions from buses
- Trial of Super Metro buses
- Progress of contract for new bus construction
- Payouts for sexual harassment and other compensation claims within State Transit Authority workforce
- The development process for the Commuter Charter
- Establishment of the Chair of Public Transport at the University of Sydney
- Governor Macquarie Tower Government offices rent levels and rent negotiations
- Privatisation proposals
- World Youth Day budget and process for determination of venues, and negotiations for compensation arising for the racing industry
- Likelihood of limiting public sector wage rises in Minister's portfolio areas.

2.3 A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Transport was held on Monday 10 December 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Variations to the contract for the TCard project
- Contract milestones for the TCard project
- Issuing of notice of intention to terminate TCard contract
- Employment within the Public Transport Ticketing Corporation
- ICAC recommendations regarding corruption within RailCorp
- Power requirements for CityRail
- RailCorp advertising campaigns
- Recruitment of signal engineers
- Purchase of new buses for State Transit Authority
- Walker inquiry into Sydney Ferries
- Transport requirements for World Youth Day

Community Services

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

- Integration with Office of Children's Commissioner – efficiency savings
- Accreditation process for out of home care agencies and adoption agencies
- Protection of children from exploitation by employers
- Number of children placed in the parental responsibility of the Minister
- Departmental internal management review relating to child death
- Child development in first three years of life
- Brighter Futures program
- Out of home care system
- Regulation of children's service providers
- Ombudsman report on reviewable child deaths
- Reports of child abuse and neglect - notifications data by region
- Department of Community Services office at Brewarrina
- Implementing recommendation of Breaking the Silence report
- Care and Protection Act green paper
- Provision of health services for children and young people in out of home care
- Pre-schools and pre-school programs
- Marungbai Aboriginal After Care Service
- Department of Community Services office at Wilcannia
- Departmental staffing vacancies and recruitment.

2.5 A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Community Services was held on Friday 15 February 2008. The following issues were raised:

- Case worker positions – funded positions, vacancies, training and recruitment
- Departmental funding
- Increase in service demand
- Adoptions
- Out-of-home care
- Ministerial requests for departmental information
- Industrial relations

- Special Commission of Inquiry into Community Services
- Incentives for recruitment in remote areas
- Recruitment of new Director General
- Privacy breaches – confidential information
- Brighter Futures program
- Intensive Family Based Services (IFBS) program
- Ombudsman’s 2006 Report on reviewable deaths – departmental progress report.

Small Business, Regulatory Reform, Ports and Waterways

2.6 A hearing examining the portfolios of Small Business, Regulatory Reform and Ports and Waterways was held on Monday 22 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Regulations for lighting between bridge pylons
- *Pasha Bulker* investigation and report
- Port Botany expansion project
- Private marina development at Rose Bay
- Expansion of Port of Newcastle
- Sinking of Cremorne wharf
- Cruise ship industry and parking availability
- Promotion of women in business
- Reduction of red-tap for small businesses
- Lewis Ski Boats
- Structure of the Department of State and Regional Development
- Challenges to small businesses over the next 10 years.

Women, Science and Medical Research

2.7 A hearing examining the portfolios of Women and Science and Medical research was held on Friday 26 October 2007. The following issues were raised:

- Publications of Office of Women
- Measuring gender inequality in specific areas, including income, employment; and education
- Commonwealth Government’s Family Law Reform package
- Leadership programs for women

- Budget for the Girl\$avvy program
- Evaluation of the Sister Speak program
- Domestic and family violence strategies
- Women in sport
- Pap test register
- Funding for the Medical Research Support Program.
- Breast screening
- Cancer services in rural areas.

Appendix 1 Witnesses

1. Planning, Redfern Waterloo, Arts – Monday 15 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Frank Sartor MP	Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo and Minister for the Arts
Mr Robert Abdy	Director General, Department of Arts, Sport and Recreation
Ms Rachel Cheetham	Executive Manager, Finance and Property, Department of Arts, Sport and Recreation
Mr Robert Domm	Chief Executive Officer, Redfern-Waterloo Authority
Mr Brian Newman	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Mr Angus Dawson	Chief Executive Officer, Growth Centres Commission
Mr Sam Haddad	Deputy Director General, Department of Planning
Mr Peter Despinidic	Strategic Business Analyst, Corporate Governance and Support Services, Department of Planning

2. Transport, Finance – Monday 15 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon John Watkins MP	Minister for Transport and Minister for Finance
Mr Jim Glasson	Director General, Ministry of Transport
Mr Vince Graham	Chief Executive Officer, RailCorp
Mr Peter Rowley	Acting Chief Executive Officer, State Transit Authority
Mr Geoff Smith	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Ferries Corporation
Ms Anne Skewes	Chief Executive Officer, State Property Authority

3. Community Services – Friday 19 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Kevin Greene MP	Minister for Community Services
Ms Kerry Boland	Children's Guardian, Office of the Children's Guardian
Dr Neil Shepherd	Director General, Department of Community Services
Ms Donna Rygate	Deputy Director General, Strategy, Communication and Governance, Department of Community Services
Mr John Parisi	Director Financial Services, Department of Community Services

4. Small Business, Regulatory Reform, Ports (and Waterways) – Monday 22 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Joseph Tripodi MP	Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory Reform, and Minister for Ports and Waterways
Mr Michael Cullen	Acting Director General, Department of State and Regional Development
Ms Julie Scott	Executive Director, Small Business Development Division, Department of State and Regional Development
Mr Chris Oxenbould	Chief Executive Officer, NSW Maritime Authority
Mr Stephen Dunn	Deputy Chief Executive Officer, NSW Maritime Authority
Mr Anthony Middleton	General Manager, Shipping Security and Environment, NSW Maritime Authority
Ms Lynne Ashpole	Director, Better Regulation Office

5. Women, Science and Medical Research – Friday 26 October 2007

Name	Position
Hon Verity Firth MP	Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)
Ms Vicki D'Adam	Assistant Director General, Policy Development Division, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Dr Kerrie Bigsworth	Director, Office for Women, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Ms Kerry Doyle	Executive Director, Office of Science and Medical Research
Mr Michael Cullen	Acting Director General, Department of State and Regional Development
Mr Michael O'Sullivan	Executive Director, Industry, Department of State and Regional Development
Professor Jim Bishop	Executive Director, Cancer Institute

6. Transport – Monday 10 December 2007

Name	Position
Ms Elizabeth Zealand	Chief Executive Officer, Public Transport Ticketing Corporation
Mr Jim Glasson	Director General, Ministry of Transport
Mr Vince Graham	Chief Executive Officer, RailCorp
Mr Peter Rowley	Acting Chief Executive Officer, State Transit Authority
Mr Geoff Smith	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Ferries Corporation

7. Community Services – Friday 15 February 2008

Name	Position
Dr Neil Shepherd	Director General, Department of Community Services
Ms Donna Rygate	Deputy Director General, Strategy, Communication and Governance, Department of Community Services
Mr John Parisi	Director Financial Services, Department of Community Services

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes No. 2

Monday 15 October 2007

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 8:45am

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner

Mr Don Harwin (*Clarke*)

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Henry Tsang (hearing only)

Ms Lee Rhiannon (*Hale*)

Ms Lynda Voltz

Mr Ian West (*Griffin*)

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Ian West to substitute for Ms Kayee Griffin
- Mr Don Harwin to substitute for Mr David Clarke
- Ms Lee Rhiannon to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Ms Kayee Griffin (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitution for Mr David Clarke (8 October 2007)
- Letter from Minister Sartor requesting breakdown of allocated hearing time between portfolios and advising of list of witnesses providing evidence for each of the portfolio agencies (11 October 2007)
- Letter from Ms Lee Rhiannon advising of substitution for Ms Sylvia Hale (15 October 2007)

Sent

- Letter to Minister Sartor inviting him to appear before the Committee at 9am, Monday 15 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

4. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Harwin:

- That the sequence of questioning for all budget estimates hearings alternate between Cross Bench, Opposition and Government members with 15 minutes allocated to each.
- That the Arts portfolio be examined for 45 mins and the Planning and Redfern Waterloo portfolios be examined for the remaining time of 3 1/4 hours.

- That, in relation to all budgets estimates hearings, Ministers be requested to return answers to questions on notice taken during hearings within 21 days of the day on which the question is forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk.

5. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Public Hearing**

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Frank Sartor MP, Minister for Planning, Minister for Redfern Waterloo and Minister for the Arts, was admitted, accompanied by the following officers:

Department of Arts, Sport and Recreation

Mr Bob Adby, Director-General

Ms Rachel Cheetham, Executive Manager, Finance and Property

Redfern-Waterloo Authority

Mr Robert Domm, Chief Executive Officer

Sydney Olympic Park Authority

Mr Brian Newman, Chief Executive Officer

Growth Centres Commission

Mr Angus Dawson, Chief Executive Officer

Department of Planning

Mr Sam Haddad, Deputy Director General

Mr Peter Despinidic, Strategic Business Analyst, Corporate Governance and Support 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 Planning, Redfern Waterloo and the Arts open for examination.

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

The Minister tendered the following report:

- *New South Wales Major Development Monitor 2006-07*, NSW Government, Department of Planning

Evidence concluded and the witnesses, public and the media withdrew.

6. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Deliberative meeting**

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Harwin: That the Committee consider supplementary hearings for the portfolio of Planning, Redfern Waterloo after the answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing are received.

Opening statements

Mr Harwin moved: That Ministers' opening statements for General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4 budget estimates hearings be limited to five minutes.

Mr Tsang moved: That the motion be amended by replacing the words 'five minutes' with the words 'ten minutes'.

Amendment put.

Committee divided.

Ayes: Tsang, Voltz, West

Noes: Gardiner, Harwin, Smith, Rhiannon

Question resolved in the negative.

Original motion put and passed.

7. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 1.05pm until 4.45pm on Monday, 15 October 2007 in the Jubilee Room.

Rachel Callinan

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 3

Monday 15 October 2007

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4.45pm

1. **Members present**

Mr Greg Donnelly (*Tsang*)

Ms Amanda Fazio (*Griffin*)

Miss Jenny Gardiner

Mr Matthew Mason-Cox (*Clarke*)

Ms Lee Rhiannon (*Hale*)

Mr Roy Smith

Ms Lynda Voltz

2. **Substitute members**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Amanda Fazio to substitute for Ms Kayee Griffin
- Mr Greg Donnelly to substitute for Mr Henry Tsang
- Mr Matthew Mason-Cox to substitute for Mr David Clarke
- Ms Lee Rhiannon to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Ms Kayee Griffin and Mr Henry Tsang (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitution for Mr David Clarke (8 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Lee Rhiannon advising she will participate in the hearing for the Transport portfolio only (12 October 2007)

Sent

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

4. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That Transport be examined from 5:00pm until 7:30pm and Finance be examined from 7:30pm until 9:00pm.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Public Hearing

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon John Watkins MP, Minister for Transport and Minister for Finance, was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Ministry of Transport

Mr Jim Glasson, Director General

RailCorp

Mr Vince Graham, Chief Executive Officer

State Transit Authority

Mr Peter Rowley, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Sydney Ferries Corporation

Mr Geoff Smith, Chief Executive Officer

State Property Authority

Ms Anne Skewes, Chief Executive Officer

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 Transport and Finance 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.

6. Deliberative meeting***Supplementary hearings***

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That the Committee consider supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Finance and Transport after the answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing are received.

7. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 8:44pm until 4.45pm on Friday 19 October 2007 in the Jubilee Room.

Simon Johnston
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 4

Friday 19 October 2007

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4:50pm

1. **Members present**

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

2. **Substitute members**

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Ms Christine Robertson to substitute for Ms Kayee Griffin
- Ms Catherine Cusack to substitute for Mr David Clarke
- Dr John Kaye to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale.

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Ms Kayee Griffin (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitution for Mr David Clarke (8 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Hale advising of substitution of Dr Kaye for Ms Hale (11 October 2007).

Sent

- Letter to Minister Greene inviting him to appear before the Committee at 9am, Friday 19 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

4. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That the Committee first examine the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of the Office of the Children's Guardian, and then examine the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of the Department of Community Services.

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

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Kevin Greene MP, Minister for Community Services, was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Office of the Children's Guardian

Ms Kerryn Boland, Children's Guardian

Department of Community Services

Dr Neil Shepherd, Director-General

Ms Donna Rygate, Deputy Director-General Strategy, Communication and Governance

Mr John Parisi, Director Financial 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 the Office of the Children's Guardian and Community Services 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.

6. Deliberative meeting

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Robertson: That the Committee consider whether to hold a supplementary hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of the Children's Guardian and Community Services after the answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing are received.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 8:06pm until 1.15pm on Monday 22 October 2007 in Room 814/815.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 5

Monday 22 October 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 5pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner

Mr Duncan Gay (*Clarke*)Dr John Kaye (*Hale – Ports*)Ms Lee Rhiannon (*Hale – Small Business*)Mr Eddie Obeid (*Griffin*)

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Henry Tsang

Ms Lynda Voltz

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Eddie Obeid to substitute for Ms Kayee Griffin
- Mr Duncan Gay to substitute for Mr David Clarke
- Ms Lee Rhiannon to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale (Ports)
- Mr John Kaye to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale (Small Business)

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitution for Ms Kayee Griffin (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitution for Mr David Clarke (8 October 2007)
- Email from Ms Sylvia Hale advising that Dr John Kaye will substitute for her (12 October 2007).

Sent

- Letter to Minister Tripodi attaching an invitation for him to appear before the Committee at 9am, Monday 22 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

4. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Gay: That the Committee first examine the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Ports (and Waterways), and then examine the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas Small Business and Regulatory Reform.

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

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Joseph Tripodi MP, Minister for Small Business, Minister for Regulatory reform and Minister for Ports and Waterways was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Department of State and Regional Development

Mr Michael Cullen, Acting Director General

Ms Julie Scott, Executive Director - Small Business Development Division

NSW Maritime Authority

Mr Chris Oxenbould, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Stephen Dunn, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Anthony Middleton, General Manager - Shipping Security and Environment

Better Regulation Office

Ms Lynne Ashpole, Director

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 Small Business, Regulatory Reform and Ports and Waterways 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.

6. Deliberative meeting

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That the Committee consider whether to hold a supplementary hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolio areas of the Small Business, Regulatory Reform, Ports (and Waterways) after the answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing are received.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4.01pm until 1.15pm on Friday 26 October 2007 in Room 814/815.

Julie Langsworth

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 6

Friday 26 October 2007

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.30pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown (*Smith*)

Mr Don Harwin (*Clarke*)

Dr John Kaye (*Hale*)

Mr Eddie Obeid (*Griffin*)

Ms Penny Sharpe (*Tsang*)

Ms Lynda Voltz

2. Substitute members

The Committee noted advice of the following substitutions:

- Mr Edward Obeid to substitute for Ms Kayee Griffin
- Ms Penny Sharpe to substitute for Mr Henry Tsang
- Mr Don Harwin to substitute for Mr David Clarke
- Mr Robert Brown to substitute for Mr Roy Smith
- Dr John Kaye to substitute for Ms Sylvia Hale.

3. Previous minutes

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

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Email from Mr Greg Donnelly advising of substitutions for Ms Kayee Griffin and Mr Henry Tsang (14 September 2007)
- Letter from Mr Don Harwin advising of substitution for Mr David Clarke (8 October 2007)
- Letter from Mr Roy Smith advising of substitutions for himself (9 October 2007)
- Letter from Minister Firth advising of the witnesses to appear before the Committee (16 October 2007).
- Email from Ms Sylvia Hale advising of substitution for herself (23 October 2007)
- Email from Minister Firth requesting the Committee consider including matters relating to her Cancer portfolio at this hearing (23 October 2007).
- Email from Minister Firth advising of additional witnesses to appear before the Committee (25 October 2007).

Sent

- Letter to Minister Firth attaching an invitation for her to appear before the Committee at 1:30pm, Friday 26 October 2007 (11 September 2007).

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That Women be examined from 1.30pm until 2.45pm and Science and Medical Research and Health (Cancer) be examined from 2.45pm until 4pm.

The Committee previously resolved: That the sequence of questioning for all budget estimates hearings alternate between Cross Bench, Opposition and Government members with 15 minutes allocated to each.

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.

6. Reporting date

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe: 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 Verity Firth MP, Minister for Women, Minister for Science and Medical Research, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer) and Minister Assisting the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water was admitted and accompanied by the following officers:

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Ms Vicki D’Adam, Assistant Director General (Policy Development Division)

Dr Kerrie Bigsworth, Director, Office for Women

Office of Science and Medical Research

Ms Kerry Doyle, Executive Director

Department of State and Regional Development

Mr Michael Cullen, Acting Director General

Mr Michael O’Sullivan, Executive Director, Industry

Cancer Institute

Professor Jim Bishop, Executive Director

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 Women and Science and Medical Research 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 defer consideration of the question of supplementary hearings until after the receipt of answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing.

9. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4pm *sine die*.

Victoria Pymm

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 9

Monday 10 December 2007

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 12:55pm

1. Members presentMiss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)

Ms Lynda Voltz

Ms Kayee Griffin

Mr Matthew Mason-Cox (*Clarke*)Ms Lee Rhiannon (*Hale*)

Mr Roy Smith

Mr Henry Tsang

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from the Opposition Whip that Mr Mason-Cox would be substituting for Mr Clarke for the purposes of the meeting.

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from Ms Sylvia Hale that Ms Rhiannon would be substituting for her for the purposes of the meeting.

3. Previous Minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Smith: That draft Minutes Nos. 7 and 8 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Sent

- 20 November 2007 – Letter from Chair to Hon John Watkins MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Finance advising of resolution of Committee to hold supplementary budget estimates hearing into portfolio area of Transport.
- 26 November 2007 - Letter from Chair to Hon Kevin Greene MP, Minister for Community Services advising of resolution of Committee to hold supplementary budget estimates hearing into portfolio area of Community Services.

Received

- 6 December 2007 - Letter from Chief of Staff, Office of the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Finance confirming the attendance of departmental officers at the supplementary budget estimates hearing to be held on 10 December 2007.

5. Conduct of hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That the Committee first examine the proposed expenditure for the Public Transport Ticketing Corporation, secondly examine the proposed expenditure for RailCorp, and then lastly examine the proposed expenditure for the Ministry of Transport, State Transit Authority and Sydney Ferries Corporation.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That the sequence of questioning for supplementary budget estimates hearings alternate between Opposition, Cross-Bench and Government members in 20 minute allocations.

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

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Transport open for examination.

The following witness was sworn and examined:

- Ms Elizabeth Zealand, Chief Executive Officer, Public Transport Ticketing Corporation.

The evidence concluded and the witness withdrew.

The following witness was examined on former oath:

- Mr Vince Graham, Chief Executive Officer, RailCorp.

The evidence concluded and the witness withdrew.

The following witnesses were examined on former oath:

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

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4:00pm. The public and the media withdrew.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4.05pm until Friday 15 February 2008 in the Jubilee Room.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 10

Friday 15 February 2008

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9:50am

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
Ms Lynda Voltz
Ms Kayee Griffin
Ms Catherine Cusack (*Clarke*)
Ms Sylvia Hale

Mr Roy Smith
Mr Henry Tsang (*from item 7*)
Mr Mick Veitch (*Tsang – until item 7*)

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from the Opposition Whip that Ms Cusack would be substituting for Mr Clarke for the purposes of the meeting.

The Chair advised that she had received written advice from the Deputy Government Whip that Mr Veitch would be substituting for Mr Tsang for the initial part of the meeting.

3. **Previous Minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That draft Minutes Nos. 9 be confirmed.

4. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence received:

- 12 February 2008 - Letter from Miss Gardiner, Mr Clarke and Ms Hale to Clerk of the Committee requesting a meeting of the Committee to consider a proposed terms of reference for an inquiry into the T-Card project.
- 12 February 2008 – Memorandum from Clerk of the Committee to members of the Committee advising that the Committee will consider the proposed terms of reference for an inquiry into the T-Card project at its scheduled meeting of 15 February 2008.
- 14 February 2008 – Letter from the Hon Kevin Greene MP, Minister for Community Services to Committee secretariat advising of the departmental officers that would be attending the Budget Estimates supplementary hearing on 15 February 2008

5. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008**

5.1 Questions taken on notice at supplementary hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That the Minister for Community Services be requested to return answers to questions taken on notice by witnesses at the budget estimates hearing on 15 February 2008 within fourteen days of the day on which the questions are forwarded to the Minister by the Committee Clerk.

5.2 Extension of 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 6 March 2008 reporting date until the 13 March 2008.

6. **Sound and audio-visual broadcast and still photography of Committee proceedings**

The Chair noted that the initial resolution of the Committee relating to the sound and television broadcasting of its proceedings referred to the Broadcasting resolution of the House of 1994, and that the House had passed a new resolution in October 2007.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That, unless the Committee decides otherwise, the Committee authorises the sound and audio-visual broadcast, filming and still photography of its public proceedings in accordance with the resolution of the Legislative Council of 18 October 2007.

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

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding procedural matters. The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of Community Services open for examination.

The following witnesses were examined on former oath:

- Dr Neil Shepherd, Director General, Department of Community Services.
- Ms Donna Rygate, Deputy Director General, Strategy, Communication & Governance, Department of Community Services
- Mr John Parisi, Director, Financial Services, Department of Community Services

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12:05pm. The public and the media withdrew.

8. Consideration of proposed self-reference – Inquiry into the T-Card project

The Chair tabled a letter to the Clerk of the Committee signed by Miss Gardiner, Mr Clarke and Ms Hale requesting a meeting of the Committee to consider proposed terms of reference for an inquiry into the T-Card project.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That the committee defer consideration of the proposed terms of reference for an inquiry into the T-Card project until a later meeting of the Committee.

9. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 12:20pm until Wednesday 5 March 2008.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 11

Wednesday 5 March 2008

Parkes Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1:00pm

1. Members present

Miss Jenny Gardiner (*Chair*)
Ms Lynda Voltz
Ms Kayee Griffin
Mr Clarke
Ms Sylvia Hale
Mr Roy Smith
Mr Henry Tsang

2. Previous Minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That draft Minutes Nos. 10 be confirmed.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2007-2008 – Consideration of Chair’s draft report

The Chair tabled her 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 Mr Smith: That the Committee present the report to the House, together with transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice, minutes of proceedings and correspondence relating to the inquiry, with the exception of documents kept confidential by resolution of the Committee.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1:10pm *sine die*.

John Young
Clerk to the Committee