



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 3

Budget Estimates 2023-2024

Report 51

June 2024

3



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Portfolio Committee No. 3 - Education

Budget Estimates 2023-2024

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**New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education.
Report no. 51.**

Budget Estimates 2023-2024

"June 2024"

Chair: Ms Abigail Boyd MLC



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Terms of reference

The Budget Estimates resolution and schedule was agreed to by the House on 12 September 2023, referring the Budget Estimates and related papers for 2023-2024 to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report and is reproduced, as amended on 11 October 2023 and 30 November 2023, as follows:

Initial hearings

1. That, upon tabling, the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2023-2024 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report.
2. That, further to the resolution of the House of 10 May 2023 adopting the 2023 sitting calendar,¹ the 2023-2024 initial budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Tuesday 24 October 2023

PC 3 Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney
PC 4 Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism, Sport

Day Two: Wednesday 25 October 2023

PC 1 Premier
PC 4 Agriculture, Regional New South Wales, Western New South Wales

Day Three: Thursday 26 October 2023

PC 2 Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast
PC 1 Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research

Day Four: Tuesday 31 October 2023

PC 1 Treasurer
PC 8 Customer Service and Digital Government, Emergency Services, Youth Justice

Day Five: Wednesday 1 November 2023

PC 2 Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast
PC 6 Regional Transport and Roads
PC 3 Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

Day Six: Thursday 2 November 2023

PC 7 Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage
PC 1 Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 10 May 2023, pp 64-65.

Day Seven: Friday 3 November 2023

PC 7 Planning and Public Spaces
PC 5 Women, Seniors, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Day Eight: Tuesday 7 November 2023

PC 1 The Legislature
PC 6 Transport
PC 5 Police and Counter Terrorism, the Hunter

Day Nine: Wednesday 8 November 2023

PC 1 Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety
PC 8 Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation, Science and Technology, Building, Corrections

Day Ten: Thursday 9 November 2023

PC 6 Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, Jobs and Tourism
PC 5 Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion

Day Eleven: Friday 10 November 2023

PC 5 Attorney-General
PC 8 Local Government

3. That the remainder of the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 hearings be held during the first half of 2024, as determined by further resolution of the House.
4. That for the purposes of the 2023-2024 initial budget estimates hearings:
 - (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm and 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, and, if required, by Government members only from 10.45 am to 11.00 am, 12.45 pm to 1.00 pm, and 5.15 pm to 5.30 pm
 - (b) the portfolio of The Legislature be examined by Opposition, Crossbench and Government members from 2.00 pm until 5.30 pm.
5. That for the purposes of the 2023-2024 initial budget estimates hearings:
 - (a) the committees must hear evidence in public
 - (b) the committees may ask for explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure
 - (c) ministers be invited to appear for the morning sessions only unless requested by committees to appear also for the afternoon session
 - (d) witnesses, including ministers, may not make an opening statement before a committee commences questions

- (e) members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two business days following the receipt of the hearing transcript
- (f) 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.

6. That the committees report by 28 June 2024.²

Supplementary hearing

1. That, further to the resolution of the House of 12 September 2023 referring Budget Estimates 2023- 2024 to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report, as amended 11 October 2023, and the resolution of the House of 10 May 2023 adopting the 2023 sitting calendar, Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Regional NSW hold a supplementary hearing in 2023 to examine the portfolios of Agriculture, Regional New South Wales, Western New South Wales.
2. That for the purposes of the 2023-2024 supplementary budget estimates hearing:
 - (a) each portfolio be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at 10.45 am, 12.45 pm and 5.15 pm, if required
 - (b) the committee must hear evidence in public
 - (c) the committee may ask for explanations from the minister, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure
 - (d) the minister be invited to appear for the morning session only unless requested by the committee to appear also for the afternoon session
 - (e) witnesses, including the minister, may not make an opening statement before a committee commences questions
 - (f) members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two business days following the receipt of the hearing transcript
 - (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.³

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 12 September 2023, pp 446-450; amended, *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 October 2023, p 558.

³ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 22 November 2023, pp 692-693.

Additional hearings

1. That, further to the resolution of the House of 12 September 2023 referring Budget Estimates 2023-2024 to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report, as amended 11 October 2023, and the resolution of the House of 21 November 2023 adopting the 2024 sitting calendar,⁴ the 2023-2024 additional budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Tuesday 20 February 2024

PC 3 Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney
 PC 4 Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism, Sport

Day Two: Wednesday 21 February 2024

PC 1 Premier
 PC 4 Agriculture, Regional New South Wales, Western New South Wales

Day Three: Thursday 22 February 2024

PC 2 Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast
 PC 1 Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research

Day Four: Friday 23 February 2024

PC 6 Transport
 PC 5 Police and Counter Terrorism, the Hunter

Day Five: Tuesday 27 February 2024

PC 7 Planning and Public Spaces
 PC 5 Women, Seniors, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Day Six: Wednesday 28 February 2024

PC 2 Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast
 PC 8 Customer Service and Digital Government, Emergency Services, Youth Justice

Day Seven: Thursday 29 February 2024

PC 1 Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety
 PC 6 Regional Transport and Roads

Day Eight: Friday 1 March 2024

PC 1 Treasurer
 PC 8 Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation, Science and Technology, Building, Corrections

Day Nine: Monday 4 March 2024

PC 5 Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion
 PC 1 The Legislature

⁴ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 November 2023, pp 666-667.

Day Ten: Tuesday 5 March 2024

PC 6 Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy,
Jobs and Tourism

PC 3 Skills, TAFE, Tertiary Education

Day Eleven: Wednesday 6 March 2024

PC 5 Attorney-General

PC 8 Local Government

Day Twelve: Thursday 7 March 2024

PC 7 Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage

PC 1 Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural
Resources

2. That for the purposes of the 2023-2024 additional budget estimates hearings:
 - (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at 10.45 am, 12.45 pm and 5.15 pm, if required
 - (b) the portfolio of The Legislature be examined by Opposition, Crossbench and Government members from 9.15 am to 11.00 am, and from 11.15 am to 1.00 pm.
3. That for the purposes of the 2023-2024 additional budget estimates hearings:
 - (a) the committees must hear evidence in public
 - (b) the committees may ask for explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure
 - (c) ministers be invited to appear for the morning sessions only unless requested by committees to appear also for the afternoon session
 - (d) witnesses, including ministers, may not make an opening statement before a committee commences questions
 - (e) members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two business days following the receipt of the hearing transcript
 - (f) 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.⁵

⁵ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 30 November 2023, pp 787-788.

Committee details

Committee members

Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens	<i>Chair</i>
Hon Rachel Merton MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Anthony D'Adam MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	Pauline Hanson's One Nation	
Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC	The Nationals	
Hon Emily Suvaal MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

Dr Amanda Cohn MLC	The Greens
Hon Wes Fang MLC	The Nationals
Hon Cameron Murphy MLC	Australian Labor Party
Hon Bob Nanva MLC	Australian Labor Party
Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Australian Labor Party

Contact details

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Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the inquiry into Budget Estimates 2023-2024. The 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 Legislative Council.

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education is responsible for the scrutiny of the following portfolio areas:

- Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney
- Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education.

The primary 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](#).

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.

Ms Abigail Boyd MLC
Committee 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, including answers to questions on notice, and answers to post-hearing written questions (known as supplementary questions). There is no provision for written submissions.

Budget Estimates 2023-2024

- 1.1 On 12 September 2023, the Legislative Council referred the Budget Estimates for the 2023-2024 financial year to the portfolio committees for inquiry and report.⁶
- 1.2 On 10 May 2023, the Legislative Council resolved that initial hearings for Budget Estimates 2023-2024 be held over 12 days from 24 October to 26 October and 31 October to 10 November 2023.⁷ The hearing schedule was amended by the House on 12 September 2023 to provide that initial hearings for Budget Estimates 2023-2024 be held over 11 days from 24 October to 26 October, 31 October to 3 November, and 7 November to 10 November 2023.⁸ The hearing schedule was further amended by the House on 11 October 2023 to add an additional hearing and make consequential amendments.⁹
- 1.3 On 22 November 2023, the Legislative Council resolved to hold a supplementary hearing for the portfolios of Agriculture, Regional New South Wales, and Western New South Wales in 2023.¹⁰
- 1.4 On 30 November 2023, the Legislative Council resolved that additional hearings for Budget Estimates 2023-2024 be held over 12 days from 20 February to 23 February, 27 February to 1 March, and 4 March to 7 March 2024.¹¹
- 1.5 The Budget Estimates resolution establishing the inquiry, which sets out the rules for the inquiry, is reproduced on page iv-viii.

⁶ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 12 September 2023, pp 448-450.

⁷ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 10 May 2023, p 64.

⁸ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 12 September 2023, p 449.

⁹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 October 2023, p 558.

¹⁰ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 22 November 2023, pp 692-693.

¹¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 30 November 2023, pp 787-788.

Hearings

1.6 The committee held four public hearings as follows:

- Tuesday 24 October 2023 and Tuesday 20 February 2024: Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney
- Wednesday 1 November 2023 and Tuesday 5 March 2024: Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education.

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 webpage at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolios of Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney was held on Tuesday 24 October 2023. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- universal pre-kindergarten
- consent education
- mobile phone ban in schools
- Department of Education organisational chart
- Northern Rivers floods and impacts on school infrastructure and attendance
- First Nations languages
- expenditure on consulting services
- number of school counsellors and school psychologists
- AI in schools, including use of ChatGTP for reporting.

2.2 An additional hearing examining the portfolios of Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney was held on Tuesday 20 February 2024. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- asbestos in schools
- implementation of the teachers code of conduct to ensure impartiality in classrooms
- recruitment, resignation, retirement and vacancy data of teachers
- canteen sales in a cost of living crisis
- salary increase for school psychologists and counsellors
- building public preschools
- increase in the number of schools due to housing density
- Schooling Resource Standard negotiations with the federal government
- funding of teacher roles from temporary to permanency
- rural and remote teaching programs
- vaping in schools
- teacher workload reductions.

Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolios of Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education was held on Wednesday 1 November 2023. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Oracle program replacement project
- early childhood education training programs
- expenditure on consulting services
- Bungendore school site
- country university centres
- Smart and Skilled program
- funding for Manufacturing Centres of Excellence
- Vocational Education and Training review
- land audit of TAFE sites
- TAFE fee-free initiative.

2.4 An additional hearing examining the portfolios of Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education was held on Tuesday 5 March 2024. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- TAFE infrastructure
- net zero targets, climate-resilient campus, and sustainable design principles
- TAFE enrolment figures, course availability, fee-free places, and completion rates, including a focus on rural and regional areas
- TAFE teacher shortages, casualisation, retention and Teachers Award
- Housing Accord targets, skills shortage, and related programs
- apprenticeship and traineeships, including availability in rural and regional communities
- Vocational Education and Training review
- sexual assault and harassment policy
- consultation and engagement with stakeholders and community.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
Tuesday 24 October 2023 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Prue Car MP	Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney
	Mr Murat Dizdar	Secretary, NSW Department of Education
	Ms Cathy Brennan	A/Deputy Secretary, School Performance (North), NSW Department of Education
	Ms Deborah Summerhayes	A/Deputy Secretary, School Performance (South), NSW Department of Education
	Ms Leanne Nixon	A/Deputy Secretary, Learning Improvement, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Mark Barraket	A/Deputy Secretary, Early Childhood Outcomes, NSW Department of Education
	Ms Chloe Read	Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Shaun Ruming	Chief People Officer, NSW Department of Education
	Ms Sally Blackadder	A/Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Anthony Manning	Chief Executive, School Infrastructure NSW, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Paul Martin	Chief Executive Officer, NSW Education Standards Authority
	Mr Joshua Roberts	Former A/ Chief Information Officer, NSW Department of Education

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Sarah Hurcombe	Executive Director, Service Excellence, Early Childhood Outcomes, NSW Department of Education
Wednesday 1 November 2023 Room 814 Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Steve Whan MP	Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education
	Mr David Collins	Executive Director, Training Services NSW, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Stephen Brady	Managing Director, TAFE NSW
	Dr Margot McNeill	Chief Product and Quality Officer, TAFE NSW
	Ms Julie Tickle	Chief People and Culture Officer, TAFE NSW
	Ms Janet Schorer	Chief Delivery Officer, TAFE NSW
	Mr Patrick Woods	Chief Operating Officer, TAFE NSW
	Ms Fiona Rankin	Chief Information Officer, TAFE NSW
	Mr Murat Dizdar	Secretary, NSW Department of Education
	Ms Chloe Read	Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
	Ms Sally Blackadder	A/Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education
Tuesday 20 February 2024 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Prue Car MP	Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney
	Mr Murat Dizdar	Secretary, NSW Department of Education

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Deborah Summerhayes	Deputy Secretary, Public Schools, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Mark Barraket	A/Deputy Secretary, Early Childhood Outcomes, NSW Department of Education
	Ms Chloe Read	Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Shaun Ruming	Chief People Officer, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Mark Grant	Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education
	Ms Sally Blackadder	Deputy Secretary, Strategic Priorities, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Paul Towers	A/Chief Executive, School Infrastructure NSW, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Paul Martin	Chief Executive Officer, NSW Education Standards Authority
	Ms Sarah Hurcombe	Executive Director, Service Excellence, NSW Department of Education
Tuesday 5 March 2024 Preston Stanley Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Steve Whan MP	Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education
	Ms Janet Schorer	A/Managing Director, TAFE NSW
	Ms Louise Coutts	Chief Financial Officer, TAFE NSW
	Mr Murat Dizdar	Secretary, NSW Department of Education

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Chloe Read	Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
	Mr Mark Grant	Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education
	Mr David Collins	Executive Director, Training Services NSW, NSW Department of Education
	Dr Margot McNeill	Chief Product and Quality Officer, TAFE NSW
	Ms Julie Tickle	Chief People and Culture Officer, TAFE NSW
	Ms Fiona Rankin	Chief Information Officer, TAFE NSW

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 2

Thursday 21 September 2023

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Room 1136, Parliament House, Sydney at 1.31 pm

1. Members present

Ms Boyd, *Chair*

Mr Buttigieg

Dr Kaine (substituting for Ms Suvaal)

Ms Mihailuk

Mrs Mitchell

Mr Murphy (substituting for Mr D'Adam)

2. Previous minutes

The committee noted that draft minutes no. 1 were confirmed via email on 8 June 2023, as per a previous resolution of the committee.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 7 June 2023 – Letter from Mr Justin Barrett to the committee, regarding allegations of misconduct in the Department of Education
- 22 August 2023 – Email from Mr Justin Barrett to the secretariat, regarding additional matters for the committee's consideration
- 4 September 2023 – Email from Mr Justin Barrett to the secretariat, regarding potential inquiries for the committee's consideration

4. Correspondence – Mr Justin Barrett

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Murphy: That the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, draft a response to Mr Justin Barrett to his correspondence dated 7 June 2023, 18 August 2023 and 4 September 2023, with the proposed response to be circulated to members via email for agreement.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2023-2024 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted that the Budget Estimates timetable for 2023-2024 was agreed to by the House, with hearings commencing at 9.30 am and concluding by 5.30 pm. Below is a table of Portfolio Committee No. 3 hearings:

Date	Portfolio
Tuesday 24 October 2023	Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney, Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

5.1 Allocation of question time and total hearing time

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 resolution:

- (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm and 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, and, if required, by Government members only from 10.45 am to 11.00 am, 12.45 pm to 1.00 pm, and 5.15 pm to 5.30 pm

- (b) the portfolios of Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney, Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education be further examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only from 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm, and if required, by Government members only from 7.30 pm to 7.45 pm.

5.2 Witness requests

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Mitchell: That:

- the secretariat write to the ministers of the relevant portfolios being examined by the committee to request that they:
 - nominate witnesses to appear at each hearing, for the committee's consideration, and
 - provide the committee with a list and/or organisation chart of all departmental staff at the level of Executive Director / Regional Director and above
- upon receipt, the nominated witnesses be circulated to the committee
- members be given two days from when the nominated witnesses are circulated to make amendments or nominate additional witnesses
- the committee agree to the witness list by email, unless a meeting of the committee is required to resolve any disagreement.

Mr Murphy moved: That the committee not invite parliamentary secretaries to appear as witnesses at the hearings.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Ms Boyd, Mr Buttigieg, Dr Kaine, Mr Murphy.

Noes: Ms Mihailuk, Mrs Mitchell.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

5.3 Witness appearance time

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 resolution Ministers are invited to appear for the morning sessions only, 9.30 am to 12.45 pm, unless requested by the committee to appear also for the afternoon session.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 1.38 pm until Tuesday 24 October 2023, 9.30 am, Parliament House (public hearing – Budget Estimates 2023-2024).

Arizona Hart

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 3

Tuesday 24 October 2023

Portfolio Committee No. 3 - Education

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.01 am

1. Members present

Ms Boyd, *Chair*

Ms Merton, *Deputy Chair*

Mr D'Adam

Ms Mihailuk (until 3.26 pm)

Mrs Mitchell (from 9.03 am)

Mr Nanva (substituting for Mr Buttigieg)

Ms Suvaal

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Mihailuk: That draft minutes no. 2 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 5 October 2023 - Email from Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney to Budget Estimates secretariat, providing witness list for hearing on 24 October 2023
- 17 October 2023 – Email from Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney to Budget Estimates secretariat, confirming additional requested witnesses can attend hearing on 24 October 2023
- 19 October 2023 – Email from Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, providing witness list for hearing on 1 November 2023

Sent

- 21 September 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney, issuing request to nominate witnesses for hearing on 24 October 2023
- 12 October 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, issuing request to nominate witnesses for hearing on 1 November 2023
- 16 October 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney, requesting two additional witnesses appear at hearing on 24 October 2023
- 17 October 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney, attaching confirmed witness list for hearing on 24 October 2023.

4. Correspondence – Mr Justin Barrett

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Nanva: That the committee confirm its response to Mr Justin Barrett, as previously resolved by the committee to be drafted by the secretariat, in consultation with the Chair.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2023-2024

5.1 Amended resolution

The committee noted the resolution of the House of 11 October 2023 amending the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 terms of reference.

5.2 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm and 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, and, if required, by Government members only from 10.45 am to 11.00 am, 12.45 pm to 1.00 pm, and 5.15 pm to 5.30 pm.

5.3 Public hearing: Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding parliamentary privilege 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 following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Murat Dizdar, Secretary, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Cathy Brennan, A/Deputy Secretary, School Performance (North), NSW Department of Education
- Ms Deborah Summerhayes, A/Deputy Secretary, School Performance (South), NSW Department of Education
- Ms Leanne Nixon, A/Deputy Secretary, Learning Improvement, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Mark Barraket, A/Deputy Secretary, Early Childhood Outcomes, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Chloe Read, Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Shaun Ruming, Chief People Officer, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Sally Blackadder, A/Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Anthony Manning, Chief Executive, School Infrastructure NSW, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Paul Martin, Chief Executive Officer, NSW Education Standards Authority.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney open for examination.

The Minister withdrew at 1.02 pm.

The following witnesses were admitted and sworn:

- Mr Joshua Roberts, Former A/Chief Information Officer, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Sarah Hurcombe, Executive Director, Service Excellence, Early Childhood Outcomes, NSW Department of Education.

Mr Roberts and Ms Hurcombe withdrew at 3.06 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.20 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

6. **Adjournment**

The committee adjourned at 5.21 pm until 9.00 am, Wednesday 1 November 2023, Room 814, Parliament House (public hearing - Budget Estimates 2023-2024).

Laura Ismay

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 4

Wednesday 1 November 2023

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Room 814, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.02 am

1. **Members present**

Ms Boyd, *Chair*

Ms Merton, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Buttigieg (from 9.08 am)

Mr Fang (substituting for Mrs Mitchell)

Ms Mihailuk (from 9.17 am until 10.44 am, from 11.43 am until 12.47 pm, and from 2.05 pm until 2.52 pm)

Mr Murphy (substituting for Ms Suvaal)

Mr Primrose (substituting for Mr D'Adam from 9.02 am until 12.47 pm)

2. **Previous minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Merton: That draft minutes no. 3 be confirmed.

3. **Correspondence**

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Sent

- 23 October 2023 – Email from Budget Estimate secretariat to Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, confirming witness list for hearing on 1 November 2023
- 24 October 2023 – Letter from Chair to Mr Justin Barrett, acknowledging correspondence received by the committee.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2023-2024

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm and 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, and, if required, by Government members only from 10.45 am to 11.00 am, 12.45 pm to 1.00 pm, and 5.15 pm to 5.30 pm.

4.2 Public hearing – Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding parliamentary privilege and other matters.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Mr David Collins, Executive Director, Training Services NSW, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Stephen Brady, Managing Director, TAFE NSW
- Dr Margot McNeill, Chief Product and Quality Officer, TAFE NSW
- Ms Julie Tickle, Chief People and Culture Officer, TAFE NSW
- Ms Janet Schorer, Chief Delivery Officer, TAFE NSW
- Mr Patrick Woods, Chief Operating Officer, TAFE NSW
- Ms Fiona Rankin, Chief Information Officer, TAFE NSW.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Murat Dizdar, Secretary, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Chloe Read, Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Sally Blackadder, A/Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education.

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 Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education was admitted.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education open for examination.

The Minister withdrew at 12.47 pm.

Mr Fang tabled the following document:

- Email from Monaro electorate to the Minister for Environment regarding feral horses.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.05 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

4.3 Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Fang: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tabled during the public hearing:

- Email from Monaro electorate to the Minister for Environment regarding feral horses, tabled by Mr Fang.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.07 pm, *sine die*.

Christine Thai
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 7

Tuesday 20 February 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.14 am

1. Members present

Ms Boyd, *Chair* (from 9.15 am)

Ms Merton, *Deputy Chair*

Mr D'Adam (until 3.16 pm, from 4.58 pm)

Ms Mihailuk (until 9.53 am)

Mrs Mitchell

Mr Nanva (substituting for Mr Buttigieg, until 12.51 pm, from 3.13 pm)

Ms Suvaal (until 3.14 pm, from 3.46 pm)

Dr Cohn (participating from 11.43 am until 11.57 am)

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 11 January 2024 – Email from Mr Justin Barrett to Ms Abigail Boyd, regarding conflicts of interest in the Department of Education
- 31 January 2024 – Email from Ms Penny Anderson, Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, responding to the witness invitation for the Budget Estimates Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education additional hearing on 5 March 2024
- 31 January 2024 – Email from Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, responding to the witness invitation for the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney additional hearing on 20 February 2024.

Sent

- 12 January 2024 – Email from the secretariat to Mr Justin Barrett, confirming email regarding conflicts of interest in the Department of Education has been passed onto the Chair (*attached*)
- 31 October 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney, issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice, and supplementary questions from hearing on 24 October 2023
- 10 November 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice, and supplementary questions from hearing on 1 November 2023
- 21 December 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to the Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, inviting witnesses to the hearing on 5 March 2024
- 21 December 2023 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to the Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney, inviting witnesses to the hearing on 20 February 2024
- 31 January 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Penny Anderson, Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, confirming that the Minister requests Ms Louise Coutts, Chief Financial Officer, TAFE NSW attend the Budget Estimates Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education additional hearing on 5 March 2024

- 2 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, seeking clarification on amendment to title from 'A/' denoting 'Acting' to 'R/' in relation to the witness list for the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney additional hearing on 20 February 2024
- 8 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, advising that the committee has agreed to the Deputy Premier's proposed amendments to the witness list, attaching confirmed witness list and hearing information for the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney additional hearing on 20 February 2024
- 15 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Penny Anderson, Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, advising that the committee has agreed to the Minister's proposed amendments to the witness list, attaching confirmed witness list and hearing information for the Budget Estimates Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education additional hearing on 5 March 2024.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Nanva: That the committee keep the correspondence from Mr Justin Barrett, regarding conflicts of interest in the Department of Education, dated 11 January 2024, confidential, as per the recommendation of the secretariat, as it contains identifying and/or sensitive information.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2023-2024

3.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions – initial hearings

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

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney, received 21 November 2023
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, received 1 December 2023.

3.2 Resolution for additional hearings

The committee noted the resolution of the House on 30 November 2023 to conduct additional hearings for the inquiry into Budget Estimates 2023-2024.

3.3 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 resolution on 30 November 2023 each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at 10.45 am, 12.45 pm and 5.15 pm, if required.

3.4 Public hearing – Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding parliamentary privilege and other matters.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Ms Deborah Summerhayes, Deputy Secretary, Public Schools, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Martin Graham, Deputy Secretary, Teaching, Learning and Student Wellbeing, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Mark Grant, Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Sally Blackadder, Deputy Secretary, Strategic Priorities, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Paul Towers, Acting Chief Executive, School Infrastructure NSW, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Sarah Hurcombe, Executive Director, Service Excellence, NSW Department of Education.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Murat Dizdar, Secretary, NSW Department of Education

- Mr Mark Barraket, A/Deputy Secretary, Early Childhood Outcomes, NSW Department of Education,
- Ms Chloe Read, Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Shaun Ruming, Chief People Officer, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Paul Martin, CEO, NSW Education Standards Authority.

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 Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, Minister for Western Sydney was admitted and examined.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney open for examination.

Mrs Mitchell tabled the following documents:

- Document of NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure entitled “Liverpool West Public School upgrade, Works notification”, dated 4 April 2023
- Document of BEasy entitled “Notice of Asbestos Removal Work”.

Ms Merton tabled the following documents:

- Flyer of community group Teachers and School Staff for Palestine entitled “Palestine Solidarity Day & Rally Feb 13”
- Bundle of images from Instagram accounts teachers4palestine_NSW and unionistsforpalestine of teachers supporting Palestine in classrooms
- Image of Middle Harbour Public School notice board displaying the acknowledgement of Country.

The Minister withdrew at 12.51 pm.

Ms Hurcombe was excused at 3.00 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.16 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

3.5 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Suvaal: That the committee accept and publish, with the exception of sensitive/identifying information, the following documents tabled during the public hearing:

- Document of NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure entitled “Liverpool West Public School upgrade, Works notification”, dated 4 April 2023, tabled by Mrs Mitchell
- Document of BEasy entitled “Notice of Asbestos Removal Work”, tabled by Mrs Mitchell
- Flyer of community group Teachers and School Staff for Palestine entitled “Palestine Solidarity Day & Rally Feb 13”, tabled by Ms Merton
- Bundle of images from Instagram accounts teachers4palestine_NSW and unionistsforpalestine of teachers supporting Palestine in classrooms, tabled by Ms Merton
- Image of Middle Harbour Public School notice board displaying the acknowledgement of Country, tabled by Ms Merton.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.21 pm until Tuesday 5 March 2024, 9.00 am, Preston Stanley Room, Parliament House (public hearing - Budget Estimates 2023-2024).

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 8

Tuesday 5 March 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Preston Stanley Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.03 am

1. Members presentMs Boyd, *Chair* (until 11.59 am; from 12.28 pm until 2.11 pm; from 2.34 pm)Ms Merton, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Buttigieg

Ms Mihailuk (until 10.45 am)

Mrs Mitchell (from 9.08 am)

Mr Primrose (substituting Mr D'Adam) (until 3.03 pm)

Mrs Suvaal (until 12.46 pm; from 3.03 pm)

2. Apologies**3. Previous minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Merton: That draft minutes no. 7 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 16 February 2024 – Email from Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, requesting an amendment to the witness list for the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney hearing on 20 February 2024
- 19 February 2024 – Email from Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, providing further information on the requested an amendment to the witness list for the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney hearing on 20 February 2024
- 20 February 2024 – Email from Mr Justin Barrett to the Chair regarding allegations of conflicts of interest within the Department of Education
- 22 February 2024 – Letter from Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest Advisory, to Portfolio Committee No. 3 regarding comments made about Mr Berry during the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney hearing on 20 February 2024
- 23 February 2024 – Email from Ms Penny Anderson, Office of the Hon Steve When MP, requesting a witness appear instead of another witness at the Budget Estimates Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education hearing on 5 March 2024
- 25 February 2024 – Letter from Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest Advisory, to Portfolio Committee No. 3 regarding the recording of the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney hearing on 20 February 2024 available on the NSW Parliament's YouTube channel (
- 26 February 2024 – Letter from Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest Advisory, to Portfolio Committee No. 3 referencing statements made during the Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport hearing
- 27 February 2024 – Email from Ms Penny Anderson, Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, following up on the request for a witness to appear instead of another witness for the Budget Estimates Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education hearing on 5 March 2024.

Sent

- 19 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Madeleine Abbott, Office of the Hon Prue Car MP, advising the committee has agreed to the requested amendment to the witness list, attaching confirmed witness list and hearing information for the Budget Estimates Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney hearing on 20 February 2024
- 26 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest Advisory, confirming correspondence has been received and circulated to the committee for consideration

- 26 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to the Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice, and supplementary questions from the hearing on 20 February 2024
- 27 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest Advisory, confirming correspondence has been received and circulated to the committee for consideration
- 27 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Penny Anderson, Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, confirming the committee is considering the request for a witness to appear instead of another witness at the Budget Estimates Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education hearing on 5 March 2024
- 29 February 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Penny Anderson, Office of the Hon Steve Whan MP, advising the committee has agreed to the Minister's requested amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education hearing on 5 March 2024.

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Suvaal: That the correspondence from the Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest, received on 22 February 2024, providing clarifications to Ms Boyd's evidence at the Portfolio Committee No. 3 Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney hearing on 20 February 2024 be published.

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2023-2024 resolution on 30 November 2023 each portfolio, except The Legislature, be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.15 am to 10.45 am, and from 11.15 am to 12.45 pm, then from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm, with 15 minutes reserved for Government questions at 10.45 am, 12.45 pm and 5.15 pm, if required.

4.2 Public hearing – Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding parliamentary privilege 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 following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Ms Janet Schorer, A/Managing Director, TAFE NSW
- Ms Louise Coutts, Chief Financial Officer, TAFE NSW.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Murat Dizdar, Secretary, NSW Department of Education
- Ms Chloe Read, Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, NSW Department of Education
- Mr Mark Grant, Chief Operating Officer, NSW Department of Education
- Mr David Collins, Executive Director, Training Services NSW, NSW Department of Education
- Dr Margot McNeill, Chief Product and Quality Officer, TAFE NSW
- Ms Julie Tickle, Chief People and Culture Officer, TAFE NSW
- Ms Fiona Rankin, Chief Information Officer, TAFE NSW

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education open for examination.

The Minister withdrew at 12.46 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.56 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.56 pm, *sine die*.

Teneale Houghton
Committee Clerk

Draft minutes no. 14

Tuesday 11 June 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Room 1136, Parliament House, Sydney, at 11.00 am

1. Members present

Ms Boyd, *Chair*

Mr Buttigieg

Mr D'Adam

Mrs Mitchell (via videoconference)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Buttigieg: That draft minutes no. 8 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 14 March 2024 – Email from Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest, asking for an update as to the committee's consideration of his specific requests in previous correspondence
- 14 March 2024 – Email from Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest, advising he will seek advice from the President in relation to the committee's consideration of his correspondence.

Sent

- 5 March 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates to Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest, advising that the committee has published correspondence sent by Mr Berry on 22 February 2024
- 11 March 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates secretariat to the Hon Steve Whan MP, issuing uncorrected transcript, questions on notice, and supplementary questions from the hearing on 5 March 2024
- 14 March 2024 – Email from Budget Estimates to Mr Martin Berry, Heathwest, advising that the outcome following the committee reviewing his previous correspondence is that the committee has published the relevant correspondence.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2023-2024

4.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions – additional hearings

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

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Prue Car MP, Deputy Premier, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Early Learning, and Minister for Western Sydney, received 18 March 2024
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Steve Whan MP, Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education, received 28 March 2024.

4.2 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Chair submitted her draft report entitled *Budget Estimates 2023-2024*, which, having been previously circulated, was taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr D'Adam: 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, correspondence and answers to questions taken on notice and supplementary questions relating to the inquiry be tabled in the House with the report;

Upon tabling, all unpublished transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, correspondence and answers to questions taken on notice and supplementary questions related 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;

The secretariat is tabling the report at 2.00 pm on Thursday 13 June 2024;

The Chair to advise the secretariat and members if they intend to hold a press conference, and if so, the date and time.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 11.03 am, until 8.30 am on Wednesday 12 June 2024, Macquarie Room, Parliament House (public hearing – Inquiry into children and young people with disability in New South Wales educational setting).

Kara McKee

Committee Clerk

