



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 1

Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature

Report 51

May 2020

1



Portfolio Committee No. 1 - Premier and Finance

Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature

Ordered to be printed 20 May 2020 according to Standing
Order 231

New South Wales Parliamentary Library cataloguing-in-publication data:

New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance.

Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature / Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance [Sydney, N.S.W.] : the Committee, 2020. [x, 13] pages ; 30 cm. (Report no. 51 / Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance)

“May 2020”

Chair: Hon. Tara Moriarty MLC.

ISBN 9781920788698

1. New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance—Appropriations and expenditures.
 - I. Moriarty, Tara.
 - II. Title.
 - III. Series: New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance. Report ; no. 51

328.94407 (DDC22)

Table of contents

	Terms of reference	iv
	Committee details	v
	Chair's foreword	vi
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
	Referral of the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature	1
	Hearings	2
	Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions	2
Chapter 2	Issues raised during hearings	3
	Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney	3
	The Legislature and Premier	3
Appendix 1	Witnesses at hearings	5
Appendix 2	Minutes	6

Terms of reference

1. That Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance inquire into and report on the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2019 – 2020 relating to the portfolios of:
 - (a) Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney,
 - (b) The Legislature, and
 - (c) The Premier.
2. That for the purposes of the Inquiry:
 - (a) the committee conduct one hearing for the Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney portfolios on Tuesday 10 March 2020 from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm with the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm with departmental witnesses only,
 - (b) the committee conduct one hearing for the Legislature portfolio on Monday 16 March 2020 from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm,
 - (c) the committee conduct one hearing with the NSW Electoral Commissioner on Monday 16 March 2020 at the conclusion of the Legislature hearing,
 - (d) the committee must hear evidence in public,
 - (e) the committee may ask for explanations from the Minister, officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure,
 - (f) witnesses, including the Minister, may not make an opening statement before the committee commences questions,
 - (g) members of the Legislative Council may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two days, except Saturday and Sunday, of the day of receipt of the transcript of the hearing,
 - (h) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after they have been circulated to committee members, and
 - (i) the committee tables its final report by 30 June 2020.

The terms of reference were self-referred by the committee on 9 March 2020 and amended on 12 March 2020.¹

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 24 March 2020, p 867.

Committee details

Committee members

The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Robert Borsak MLC	Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Ben Franklin MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Taylor Martin MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Adam Searle MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Natalie Ward MLC	Liberal Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

The Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens
Mr Justin Field MLC	Independent
The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC	Australian Labor Party
Mr David Shoebridge MLC	The Greens

Contact details

Website	www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates
Email	Budget.Estimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Telephone	(02) 9230 2303

Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and The Legislature. This Inquiry is established to ensure parliamentary oversight of the budget prepared for these portfolio areas, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Legislative Council.

The key evidence gathering mechanism of this Inquiry is through the conduct of public hearings. This report lists the key issues raised during the hearings. Transcripts, tabled documents and additional answers provided after the hearings are published on the [Inquiry's webpage](#).

Please refer to the committee's Report No. 50 entitled 'Budget Estimates 2019-2020' to review the scrutiny of the following portfolio areas that Portfolio Committee No. 1 is also responsible for:

- Premier
- Treasury
- Special Minister of State, Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts
- Finance and Small Business.

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



Hon Tara Moriarty MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

The Inquiry into Budget Estimates is one of the key mechanisms for parliamentary committees to scrutinise government expenditure, performance and effectiveness. It holds ministers and government officials to account and provides a greater level of transparency to the public.

The Inquiry is conducted annually by the Legislative Council's Portfolio Committees. Each committee examines the budget estimates of its responsible portfolios, with ministers and senior public servants as the primary witnesses. The evidence taking process of the Inquiry consists of answers provided during public hearings and answers to post-hearing written questions (known as supplementary questions). There is no provision for written submissions.

Referral of the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature

- 1.1 In 2019, the annual inquiry into Budget Estimates was referred to the portfolio committees on 8 May 2019 by the Legislative Council.² Significant procedural changes including an increase in the total amount of time for questioning, the power to invite evidence from parliamentary secretaries, and a third round of hearings (known as the further hearings) were introduced to the inquiry process. These procedural changes are detailed in the Committee Report No. 50 for the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020.
- 1.2 On 21 November 2019, the then Leader of the Government and Leader of the House, the Hon Don Harwin MLC, moved a formal business motion in the House to propose a schedule for the Budget Estimates further hearings. The motion was agreed to, unopposed.³
- 1.3 According to the schedule, the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney were to be examined on Monday 16 March 2020 and the Legislature on Tuesday 10 March 2020. However, on 4 March 2020, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, informed the committee that he was no longer available to attend the hearing on that day due to a regional Community Cabinet event planned to support bushfire affected communities.⁴ Minister Ayres proposed to swap the hearing date allocated to examine his portfolios with that for the Legislature. The committee agreed in principle to make arrangements to accommodate Minister Ayres' requirements.
- 1.4 As the resolution establishing the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 did not have provisions for the committee to take evidence on a different date, on 9 March 2020, the committee resolved that the committee would not take evidence from Minister Ayres and President John Ajaka MLC on the scheduled hearing dates, and it would self-refer a new inquiry entitled 'Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature' (the Inquiry) to hear from the Minister and President Ajaka. The terms of reference for the new inquiry, similar to ones for the annual Budget Estimates inquiry, is reproduced on page iv.

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 8 May 2019, pp 117-119.

³ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 November 2019, p 755.

⁴ Correspondence from the Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, to Mr Stewart Smith, Director – Committees, Legislative Council, 4 March 2020.

- 1.5 On 11 March 2020, the Committee was advised that Mr John Schmidt, NSW Electoral Commissioner, was not well enough to attend the Budget Estimates hearing scheduled for the Premier on 12 March 2020 but he would be prepared to attend the next committee hearing, if he had recovered from his sickness.⁵ The committee accepted Mr Schmidt's proposition and amended the terms of reference of the Inquiry to allow Mr Schmidt to give evidence to the committee on Monday 16 March 2020 from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm, after the conclusion of the hearing for the Legislature.⁶

Hearings

- 1.6 For this Inquiry, the committee held two public hearings as follows:
- Tuesday 10 March 2020 – Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney
 - Monday 16 March 2020 – The Legislature and Premier.

Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions

- 1.7 Transcripts of the hearings, questions taken on notice, supplementary questions and answers to these questions are available on the Budget Estimates web page at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.

⁵ Correspondence from Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet to secretariat, to the committee, received 11 March 2020.

⁶ *Minutes*, Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance, 12 March 2020.

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney was held on Tuesday 10 March 2020. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Penrith Panthers sport and conference facilities
- Impact of summer bushfires on tourism
- Destination NSW and tourism campaigns
- Proposal to raise Warragamba Dam wall
- Aerotropolis planning
- Progress in planning for the economic development of the Western Parkland City, including the Western Sydney Aerotropolis
- Job creation estimates for the Western Sydney Aerotropolis
- Spending under the Jobs for NSW Strategy
- Destination NSW strategies for bushfire recovery
- Implementation of the Global NSW strategy
- Modelling and analysis of jobs being retained by new industry versus going offshore
- Advice to the Minister and strategies to ameliorate the negative economic effects of COVID-19, including on tourism
- Funding and spending of the Regional Tourism Fund.

The Legislature and Premier

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolios of The Legislature and Premier was held on Tuesday 16 March 2020. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Parliament's response to Covid-19
- Closing of Parliament to the public
- NSW Parliament's Pandemic Plan
- Electoral Commission budget
- iVote
- Preparedness for September 2020 local government elections.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney – Tuesday 10 March 2020

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Stuart Ayres MP	Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney
Ms Kim Curtain	Deputy Secretary, Jobs, Investment and Tourism
Mr Stephen Mahoney	A/Chief Executive Officer, Destination NSW
Mr Sam Sangster	Chief Executive Officer, Western City and Aerotropolis Authority
Mr Simon Draper	Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW

The Legislature and Premier – Monday 16 March 2020

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	President of the Legislative Council
Mr David Blunt	Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Department of the Legislative Council
Mr Mark Webb	Chief Executive, Department of Parliamentary Services
Mr John Schmidt	NSW Electoral Commissioner

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 17

Monday 9 March 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 1 - Premier and Finance

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.18 am

1. Members present

Ms Moriarty, *Chair (until 12.05 pm)*

Ms Boyd, *A/Deputy Chair*

Mr Franklin

Mr Martin *(from 9.30 am to 11.00 am)*

Mrs Maclaren-Jones *(substituting for Mr Martin, from 11.25 am)*

Mr Secord *(substituting for Mr Searle)*

Mrs Ward *(until 12.05 pm, from 2.13 pm)*

Mr Buttigieg *(substituting for Mr Searle, until 9.30 am)*

Mr Graham *(participating from 10.41 am to 11.10 am, and from 2.00 pm to 2.09 pm)*

Mrs Houssos *(participating from 9.30 am to 2.56 pm)*

Mr Latham *(participating until 4.16 pm)*

Mr Mookhey *(participating from 10.04 am to 10.41 am, and from 2.25 pm until 4.20 pm)*

Mr Searle *(participating from 4.09 pm)*

Mr Shoebridge *(participating from 10.14 am to 10.52 am, from 2.03 pm to 2.31 pm, and from 2.46 pm to 4.00 pm, from 4.20 pm)*

2. Apologies

Mr Borsak

3. Election of Deputy Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Acting Deputy Chair.

Mr Franklin moved: That Ms Boyd be elected Acting Deputy Chair of the committee for the purpose of this meeting.

There being no further nominations, the Chair declared Ms Boyd elected Acting Deputy Chair.

4. Consideration of terms of reference

The Chair tabled a letter from three committee members, Mr Franklin, Mr Martin and Mrs Ward, proposing the following self-reference:

Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature

1. That Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance inquire into and report on the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2019 – 2020 relating to the portfolios of:
 - (a) Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, and
 - (b) The Legislature.
2. That for the purposes of the Inquiry:
 - (a) the committee conduct one hearing for the Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney portfolios on Tuesday 10 March 2020 from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm with the Minister for Jobs,

Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm with departmental witnesses only,

- (b) the committee conduct one hearing for the Legislature portfolio on Monday 16 March 2020 from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm,
- (c) the committee must hear evidence in public,
- (d) the committee may ask for explanations from the Minister, officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure,
- (e) witnesses, including the Minister, may not make an opening statement before the committee commences questions,
- (f) members of the Legislative Council may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two days, except Saturday and Sunday, of the day of receipt of the transcript of the hearing,
- (g) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after they have been circulated to committee members, and
- (h) the committee tables its final report by 30 June 2020.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Franklin: That the committee adopt the terms of reference as amended.

5. Conduct of the inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature

5.1 Hearing dates

The committee noted that:

- one hearing will be conducted for the Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney portfolios on Tuesday 10 March 2020 from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm with the Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm with departmental witnesses only,
- one hearing will be conducted for the Legislature portfolio on Monday 16 March 2020 from 9.30 am to 1.00 pm.

6. ***

7. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.01 pm, until 9.15 am, Tuesday 10 March 2020, Preston-Stanley Room, Budget Estimates hearing (*Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney*).

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 18

Tuesday 10 March 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 1 - Premier and Finance

Preson-Stanley Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members present

Mr Moselmane, *A/Chair (substituting for Ms Moriarty)*

Mr Donnelly, *A/Deputy Chair (substituting for Mr Searle)*

Ms Faerhmann *(substituting for Ms Boyd, from 9.30 am to 10.16 am)*

Mr Franklin

Mr Martin *(from 2.00 pm to 2.20 pm, and from 3.02 pm to 4.06 pm)*

Mrs Ward *(until 3.05 pm)*

Mr Buttigieg *(participating from 3.19 pm)*

Mr Field *(participating from 8.58 am to 10.55 am)*

Mr Searle *(participating until 12.12 pm)*

2. Apologies

Mr Borsak

3. Election of Acting Chair

The Committee Clerk called for nominations for the Chair.

Mr Franklin moved: That Mr Moselmane be elected Acting Chair of the committee for the purpose of this meeting.

There being no further nominations, the Clerk declared Mr Moselmane elected Acting Chair.

4. Election of Deputy Chair

Mr Moselmane *(elected Acting Chair)* took the Chair.

The Acting Chair called for nominations for Acting Deputy Chair.

Mr Franklin moved: That Mr Donnelly be elected Acting Deputy Chair of the committee for the purpose of this meeting.

There being no further nominations, the Acting Chair declared Mr Donnelly elected Acting Deputy Chair.

5. Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and The Legislature

5.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney were to be examined concurrently from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, with the first two and a half hours reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench, and from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm, with the first three hours of the afternoon session reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench and the last half an hour of each session reserved for Government questions.

5.2 Public hearing: Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney

Departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, was admitted.

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

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Ms Kim Curtain, Deputy Secretary, Jobs, Investment and Tourism, NSW Treasury
- Mr Sam Sangster, Chief Executive Officer, Western City and Aerotropolis Authority
- Mr Simon Draper, Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW.

The following witness was sworn:

- Mr Stephen Mahoney, A/Chief Executive Officer, Destination NSW.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister withdrew at 12.12 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.06 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.06 pm, until 9.15 am, Thursday 12 March 2020, Jubilee Room, Budget Estimates hearing (*Premier*).

Stewart Smith/Merrin Thompson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 20

Monday 16 March 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 1 - Premier and Finance

Jubilee, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members present

Ms Moriarty, *Chair*

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair (from 10.50 am)*

Mr Buttigieg (*substituting for Mr Searle*)

Mr Franklin

Mr Martin

Mrs Ward

Mr Shoebridge (*substituting for Ms Boyd*)

Mr Moselmane (*participating*)

Mr Searle (*participating*)

2. Correspondence

Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 3 March 2020 – Email from Mr Taylor Gramoski, Office of the Premier to secretariat, requesting Amy Brown as an additional witness for the PC1 Premier hearing

- 4 March 2020 – Letter from Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney to secretariat, requesting a swap or reschedule for the Minister's appearance
- 9 March 2020 – Email from Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet to secretariat, requesting that Mr Tim Reardon and Ms Amy Brown be excused at 3.45 pm for the Premier's hearing on 12 March 2020
- 9 March 2020 – Email from Ms Rebecca Meyer, Office of Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney to secretariat, confirming Minister Ayres and witnesses will attend the hearing on 10 March 2020
- 9 March 2020 – Email from Ms Cathy Ciano, Senior Executive Assistance, NSW Ombudsman, to secretariat, requesting for two additional witnesses to appear alongside NSW Ombudsman at the Premier hearing
- 11 March 2020 – Email from Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet to secretariat, advising that Mr Schmidt is unwell and will not be attending the PC1 Premier hearing on 12 March 2020
- 11 March 2020 – Email from Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet, to secretariat, advising that Mr Schmidt would be available to attend the Legislature hearing on 16 March 2020.

Sent

- 5 March 2020 – Email from secretariat to Mr Taylor Gramoski, Office of the Premier, confirming witness appearance for Amy Brown for the PC1 hearing on 12 March 2020
- 9 March 2020 – Email from secretariat to Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, advising the new hearing on 10 Tuesday 2020 has been agreed by the committee
- 9 March 2020 – Email from secretariat to Mr Patrick Moore, Office of Hon Don Harwin MLC, Special Minister of State, Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 10 March 2020 – Email from secretariat to Ms Cathy Ciano, NSW Ombudsman, advising that the two additional NSW Ombudsman attendees had been agreed to by the committee for the Premier hearing on 12 March 2020
- 12 March 2020 – Email from secretariat to Ms Cathy Ciano, NSW Ombudsman, advising that the attendance of the Office of the Ombudsman no longer required for hearing on 12 March 2020
- 12 March 2020 – Email from secretariat to Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet, inviting Mr John Schmidt, NSW Electoral Commissioner to appear at the conclusion of the Legislature hearing.

3. Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and The Legislature**3.1 Order for examination of portfolios**

The committee noted that according to the resolution establishing the Inquiry that:

- the portfolio of The Legislature is to be examined from 9.30 am to 11.30 am, with the first three hours reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench and the last half an hour reserved for Government questions, and
- Mr John Schmidt, NSW Electoral Commissioner is to be examined from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm.

3.2 Public hearing

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President of the Legislative Council, was admitted.

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

The Chair following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Department of the Legislative Council
- Mr Mark Webb, Chief Executive, Department of Parliamentary Services.

The President and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the President and the witnesses withdrew.

Mr John Schmidt, NSW Electoral Commissioner, was sworn and examined.

The evidence concluded and the witness withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12.02 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

4. **Adjournment**

Sine die.

Stewart Smith
Committee Clerk

Draft minutes no. 22

Monday 18 May 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance
via Webex, at 2.01 pm

1. **Members present**

Ms Moriarty, *Chair*
Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair*
Ms Boyd
Mr Franklin
Mr Martin
Mr Searle
Mrs Ward

2. **Previous minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Martin: That draft minutes nos 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 be confirmed.

3. **Correspondence**

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 3 March 2020 - Email from Mr Taylor Gramoski, Office of the Premier to secretariat, requesting Ms Amy Brown be invited as an additional witness for the hearing for the Premier
- 4 March 2020 - Letter from the Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney to secretariat, requesting to reschedule the further hearing date allocated to examine his responsible portfolios due to a Community Cabinet event

- 9 March 2020 - Email from Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet to secretariat, requesting that Mr Tim Reardon, Secretary and Ms Amy Brown, Deputy Secretary from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, be excused from 3.45 pm at the hearing for the Premier portfolio
- 9 March 2020 - Email from Ms Cathy Ciano, Senior Executive Assistance, NSW Ombudsman, to secretariat, requesting Mr Paul Miller, Deputy Ombudsman, Reviews, Investigations and Community Services Division, and Ms Ainslee Scott, Director, Corporate Services, from NSW Ombudsman, be invited to accompany the Ombudsman to appear at the hearing for the Premier portfolio
- 11 March 2020 - Email from Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet to secretariat, advising that Mr John Schmidt, NSW Electoral commissioner, is unwell and will not be attending the hearing on 12 March 2020
- 11 March 2020 - Email from Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet to secretariat, advising that Mr John Schmidt, NSW Electoral commissioner, would be available to attend the hearing for the Legislature portfolio if required
- 24 March 2020 - Letter from Mr Cullen Smyth, Chief Commissioner of State Revenue to Acting Deputy Chair, clarifying evidence given during the hearing for Finance and Small Business portfolios
- 25 March 2020 - Email from Mr Patrick Moore, Office of the Hon Don Harwin MLC, Special Minister of State, and Minister for Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts to secretariat, requesting for an extension to provide post hearing responses
- 30 March 2020 - Email from Mr Chris Ashton, Office of the Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, Treasurer to secretariat, requesting for an extension to provide post hearing responses
- 14 April 2020 – Email from Mr Matt Richards, A/Executive Director, Legal, Office of General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet, requesting for a further extension of three weeks to provide post hearing responses due to the resignation of Special Minister of the State and Minister for Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts.
- 5 May 2020 – Letter from Ms Kya Blondin, Executive Director, People and Government, Sydney Opera House to the committee, clarifying evidence given during the hearing for Special Minister of State, Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts
- 11 May 2020 – Email from Mr Greg Cameron, noting an answer to a supplementary question provided by the Treasurer.

Sent:

- 9 March 2020 - Email from the secretariat to Mr Patrick Moore, Parliamentary Liaison Officer, Office of Hon. Don Harwin MLC, Special Minister of State, Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 13 March 2020 - Email - from secretariat to Mr Richard Egan, Strategy and Research Advisor, Office of the Minister for Finance and Small Business, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 17 March 2020 - Email from secretariat to Mr Adam Foda, Parliamentary Liaison Officer, Office of the Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, Treasurer of NSW, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 18 March 2020 - Email from secretariat to Ms Rebecca Meyer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Hon. Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 19 March 2020 - Email from secretariat to Mr Taylor Gramoski, Parliamentary Adviser, Office of the Premier, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted
- 23 March 2020 - Email from secretariat to Ms Kate Boyd, General Counsel, Department of Premier and Cabinet, attaching transcript of evidence for NSW Electoral Commissioner
- 23 March 2020 - Email from secretariat to Mr Tom Anderson, Chief of Staff, Office of the President, Legislative Council, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions.

4. ***

5. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature**

5.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions

The following answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution establishing the Inquiry:

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Stuart Ayres MP, Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney, received 8 April 2020
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon John Ajaka MLC, President of the Legislative Council, received 13 April 2020.

5.2 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Chair submitted her draft report entitled *Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature*, which, having been previously circulated, was taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Boyd: That:

The draft report be the report of the committee and that the committee present the report to the House;

The transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry be tabled in the House with the report;

Upon tabling, all unpublished transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry, be published by the committee, except for those documents kept confidential by resolution of the committee;

The committee secretariat correct any typographical, grammatical and formatting errors prior to tabling;

That the report be tabled on Wednesday 20 May 2020.

6. **Adjournment**

The committee adjourned at 2.06 pm, *sine die*.

Shu-fang Wei
Committee Clerk