



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 1

Budget Estimates 2024-2025

Report 67

June 2025

1



www.parliament.nsw.gov.au

Portfolio Committee No. 1 - Premier and Finance

Budget Estimates 2024-2025

Published on 27 June 2025 according to Standing Order 238

New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. Portfolio Committee No. 1 - Premier and Finance. Report no. 67.

Budget Estimates 2024-2025

"June 2025"

Chair: Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC



A catalogue record for this book is available from the National Library of Australia

ISBN: 978-1-922960-95-5

Table of contents

	Terms of reference	iv
	Committee details	xiv
	Chair's foreword	xvi
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
	Budget Estimates 2024-2025	1
	Hearings	1
	Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions	2
Chapter 2	Issues raised during hearings	3
	Premier, including independent agencies	3
	Treasurer	4
	The Legislature	5
	Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources	6
	Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research	7
	Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety	8
Appendix 1	Witnesses at hearings	10
Appendix 2	Minutes	21

Terms of reference

Initial hearings

1. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2024-2025 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report.
2. That, as per the resolution of the House on 21 November 2023 adopting the 2024 sitting calendar, the 2024-2025 supplementary budget estimates hearings are to be held from 2 December to 6 December 2024.
3. That, further to the resolution of the House of 21 November 2023 adopting the 2024 sitting calendar, the 2024-2025 initial budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Tuesday 27 August 2024

PC 3 Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney

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

Day Two: Wednesday 28 August 2024

PC 1 Premier

PC 4 Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism, Sport

Day Three: Thursday 29 August 2024

PC 1 Treasurer

PC 7 Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage

Day Four: Friday 30 August 2024

PC 5 Police and Counter Terrorism, the Hunter

PC 7 Planning and Public Spaces

PC 1 The Legislature

Day Five: Tuesday 3 September 2024

PC 6 Transport

PC 5 Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion

Day Six: Wednesday 4 September 2024

PC 5 Attorney-General

PC 3 Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

Day Seven: Thursday 5 September 2024

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

PC 8 Local Government

Day Eight: Friday 6 September 2024

- PC 6 Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, Jobs and Tourism
- PC 1 Aboriginal Affairs & Treaty, Gaming & Racing, Veterans, Central Coast, Medical Research

Day Nine: Monday 9 September 2024

- PC 8 Emergency Services, Youth Justice, Customer Service & Digital Government
- PC 2 Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast
- PC 6 Regional Transport and Roads

Day Ten: Tuesday 10 September 2024

- PC 2 Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast
- PC 8 Corrections, Better Regulation & Fair Trading, Industry & Trade, Innovation, Science & Technology, Building

Day Eleven: Wednesday 11 September 2024

- PC 5 Women, Seniors, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- PC 1 Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety

4. That for the purposes of the 2024-2025 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, and
 - (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.
5. That, unless the committee decides otherwise:
 - (a) the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the following portfolios alternate between opposition and crossbench members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each:
 - (i) Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney
 - (ii) Premier
 - (iii) Treasurer
 - (iv) Police and Counter Terrorism, the Hunter
 - (v) Transport
 - (vi) Attorney-General
 - (vii) Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources

- (viii) Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, Jobs and Tourism
 - (ix) Emergency Services, Youth Justice, Customer Service and Digital
 - (x) Regional Transport and Roads
 - (xi) Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast
 - (xii) Women, Seniors, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- (b) the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the following portfolios alternate between crossbench and opposition members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each:
- (i) Agriculture, Regional New South Wales, Western New South Wales
 - (ii) Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism, Sport
 - (iii) Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage
 - (iv) Planning and Public Spaces
 - (v) Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion
 - (vi) Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education
 - (vii) Local Government
 - (viii) Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, Central Coast, Medical Research
 - (ix) Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast
 - (x) Corrections, Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation, Science and Technology, Building
 - (xi) Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety.
6. That for the purposes of the 2024-2025 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, and

- (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.
- (g) That the committees report by 27 June 2025.¹

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 June 2024, Item 4.

Additional hearings

1. That, further to the resolution of the House of 20 June 2024 referring Budget Estimates 2024-2025 to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report, and the resolution of the House of 12 November 2024 adopting the 2025 sitting calendar, the 2024-2025 additional budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Tuesday 25 February 2025

PC 3 Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney

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

Day Two: Wednesday 26 February 2025

PC 1 Premier

PC 4 Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism, Sport

Day Three: Thursday 27 February 2025

PC 2 Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast

PC 5 Women, Seniors, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Day Four: Friday 28 February 2025

PC 5 Attorney-General

PC 8 Local Government

Day Five: Monday 3 March 2025

PC 7 Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage

PC 1 Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety

Day Six: Tuesday 4 March 2025

PC 7 Planning and Public Spaces

PC 1 Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research

Day Seven: Wednesday 5 March 2025

PC 1 Treasurer

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

Day Eight: Thursday 6 March 2025

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

PC 6 Regional Transport and Roads

Day Nine: Friday 7 March 2025

PC 2	Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast
PC 8	Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation, Science and Technology, Building, Corrections

Day Ten: Monday 10 March 2025

PC 5	Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion
PC 3	Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

Day Eleven: Tuesday 11 March 2025

PC 6	Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, Jobs and Tourism
PC 1	The Legislature

Day Twelve: Wednesday 12 March 2025

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

2. That, unless the committee decides otherwise:
 - (a) the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the following portfolios alternate between opposition and crossbench members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each:
 - (i) Education and Early Learning, Western Sydney,
 - (ii) Premier,
 - (iii) Health, Regional Health, the Illawarra and the South Coast,
 - (iv) Attorney-General,
 - (v) Climate Change, Energy, the Environment, Heritage,
 - (vi) Planning and Public Spaces,
 - (vii) Treasurer,
 - (viii) Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources,
 - (ix) Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast,
 - (x) Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion,
 - (xi) Special Minister of State, Roads, Arts, Music and the Night-time Economy, Jobs and Tourism,
 - (xii) Transport, and

- (b) the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the following portfolios alternate between crossbench and opposition members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each:
 - (i) Agriculture, Regional New South Wales, Western New South Wales,
 - (ii) Small Business, Lands and Property, Multiculturalism, Sport,
 - (iii) Women, Seniors, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault,
 - (iv) Local Government,
 - (v) Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety,
 - (vi) Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research,
 - (vii) Customer Service and Digital Government, Emergency Services, Youth Justice,
 - (viii) Regional Transport and Roads,
 - (ix) Better Regulation and Fair Trading, Industry and Trade, Innovation, Science and Technology, Building, Corrections,
 - (x) Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education,
 - (xi) The Legislature,
 - (xii) Police and Counter Terrorism, the Hunter.
- 3. That for the purposes of the 2024-2025 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, and
 - (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.
- 4. That for the purposes of the 2024-2025 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, and

- (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.²

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 November 2024, Item 3.

Further additional hearings

1. That this House notes that:

- (a) on 21 November 2024, the House adopted a schedule of additional budget estimates hearings for 2024-2025 over 12 working days from 25 February 2025 to 12 March 2025,
- (b) the following three hearings were unable to be conducted as scheduled by the relevant committees due to the impact of Cyclone Alfred and the unavailability of ministers and other witnesses:

Day Seven: Wednesday 5 March 2025

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

Day Eight: Thursday 6 March 2025

PC 6 Regional Transport and Roads

Day Nine: Friday 7 March 2025

PC 2 Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast

- (c) following this, that Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health rescheduled the original additional hearing to the following date:

Day Thirteen: Friday 14 March 2025

PC 2 Water, Housing, Homelessness, Mental Health, Youth, the North Coast

- 2. That in view of the inability of Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health, to conduct the original additional hearing, the House endorse the further additional hearing held on 14 March 2025.
- 3. That in view of the inability of Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport and the Arts and Portfolio Committee No. 8 – Customer Service to conduct the hearings, the committees be authorised to undertake the hearings as follows under the same arrangements as originally agreed to by the House on 21 November 2024:

Day Fourteen: Tuesday 1 April 2025

PC 6 Roads, Regional Transport

Day Fifteen: Friday 11 April 2025

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

- 4. That the NSW Reconstruction Authority be invited to appear from 9.15 am to 5.30 pm at the rescheduled Portfolio Committee No. 8 – Customer Service additional budget estimates hearing to be held on Friday 11 April 2025.
- 5. That for the purposes of the 2024-2025 further additional budget estimates hearings, 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.

6. That for the purposes of the 2024-2025 further 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, and
 - (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.³

³ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 19 March 2025, Item 15.

Committee details

Committee members

Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC	Legalise Cannabis Party	<i>Chair</i>
Hon Robert Borsak MLC	Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Hon Dr Sarah Kaine MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Stephen Lawrence MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Bob Nanva MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Chris Rath MLC	Liberal Party	
Hon Damien Tudehope MLC	Liberal Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

Hon Mark Banasiak MLC	Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party
Hon Scott Barrett MLC	The Nationals
Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens
Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC	Australian Labor Party
Hon Susan Carter MLC	Liberal Party
Dr Amanda Cohn MLC	The Greens
Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens
Hon Wes Fang MLC	The Nationals
Hon Scott Farlow MLC	Liberal Party
Hon Sam Farraway	The Nationals
Ms Sue Higginson MLC	The Greens
Hon Emma Hurst MLC	Animal Justice Party
Hon Mark Latham MLC	Independent
Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC	The Nationals
Hon Jacqui Munro MLC	Liberal Party
Hon Cameron Murphy MLC	Australian Labor Party
Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Australian Labor Party
Hon John Ruddick MLC	Libertarian Party
Hon Emily Suvaal MLC	Australian Labor Party

Hon Natalie Ward MLCLiberal Party

Contact details

Website	https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/
----------------	---

Email	porfoliocommittee1@parliament.nsw.gov.au
--------------	--

Telephone	(02) 9230 3081
------------------	----------------

Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025. 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. 1 – Premier and Finance is responsible for the scrutiny of the following portfolio areas:

- Premier
- Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research
- Treasurer
- Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources
- The Legislature
- Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety.

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.

Hon Jeremy Buckingham 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 gathering 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 2024-2025

- 1.1 On 20 June 2024, the Legislative Council referred the Budget Estimates for the 2024-2025 financial year to the portfolio committees for inquiry and report.⁴
- 1.2 The Legislative Council resolved that initial hearings for Budget Estimates 2024-2025 be held over 11 days from 27 August to 30 August 2024, 3 September to 6 September 2024 and 9 September to 11 September 2024 and that supplementary hearings be scheduled from 2 December to 6 December 2024.⁵
- 1.3 On 21 November 2024, the Legislative Council resolved that additional hearings for Budget Estimates 2024-2025 be held over 12 days from 25 February 2025 to 28 February 2025, 3 March 2025 to 7 March 2025, and 10 March 2025 to 12 March 2025.⁶
- 1.4 Three additional hearings were rescheduled due to the impact of Cyclone Alfred and the unavailability of ministers and other witnesses.⁷
- 1.5 The Budget Estimates resolution establishing the inquiry, which sets out the rules for the inquiry, is reproduced on page iv-xiii.

Hearings

- 1.6 The committee held public hearings as follows:
 - 28 August 2024 and 26 February 2025: Premier, including independent agencies
 - 29 August 2024 and 5 March 2025: Treasurer
 - 5 September 2024 and 6 March 2025: Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources

⁴ Minutes, NSW Legislative Council, 20 June 2024, pp 1295-1298.

⁵ Minutes, NSW Legislative Council, 21 November 2023, pp 670-671; Minutes, NSW Legislative Council, 20 June 2024, pp 1295-1298.

⁶ Minutes, NSW Legislative Council, 21 November 2024, pp 1901-1904.

⁷ Minutes, NSW Legislative Council, 19 March 2025, pp 2154-2155.

- 6 September 2024 and 4 March 2025: Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research
- 11 September 2024 and 3 March 2025: Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety
- 30 August 2024 and 11 March 2025: The Legislature.

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.

Premier, including independent agencies

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Premier was held on Wednesday 28 August 2024. As part of this hearing a panel of independent agencies comprising the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Audit Office of New South Wales, NSW Electoral Commission, NSW Public Service Commission, NSW Ombudsman and Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC) were examined. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- the development of Rosehill Racecourse
- hunting and pest management, including wild horse management in Kosciuszko National Park
- opportunities for a medicinal cannabis industry in New South Wales
- details about renewable energy zones (REZs), including the Central-West Orana REZ
- electronic returns to orders for papers
- issues relating to lobbyists, including access to Parliament House, ministerial diary disclosures and tracking political donations
- corruption risks in particular areas including local procurement policy and unsolicited proposals for housing development
- establishment of the Office of the Public Service Commissioner within the Premier's Department
- protections for whistleblowers
- funding for integrity agencies including concerns about underfunding of the NSW Electoral Commission for staffing, digital modernisation, technology-assisted voting and cybersecurity
- the time taken by the ICAC to complete investigations
- issues of relevance to the LECC including the LECC's ability to access highly sensitive material held by Police to conduct critical incident investigations and carry out its monitoring functions, LECC input into reforms surrounding weapons regulation and training following high profile critical incidents, the Police response to the LECC's report *Review of a sample of NSW Police Force strip search records 2021-2022*, the LECC's ability to conduct proactive investigations, and the proportion of complaints that the LECC investigates versus its oversight of Police internal investigations.

2.2 An additional hearing was held on Wednesday 26 February 2025 and the following issues were raised:

- mental health services in New South Wales and the resignation and potential resignation of psychiatrists
- the resignation of the former Minister for Transport and the use of ministerial drivers
- the legalisation of cannabis in the ACT, and proposals to legalise cannabis in New South Wales
- logging of the Great Koala National Park and support for the forestry industry
- the election commitments prior to the 2023 election
- population policy in New South Wales
- new pay and conditions agreement for nurses and midwives in New South Wales
- crime in regional New South Wales and the government's response
- antisemitic violence and hate speech in the community
- the return-to-work policy for public service
- redevelopment of the Rosehill Racecourse
- funding of the NSW Electoral Commission and the delivery of the 2027 state election
- investigations into police misconduct by the LECC
- the meaning of public officials under the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988*.

Treasurer

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolio Treasurer was held on Thursday 29 August 2024. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- point of consumption tax
- the mutual gains bargaining system and wage negotiations
- business groupings for tax free thresholds
- ongoing maintenance of maritime assets
- fines issued to Forestry Corporation and payments made to harvesting contractors
- funding of the NSW Electoral Commission and ivote
- domestic and family violence spending
- the unsolicited proposal process in relation to Rosehill Racecourse.

2.4 An additional hearing was held on Wednesday 5 March 2025 and the following issues were raised:

- NSW Treasury's input into the methodology review regarding the Commonwealth Grants Commission

- industrial relations including bargaining policies and the differences between recent police and nurse pay rises, new self-care provisions in the teachers' awards and new workers' compensation schemes
- analysis of New South Wales productivity including the state's comparison to other international jurisdictions, working from home assessments in the public sector
- National Health Reform Agreement and the state's contribution to foundational supports
- population policy and data forecasting including the state's working discussions with the Commonwealth Council on Federal Financial Relations
- housing and planning policies including planning approvals with regards to Transport Oriented Development Program planning and cost of developments, footprint land zoning
- proposed removal of poker machines in New South Wales
- review into funding of certain community grants
- funding of the south-west metro
- point of consumption tax (online wagering) and the state's ability to audit users
- toll road concessions and association toll road reviews
- NSW Government procurement policies including eTender, government's payment platforms.

The Legislature

2.5 A hearing examining the portfolio of The Legislature was held on Friday 30 August 2024. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- employment and conditions for members' staff
- capital works at Parliament House, including the lift refurbishment and water ingress
- security for members and staff
- availability of period products at Parliament House for staff and visitors
- progress of the electronic returns to order project.

2.6 An additional hearing was held on Tuesday 11 March 2025 and the following issues were raised:

- renovations and other capital works at Parliament House
- employment arrangements for members' staff
- progress on the electronic returns to order project
- implementation of the Broderick review recommendations and the role of the Independent Complaints Officer
- security arrangements at NSW Parliament.

Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources

2.7 A hearing examining the portfolios of Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources was held on Thursday 5 September 2024. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- the appointment of the Minister's former Chief of Staff to the Port Authority of NSW Board
- McPhillamys gold project near Blayney NSW, including the impact of the decision of the Commonwealth Minister for Environment and Water to issue a declaration under section 10 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984 (Cth)* to prevent a tailings dam from being built at the headwaters of the Belubula River
- updates to the *NSW Procurement Policy Framework*, including the 'If not, why not' policy and the Jobs First Commission
- gas supply, including the Narrabri Gas Project
- weapons manufacturing
- the Bulk-Billing Support Initiative
- The Star and tax relief
- mining projects and resource strategies
- domestic manufacturing of medicinal cannabis
- the Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund
- interstate debt accrued as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- the Shared Equity Home Buyer Helper scheme
- recovery of payroll tax from companies Zenith and Synergy Scaffolding Services after their entry into liquidation
- GP payroll tax
- government commitments to reduce expenditure including on consultants, contractors, government sector travel and external legal contracts
- flexible working arrangements within Revenue NSW.

2.8 An additional hearing was held on Thursday 6 March 2025 and the following issues were raised:

- procurement contracts relating to electric buses, CATL batteries from China and concerns about overseas manufacturing including modern slavery, breach of WHS standards and misconduct
- details in Ministerial disclosures
- revenue raising from online betting and Point of Consumption Tax
- payroll tax

- regulation of gold mining exploration licenses and other mining operations
- GP payroll tax
- number and location of employees within Revenue NSW.

Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research

2.9 A hearing examining the portfolios of Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, and Medical Research was held on Friday 6 September 2024. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- the Drake Inquiry into Greyhound Racing NSW
- Racing NSW statutory obligations, funded projects and accounts
- death of greyhounds in transit and Aussie Mates in the States program
- a Queensland probity report into The Star's operations, and the regulation of casinos
- cashless gaming trials
- Treaty process and independent Treaty Commissioners
- the sale of Rosehill Racecourse and decision-making and governance within Racing NSW
- complaints regarding Racing NSW
- the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission Inquiry into the Wyee rehoming facility and the Alex Brittan Report regarding the greyhound racing industry
- Closing the Gap
- matters affecting the Central Coast including the provision of new ambulance stations and preschools, TAFE funding and wait times at Gosford and Wyong Hospitals
- implementation of cultural heritage legislation
- matters affecting veterans including suicide prevention, the Veterans Employment Program and veteran homelessness
- matters pertaining to medical research including a research and innovation strategy for New South Wales, workforce issues and funding of projects
- services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children experiencing domestic and family violence.

2.10 An additional hearing was held on Tuesday 4 March 2025 and the following issues were raised:

- Aboriginal youth representation in detention, remand rates and other Closing the Gap targets
- appointment of Aboriginal treaty commissioners and the treaty consultation process, including timeline and languages

- gambling reform
- greyhound racing appointments and GRNSW land deals and probity checks
- greyhound racing injuries and animal welfare; track upgrades and minimum standards
- the Drake Inquiry into Greyhound Racing NSW
- Star casino operations; strategies to support 3600 Star employees, staff retention, impact on small businesses, and the relationship between Crown and Star
- veterans programs, services and support
- medical research strategy, medical research support programs, microbiome research centre, puberty blockers and hormone therapy, funding for programs
- closure of maternity services at Wyong Hospital.

Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety

2.11 A hearing examining the portfolios of Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety was held on Wednesday 11 September 2024. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- public sector productivity
- public sector wages including bargaining parameters
- award negotiations with various unions including the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association, NSW Teachers Federation, Fire Brigade Employees' Union, Police Association of NSW, Public Service Association, and Rail Tram and Bus Union
- the government return to the workplace circular
- legislation related to the expanded list of cancers covered by firefighters' diseases in schedule 4 of the *Workers Compensation Act 1987*
- incidents at John Hunter Hospital involving reo cages
- interactions between Construction, Forestry and Maritime Employees Union (CFMEU) representatives and SafeWork NSW, the appointment of an administrator for the CFMEU, and CFMEU relationships with specific scaffolding companies
- engineered stone ban transition period and silica dust education
- asbestos at Castle Hill High School
- workplace safety and workers' rights at statutory bodies
- icare policy on sexual misconduct, icare response to the Auditor General's recommendations around its operations and processes, icare use of consultants, and return to work rates under icare's workers' compensation schemes
- the impact of industrial action on the New South Wales economy

- adjustments to industrial relations guidelines due to the abolition of the Australian Building and Construction Commission
- protections and workers' compensation for gig workers.

2.12 An additional hearing was held on Monday 3 March 2025 and the following issues were raised:

- SafeWork NSW related issues including investigations into the Nine Entertainment Group, Snowy 2.0 and employee background checks
- award negotiations with various unions including the Rail Tram and Bus Union, Fire Brigade Employees' Union and NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association
- mutual gains bargaining and outcomes
- protected industrial action
- workers' compensation reform
- Industrial Relations Commission proceedings related to psychiatrists
- Psychological Health and Safety Strategy
- presumptive cancer legislation
- portable long service leave reforms
- icare related issues including psychological injury claims, entitlement terminations, the composition of the board and the injured workers advisory panel
- NSW Police Force insurance schemes
- Treasury Managed Fund asset liability ratios.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
Wednesday 28 August 2024 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Chris Minns MP	Premier
	Mr Simon Draper PSM	Secretary, Premier's Department
	Ms Kate Boyd PSM	Secretary, The Cabinet Office
	Ms Kate Meagher	Deputy Secretary, Community Engagement Group, Premier's Department
	Ms Gillian White	Deputy Secretary, Social Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, The Cabinet Office
	Mr Marcus Ray	Deputy Secretary, Economic and Environment Policy, The Cabinet Office
	Ms Kathrina Lo	Public Service Commissioner, NSW Public Service Commission
	Mr Chris Lamb	Deputy Commissioner, NSW Public Service Commission
	Mr Bola Oyetunji	Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
	Ms Claudia Migotto	Acting Deputy Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
	Mr Peter Coulogeorgiou	Executive Director, Finance and Performance, Audit Office of NSW
	Hon John Hatzistergos AM	Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
	Mr Darrin Moy	CEO, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
	Dr Matthew Phillips	A/Commissioner, NSW Electoral Commission

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Sarah-jane Morris	Executive Director, Funding Disclosure & Compliance and General Counsel, NSW Electoral Commission
	Ms Andrea Summerell	Executive Director, Elections, NSW Electoral Commission
	Mr Paul Miller	Ombudsman, NSW Ombudsman
	Ms Anina Johnson	Acting Chief Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission
	Ms Christina Anderson	Chief Executive Officer, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission
Thursday 29 August 2024 Jubilee Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Treasurer
	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, NSW Treasury
	Mr David Deverall	Chief Executive, NSW Treasury Corporation
	Mr Tom Gellibrand	Chief Executive, Infrastructure NSW
	Mr Said Hirsh	Head of Strategy, Planning and Innovation, Infrastructure NSW
	Ms Marina van der Walt	Deputy Secretary, Financial Management and Services, NSW Treasury
	Ms Liz Livingstone	Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury
	Ms Joann Wilkie	Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity, NSW Treasury
	Ms Donna Awad	Executive Director, Tolling Reform, NSW Treasury

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
Friday 30 August 2024 Preston Stanley Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Ben Franklin MLC	President of the Legislative Council
	Mr David Blunt AM	Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW
	Mr Mark Webb	Chief Executive Officer, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW
	Ms Margaret Palmer	Director, Financial Services & Governance, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW
Thursday 5 September 2024 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Courtney Houssos MLC	Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources
	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, NSW Treasury
	Mr Scott Johnston	Deputy Secretary, Chief Commissioner of State Revenue, Commissioner of Fines Administration, Revenue NSW
	Mr Cullen Smythe	Executive Director, Technical and Advisory Services, Commissioner of State Revenue, Revenue NSW
	Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
	Ms Georgina Beattie	Deputy Secretary, NSW Resources, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
	Mr Peter Day	Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator, Department of Primary

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
		Industries and Regional Development
	Ms Liz Livingstone	Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury
	Ms Joann Wilkie	Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity Group, NSW Treasury
	Ms Andrea Forbes	Deputy Secretary, Procurement Reform and Banking, NSW Treasury
Friday 6 September 2024 Jubilee Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon David Harris MP	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast
	Ms Elizabeth Mildwater	Secretary, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
	Ms Caroline Lamb	Chairperson, Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority
	Mr Tarek Barakat	Deputy Secretary Hospitality and Racing, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
	Mr Steve Griffin	CEO, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission
	Ms Lea Drake	Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission
	Mr Shane Hamilton	Deputy Secretary, Aboriginal Affairs, Premier's Department
	Mr Simon Draper PSM	Secretary, Premier's Department
	Dr Jean-Frédéric Levesque	Deputy Secretary, Clinical Innovation and Research, NSW Health

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Kate Meagher	Deputy Secretary, Community Engagement Group, Premier's Department
	Mr Terry O'Brian	Director, Policy & Racing, Hospitality & Racing, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
	Ms Caroline Mackaness	Director, Office of Veterans Affairs, Department of Communities and Justice
	Mr Philip Crawford	Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Casino Commission
Wednesday 11 September 2024 Macquarie Room Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Sophie Cotsis MP	Minister for Industrial Relations, and Minister for Work Health and Safety
	Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
	Mr Stuart Farquharson	Interim Chief Executive Officer, icare
	Mr Tony Wessling	Group Executive, Workers Compensation, icare
	Mr Graeme Head AO	Secretary, Department of Customer Service
	Mr Trent Curtin	Deputy Secretary, SafeWork NSW, Department of Customer Service
	Mr Simon Draper PSM	Secretary, Premier's Department
	Ms Samara Dobbins	Deputy Secretary Delivery & Coordination, Premier's Department
Wednesday 26 February 2025 Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Chris Minns MP	Premier
	Mr Simon Draper PSM	Secretary, Premier's Department

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Kate Boyd PSM	Secretary, The Cabinet Office
	Ms Samara Dobbins	Deputy Secretary, People and Workforce Group, Premier's Department
	Ms Kate Meagher	Deputy Secretary, Delivery and Engagement Group, Premier's Department
	Ms Gillian White	Deputy Secretary, Social Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, The Cabinet Office
	Mr Marcus Ray PSM	Deputy Secretary, Economic Housing and Infrastructure Policy, The Cabinet Office
	Ms Lucy Hartas	Acting Deputy Secretary, Energy, Environment and Evidence, The Cabinet Office
	Ms Kathrina Lo	Public Service Commissioner, Office of the Public Service Commissioner
	Ms Tiana Jaeschke	Director of Policy and Programs, Office of the Public Service Commissioner
	Mr Bola Oyetunji	Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
	Ms Claudia Migotto	Deputy Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
	Mr Peter Coulogeorgiou	Executive Director, Quality, Improvement and Performance, Audit Office of NSW
	Hon John Hatzistergos AM	Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
	Ms Michelle Ward	Acting Chief Executive Officer, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Rachel McCallum	NSW Electoral Commissioner, NSW Electoral Commission
	Mr Hugo Bergeron	Acting Executive Director, Funding Disclosure & Compliance, NSW Electoral Commission
	Ms Andrea Summerell	Executive Director, Elections, NSW Electoral Commission
	Mr Doug Catchpole	Chief Financial Officer, NSW Electoral Commission
	Mr Paul Miller	Ombudsman, NSW Ombudsman
	Hon Peter Johnson SC	Chief Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission
	Ms Christina Anderson	Chief Executive Officer, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission
Monday 3 March 2025 Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Sophie Cotsis MP	Minister for Industrial Relations, and Minister for Work Health and Safety
	Mr Simon Draper PSM	Secretary, Premier's Department
	Ms Samara Dobbins	Deputy Secretary, People and Workforce Group, Premier's Department
	Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
	Mr Stuart Farquharson	Interim Chief Executive Officer, icare
	Mr Tony Wessling	Group Executive, Workers Compensation, icare
	Mr Graeme Head AO	Secretary, Department of Customer Service

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Mr Trent Curtin	Acting Deputy Secretary, SafeWork NSW, Department of Customer Service
	Ms Marina Rizzo	Executive Director, Industrial Relations, Premier's Department
	Dr Petrina Casey	Executive Director, Strategic & Corporate Services, SafeWork NSW
Tuesday 4 March 2025 Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney	Hon David Harris MP	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, and Minister for the Central Coast
	Ms Elizabeth Mildwater	Secretary, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
	Mr Simon Draper PSM	Secretary, Premier's Department
	Mr Tarek Barakat	Deputy Secretary, Hospitality and Racing, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
	Mr Shane Hamilton	Deputy Secretary, Aboriginal Affairs, Premier's Department
	Ms Kate Meagher	Deputy Secretary, Delivery and Engagement Group, Premier's Department
	Dr Kim Sutherland	Acting Deputy Secretary, Clinical Innovation and Research, NSW Health
	Ms Caroline Lamb	Chairperson, Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority
	Mr Matthew Tutt	Acting Chief Executive Officer, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Ms Lea Drake	Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission
	Mr Philip Crawford	Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Casino Commission
	Ms Caroline Mackaness	Director, Office of Veterans Affairs, Department of Communities and Justice
Wednesday 5 March 2025 Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Treasurer
	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, NSW Treasury
	Ms Marina van der Walt	Deputy Secretary, Financial Management and Services, NSW Treasury
	Ms Liz Livingstone	Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury
	Ms Joann Wilkie	Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity, NSW Treasury
	Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
	Ms Donna Awad	Executive Director, Tolling Reform, NSW Treasury
	Mr David Deverall	Chief Executive, NSW Treasury Corporation
	Mr Tom Gellibrand	Chief Executive, Infrastructure NSW
Thursday 6 March 2025 Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney		Head of Strategy, Planning and Innovation, Infrastructure NSW
	Hon Courtney Houssos MP	Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, NSW Treasury
	Mr Scott Johnston	Deputy Secretary, Chief Commissioner of State Revenue, Commissioner of Fines Administration, Revenue NSW
	Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
	Ms Georgina Beattie	Deputy Secretary, NSW Resources, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
	Ms Andrea Forbes	Deputy Secretary, Procurement Reform and Banking, NSW Treasury
	Mr Cullen Smythe	Executive Director, Technical and Advisory Services, Commissioner of State Revenue. Revenue NSW
	Mr Peter Day	Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
	Ms Joan Wilkie	Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity Group, NSW Treasury
	Ms Liz Livingstone	Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury
Tuesday 11 March 2025 Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney	Hon Ben Franklin MLC	President of the Legislative Council
	Mr David Blunt AM	Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Mr Mark Webb	Chief Executive Officer, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW
	Ms Margaret Palmer	Director, Financial Services & Governance, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 28

Tuesday 16 July 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Room 1043, Parliament House, Sydney at 1.15 pm

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Murphy (substituting for Dr Kaine)

Mr Lawrence (via videoconference)

Mr Nanva (via videoconference)

Mr Rath

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Murphy: That draft minutes no. 24 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 11 June 2024 – Email from Ms Sophie Smith, Government Relations Supervisor, icare nominating two icare witnesses to appear at the initial Budget Estimates hearing for Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety on 11 September 2024
- 11 June – Letter from the Hon David Harris MP to the Chair, responding to correspondence received from the Hon Mark Latham MLC about evidence given during the Portfolio Committee No. 1 Budget Estimates Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research hearing on Thursday 22 February 2024.

Sent

- 5 June 2024 – Letter from Chair to the Hon David Harris MP, requesting clarifications to his evidence given during the Portfolio Committee No. 1 Budget Estimates Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research hearing on Thursday 22 February 2024 following correspondence about this received from the Hon Mark Latham MLC on 14 May 2024
- 24 June 2024 – Email from secretariat to Ms Sophie Smith, Government Relations Supervisor, icare responding to email dated 11 June 2024 nominating two icare witnesses to appear at the initial Budget Estimates hearing for Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety on 11 September 2024.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted that the Budget Estimates timetable for 2024-2025 was agreed to by the House with hearings generally commencing at 9.15 am and concluding by 5.30 pm. The committee noted the following timetable of Portfolio Committee No. 1 hearings:

Date	Portfolio
Wednesday 28 August 2024	Premier
Thursday 29 August 2024	Treasurer

Friday 30 August 2024	The Legislature
Thursday 5 September 2024	Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources
Friday 6 September 2024	Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research
Wednesday 11 September 2024	Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety

4.1 Allocation of question time and total hearing time

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution:

- (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature is to 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, and
- (b) the portfolio of The Legislature is to 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.

4.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the following portfolios is to alternate between *opposition and crossbench members, in that order*, with equal time allocated to each:

- Premier
- Treasurer
- Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources.

The committee also noted that unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the following portfolios is to alternate between *crossbench and opposition members, in that order*, with equal time allocated to each:

- Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, Central Coast, Medical Research
- Industrial Relations and Work Health and Safety.

4.3 Witness requests

The committee noted a list of witnesses, except independent agency witnesses, who appeared at initial hearings for Budget Estimates 2023-2024 for the portfolios relevant Portfolio Committee No. 1.

Premier

Witness	
Mr Simon Draper PSM	Secretary, Premier's Department
Mr William Murphy PSM	Acting Secretary, The Cabinet Office
Ms Kate Boyd PSM	Deputy Secretary, General Council, The Cabinet Office
Ms Samara Dobbins	Deputy Secretary, Delivery and Coordination, Premier's Department
Ms Kate Meagher	Deputy Secretary, Community Engagement Group, Premier's Department

Treasurer

Witness	
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, NSW Treasury
Mr David Deverall	Chief Executive, NSW Treasury Corporation
Mr Tom Gellibrand	Chief Executive, Infrastructure NSW
Mr Said Hirsh	Head of Strategy, Planning and Innovation, Infrastructure NSW
Ms Marina van der Walt	Deputy Secretary, Financial Management and Services, NSW Treasury
Ms Liz Livingstone	Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury
Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
Ms Joann Wilkie	Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity, NSW Treasury

The Legislature

Witness	
Mr David Blunt	Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW
Mr Mark Webb	Chief Executive, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW
Ms Jocelyn Webb	Director, Financial Services and Governance, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW

Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources

Witness	
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Treasury
Ms Mandy Young	Deputy Secretary, Chief Commissioner of State Revenue, Commissioner of Fines Administration, Revenue NSW
Mr Cullen Smythe	Executive Director, Technical and Advisory Services, Commissioner of State Revenue, Revenue NSW
Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, Treasury
Ms Georgina Beattie	CEO, Mining Exploration and Geoscience, Department of Regional NSW
Mr Peter Day	Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator, Department of Regional NSW
Ms Liz Livingstone	Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, Treasury

Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research

Witness	
Mr Tarek Barakat	Acting CEO, Hospitality and Racing, DEIT

Ms Elizabeth Mildwater	Secretary, DEIT
Mr Steve Griffin	CEO, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission
Mr Shane Hamilton	Deputy Secretary, Aboriginal Affairs, Premiers Department
Mr Simon Draper	Secretary (for Aboriginal Affairs), Premiers Department
Dr Jean-Frederic Levesque	Deputy Secretary, Clinical Innovation and Research, NSW Health
Ms Harriet Whyte	Executive Director, Regional Development, Department of Regional NSW
Ms Caroline Mackaness	Director, Office of Veterans Affairs, DCJ
Mr Philip Crawford	Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Casino Commission (NICC)
Ms Caroline Lamb	Chairperson, ILGA

Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety

Witness	
Ms Sonya Campbell	Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
Mr Richard Harding	CEO and Managing Director, icare
Mr Stuart Farquharson	Chief Financial Officer, icare
Mr Trent Curtin	Deputy Secretary SafeWork NSW, Department of Customer Service
Mr Simon Draper	Secretary, Premier's Department
Ms Samara Dobbins	Deputy Secretary, Delivery & Coordination, Premier's Department
Mr Charlie Heuston	Executive Director, Industrial Relations, Premier's Department

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Rath: That:

- members be given 48 hours to consider the list of witnesses – except independent agency witnesses – who appeared before portfolio committee no. 1 at initial hearings for Budget Estimates 2023-2024 and propose amendments or nominate additional witnesses by email (noting that where a witness no longer occupies a position their proposed inclusion in the witness list is taken to be a reference to their position)
- the committee agree to the witness list by email, unless a meeting of the committee is required to resolve any disagreement
- once the witness list is agreed, the secretariat write to the ministers of portfolios being examined by the committee to communicate the witness list and invite the nomination of any additional witnesses, for the committee's consideration, prior to it settling on a final witness list.

4.4 Witness requests – Independent agencies

The committee noted that in previous years, the hearing for the portfolio of Premier has been scheduled to allow witnesses from independent agencies to appear separately from departmental witnesses.

The committee also noted a list of independent agency witnesses who appeared as part of a panel for initial hearings for Budget Estimates 2023-2024.

Witness	
Ms Kathrina Lo	Public Service Commissioner, NSW Public Service Commission
Mr Chris Lamb	Deputy Commissioner, NSW Public Service Commission
Ms Margaret Crawford	Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
Mr Ian Goodwin	Deputy Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
Hon John Hatzistergos AM	Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
Mr Darrin Moy	CEO, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
Mr John Schmidt	Commissioner, NSW Electoral Commission
Mr Matthew Phillips	Executive Director, Corporate, NSW Electoral Commission
Ms Rachel McCallum	Executive Director Funding Disclosure & Compliance and General Counsel, NSW Electoral Commission
Mr Paul Miller	Ombudsman, NSW Ombudsman
Hon Peter Johnson SC	Chief Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission
Ms Christina Anderson	Chief Executive Officer, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Murphy: That, for the hearing on Wednesday 28 August 2024 for the portfolio of Premier:

- independent agencies be invited to appear as part of a panel separate from departmental witnesses, from 3.45 pm until 5.30 pm
- members be given 48 hours to consider the list of witnesses from independent agencies who appeared before portfolio committee no. 1 at initial hearings for Budget Estimates 2023-2024 and propose amendments or nominate additional witnesses by email (noting that where a witness no longer occupies a position their proposed inclusion in the witness list is to be taken as a reference to the position)
- the committee agree to the witness list by email, unless a meeting of the committee is required to resolve any disagreement
- once the list is agreed, the secretariat write to the independent agencies to communicate the witness list and invite the nomination of any additional witnesses, for the committee's consideration prior to it settling on a final witness list.

4.5 Witness appearance time

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution Ministers are invited to appear for the morning sessions only, 9.15 am to 1.00 pm, unless requested by the committee to also appear for the afternoon session.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 1.17 pm, until Thursday 1 August 2024, Macquarie Room Parliament House, Impact of the regulatory framework for Cannabis in New South Wales (Public hearing).

Elspeth Dyer
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 34

Wednesday 28 August 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance
Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.02 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair* (until 12.50 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating) (until 10.45 am; from 2.00 pm until 2.46 pm; from 3.51 pm)

Dr Cohn (participating) (from 11.48 am until 12.50 pm)

Ms Faehrmann (participating) (from 12.11 pm until 12.50 pm)

Ms Higginson (participating) (from 9.20 am until 11.18 am; from 11.42 am until 12.50 pm; from 3.54 pm)

Mr Latham (participating)

Mrs Mitchell (substituting for Mr Rath) (from 9.03 am until 12.50 pm)

Mr Nanva (until 3.19 pm)

Mr Primrose (substituting for Mr Lawrence) (until 12.50 pm)

Mr Rath (from 2.00 pm)

Ms Suvaal (substituting for Dr Kaine) (until 2.03 pm; from 2.55 pm until 4.06 pm)

Mr Tudehope (from 9.03 am until 3.06 pm)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Nanva: That draft minutes no. 28 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 2 August 2024 – Email from Vanessa Gill, Office of the Auditor-General, proposing amendments to the witness list for PC1 Premier Budget Estimates hearing, 28 August 2024
- 5 August 2024 – Email from Sarah King, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC), attaching a letter from Hon Peter Johnson SC, Chief Commissioner of the LECC, advising he will be unable to appear at PC1 Premier Budget Estimates hearing 28 August 2024 and that Acting Chief Commissioner Anina Johnson will appear in his place
- 5 August 2024 – Email from William Coates, Office of Hon Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council, providing a proposed amendment of the President to the witness list for the PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for The Legislature, 30 August 2024
- 6 August 2024 – Emails from Julie Morris, NSW Electoral Commission, proposing amendments to the witness list for PC1 Premier Budget Estimates hearing 28 August 2024
- 8 August 2024 – Email from Cara Punch, Office of Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier, providing the Premier's proposed amendments to the witness list for the PC1 Premier Budget Estimates hearing 28 August 2024
- 8 and 9 August 2024 – Emails from the Office of Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, providing the Treasurer's proposed amendments to the witness list for the PC1 Treasurer Budget Estimates hearing, 29 August 2024
- 8 August 2024 – Email from Taylor Rundell, Office of Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources, providing the Minister's proposed amendments to the witness list for PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for her portfolios, 5 September 2024
- 8 August 2024 – Further email from Taylor Rundell, Office of Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources, requesting that Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary Treasury, appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for Minister Houssos' portfolios, 5 September 2024, from 9.15 am to 1.00 pm only
- 8 August 2024 – Email from Andy Meehan, Office of Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical

Research, Minister for Central Coast, providing the Minister's proposed amendments to the witness list for the PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for his portfolios, 6 September 2024

- 8 August 2024 – Email from Elly Howse, Office of Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast, providing Mr Tarek Barakat's correct position title for the witness list for the PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for Minister Harris' portfolios, 6 September 2024
- 12 August 2024 – Email from Ngoc Tran, Independent Commission Against Corruption, regarding the witness list for PC1 Premier Budget Estimates hearing, 28 August 2024
- 12 August 2024 – Further email from Ngoc Tran, Independent Commission Against Corruption, regarding the witness list for the PC1 Premier Budget Estimates hearing, 28 August 2024
- 15 August 2024 – Email from Hon. Emma Hurst MLC to Chair requesting additional witness, Ms Lea Drake, Acting Commissioner, NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission appear at Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research hearing, 6 September 2024
- 27 August 2024 – Email from Jessica Barton, Premier's Department to Budget Estimates secretariat advising that Ms Samara Dobbins, Deputy Secretary Delivery and Coordination, Premier's Department is ill and cannot appear at PC1 Premier hearing, 28 August 2024.

Sent

- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Hon. Chris Minns MP, Premier, inviting him to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates Premier hearing, 28 August 2024 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Public Service Commission attaching invitation to appear at PC1 Budget Estimates Premier hearing, 28 August 2024 and witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Independent Commission Against Corruption attaching invitation to appear at PC1 Budget Estimates Premier hearing, 28 August 2024 and witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the NSW Law Enforcement Conduct Commission attaching the invitation to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates Premier hearing, 28 August 2024 and the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the NSW Audit Office attaching an invitation to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates Premier hearing, 28 August 2024 and the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the NSW Electoral Commission, attaching an invitation to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates Premier hearing, 28 August 2024 and the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the NSW Ombudsman attaching an invitation to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates Premier hearing, 28 August 2024 and the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, inviting him to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates Treasurer hearing, 29 August 2024 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Hon. Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council, inviting him to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for The Legislature, 30 August 2024 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Hon. Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources, inviting her to appear at PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 5 September 2024, and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Hon. David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast, inviting him to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 6 September 2024 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 1 August 2024 – Email to the Hon. Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Workplace Health and Safety, inviting her to appear at the PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 11 September 2024 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee

- 20 August 2024 – Email to the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast, requesting that an additional witness, Ms Lea Drake, Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission, appear at PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 6 September 2024.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution:

- (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature, is to 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 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the portfolio of the Premier alternate between opposition and crossbench members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each.

4.3 Public hearing – Premier (Minns)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier, was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Mr Simon Draper PSM, Secretary, Premier's Department.
- Ms Kate Boyd PSM, Secretary, The Cabinet Office.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of the Premier open for examination.

Mr Buckingham tabled the following document:

- Document, Front page of 'Petition: Don't pour fuel on the climate fire', addressed to Premier Minns, copied to Ministers Sharpe, Scully, and Houssos.

Mr Latham tabled the following document:

- Transcript extract, Racing NSW Stewards Inquiry – Inquiry into the conduct of Mrs Colleen Walker, Chairperson, Mudgee Race Club.

The Chair called Mr Latham to order for the first time.

Mrs Mitchell tabled the following document:

- Letter, Country Press NSW and Australian Community Media to Premier Minns, dated 7 March 2024, regarding regional print media.

The Premier left the room from 11.57 am until 12.00 pm.

The Chair called Mr Tudehope to order for the first time.

The Premier withdrew at 12.50 pm.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined (2.00 pm):

- Ms Kate Meagher, Deputy Secretary, Community Engagement Group, Premier's Department
- Ms Gillian White, Deputy Secretary, Social Policy and National Reform Group, The Cabinet Office
- Mr Marcus Ray, Deputy Secretary, Economic and Environment Policy, The Cabinet Office.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew at 3.19 pm.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined (3.45 pm):

- Ms Kathrina Lo, Public Service Commissioner, NSW Public Service Commission
- Mr Chris Lamb, Deputy Commissioner, NSW Public Service Commission
- Mr Bola Oyetunji, Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
- Ms Claudia Migotto, Acting Deputy Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
- Mr Peter Coulogeorgiou, Executive Director, Finance and Performance, Audit Office of NSW
- Hon John Hatzistergos AM, Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
- Mr Darrin Moy, CEO, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
- Dr Matthew Phillips, A/Commissioner, NSW Electoral Commission
- Ms Sarah-jane Morris, Executive Director, Funding Disclosure & Compliance and General Counsel, NSW Electoral Commission
- Ms Andrea Summerell, Executive Director, Elections, NSW Electoral Commission
- Mr Paul Miller, Ombudsman, NSW Ombudsman
- Ms Anina Johnson, Acting Chief Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission
- Ms Christina Anderson, Chief Executive Officer, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.17 pm.

The public and the media withdrew.

4.4 Tabled documents

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

- Document, Front page of 'Petition: Don't pour fuel on the climate fire', addressed to Premier Minns, copied to Ministers Sharpe, Scully, and Houssos, tabled by Mr Buckingham
- Transcript extract, Racing NSW Stewards Inquiry – Inquiry into the conduct of Mrs Colleen Walker, Chairperson, Mudgee Race Club, tabled by Mr Latham
- Letter, Country Press NSW and Australian Community Media to Premier Minns dated 7 March 2024 regarding regional print media, tabled by Mrs Mitchell.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.19 pm, until Thursday 29 August 2024, 9.00 am, Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – Treasurer (public hearing).

Shaza Barbar

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 35

Thursday 29 August 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.02 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair* (until 10.35 am, from 10.38 am)

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair* (until 10.45 am, from 11.27 am until 12.51 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating) (until 10.46 am, from 11.25 am until 12.38 pm)

Dr Kaine (until 12.51 pm)

Mr Rath

Mr Nanva (until 12.51 pm, from 3.08 pm)
Ms Suvaal (substituting for Mr Lawrence) (until 3.10 pm)
Mr Tudehope

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

2.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution:

- (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature is to 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.

2.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the portfolio of the Treasurer alternate between opposition and crossbench members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each.

2.3 Public hearing – Treasurer

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, was admitted and examined.

The following witness was sworn and examined:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, NSW Treasury.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Treasurer open for examination.

The Chair called Mr Tudehope to order for the first time.

Mr Buckingham left the meeting.

In absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair took the Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

Mr Buckingham re-joined the meeting and took the Chair.

The Chair called Mr Tudehope to order for the second time.

The Minister withdrew at 12.51 pm.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Mr David Deverall, Chief Executive, NSW Treasury Corporation
- Mr Tom Gellibrand, Chief Executive, Infrastructure NSW
- Mr Said Hirsh, Head of Strategy, Planning and Innovation, Infrastructure NSW
- Ms Marina van der Walt, Deputy Secretary, Financial Management and Services, NSW Treasury
- Ms Liz Livingstone, Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury
- Ms Joann Wilkie, Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity, NSW Treasury
- Ms Donna Awad, Executive Director, Tolling Reform, NSW Treasury.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.34 pm.

The public and the media withdrew.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.35 pm, until Friday 30 August 2024, 9.00 am, Preston Stanley Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – The Legislature (public hearing).

Talina Drabsch
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 36

Friday 30 August 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Preston Stanley Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.00 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair* (from 9.01 am until 12.24 pm, and from 12.27 pm until 12.45 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating) (from 9.14 am until 10.56 am)

Mr Fang (substituting for Mr Tudehope) (from 9.16 am until 10.56 am, and from 11.21 am until 11.45 am)

Dr Kaine

Mr Latham (participating) (from 9.08 am until 12.02 pm)

Mr Murphy (substituting for Mr Lawrence)

Mr Nanva

Mr Rath

Dr Cohn (from 9.24 am until 9.56 am)

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

2.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, 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 12.45pm.

2.2 Public hearing – The Legislature (Franklin)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Hon Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council, was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW
- Mr Mark Webb, Chief Executive Officer, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW
- Ms Margaret Palmer, Director, Financial Services & Governance, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of The Legislature open for examination.

The Chair called for nominations for a Deputy Chair for the duration of the meeting.

Dr Kaine moved: That Mr Nanva be elected Acting Deputy Chair for the duration of the meeting.

There being no further nominations, the Chair declared Mr Nanva elected Deputy Chair for the duration of the meeting.

Mr Buckingham left the meeting.

In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair took the Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

Mr Buckingham re-joined the meeting and took the Chair.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12.45 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 12.45 pm, until Thursday 5 September 2024, 9.00 am, Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources (public hearing).

Sharon Ohnesorge
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 37

Thursday 5 September 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.00 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair* (until 3.00 pm)

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair*

Ms Boyd (participating) (until 10.49 am)

Mr Donnelly (substituting for Mr Nanva) (until 3.01 pm)

Ms Faehrmann (participating) (from 11.26 am until 12.08 pm, from 12.16 pm until 12.41 pm)

Mr Faraway (participating) (until 10.53 am)

Ms Higginson (participating) (from 11.24 am until 12.41 pm)

Dr Kaene (until 12.53 pm, from 4.03 pm)

Mr Lawrence (until 12.53 pm, from 2.59 pm)

Mrs Mitchell (participating) (from 9.08 am until 12.47 pm); (substituting for Mr Tudehope) (from 12.47 pm until 12.53 pm)

Mr Rath

Mr Tudehope (until 10.51 am, from 11.15 am until 12.46 pm, from 2.00 pm)

2. Apologies

Mr Buckingham (from 3.00 pm)

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 12 August 2024 – Email from Emma Ross, office of Hon Sophie Cotsis MLC, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Work Health and Safety providing the Minister's proposed amendments to witness list agreed to by Portfolio Committee No. 1 for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 11 September 2024.
- 21 August 2024 – Email from Emma Ross, office of Hon Sophie Cotsis MLC providing clarification concerning the Minister's proposed amendments to the witness list agreed to by Portfolio Committee No. 1 for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 11 September 2024.
- 22 August 2024 – Email from Elly Howse, office of Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast advising Ms Lea Drake, Acting Commissioner, Greyhound

Welfare and Integrity Commission is available to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 6 September 2024.

- 22 August 2024 – Email from Taylor Rundell, office of Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources advising Ms Andrea Forbes, Deputy Secretary, Procurement Reform and Banking is available to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 5 September 2024

Sent:

- 12 August 2024 – Email to Emma Ross, office of Hon Sophie Cotsis MLC, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Work Health and Safety seeking clarification regarding the Minister's proposed amendments to witness list agreed to by Portfolio Committee No. 1 for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 11 September 2024
- 21 August 2024 – Email to Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources advising that Portfolio Committee No. 1 continues to request that Ms Andrea Forbes, Deputy Secretary, Procurement Reform and Banking appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 5 September 2024.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution:

- (b) each portfolio, except The Legislature is to 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 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the portfolios of Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources alternate between opposition and crossbench members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each.

4.3 Correspondence from The Cabinet Office regarding the disclosure of information contained within a privileged document during the Budget Estimates hearing on 28 August 2024

The committee noted the following item of correspondence:

- 4 September 2024 – Correspondence from the Clerk of the Parliaments to Chair, enclosing a letter from Ms Kate Boyd PSM, Secretary, The Cabinet Office, to the Clerk of the Parliaments alleging the disclosure of information contained within a privileged document by Hon Mark Latham MLC during a Budget Estimate hearing.

The Clerk of the Parliaments briefed the committee.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Lawrence: That the Chair, on behalf of the committee, write to Mr Latham to seek a response to the concerns raised in the letter received by the Clerk of the Parliaments from The Cabinet Office on 4 September 2024, regarding the disclosure of information contained within a privileged document at the Portfolio Committee No. 1 Budget Estimates hearing on 28 August 2024.

4.4 Public hearing – Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources (Houssos)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Mr Scott Johnston, Deputy Secretary, Chief Commissioner of State Revenue, Commissioner of Fines Administration, Revenue NSW
- Mr Cullen Smythe, Executive Director, Technical and Advisory Services, Commissioner of State Revenue, Revenue NSW
- Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
- Ms Georgina Beattie, Deputy Secretary, NSW Resources, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Mr Peter Day, Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Ms Andrea Forbes, Deputy Secretary, Procurement Reform and Banking, NSW Treasury.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, NSW Treasury
- Ms Joann Wilkie, Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity Group, NSW Treasury

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources open for examination.

The Minister tendered the following document:

- Extract, Part 3 'General principles for procurement' from *Procurement (Enforceable Procurement Provision) Direction 2019 [NSW]*.

The Chair called Mr Tudehope to order for the first time.

The Chair called Mr Tudehope to order for the second time.

Mr Borsak tabled the following document:

- Joint media release from Minister Houssos, Minister Chanthivong, and Minister Whan, 'Supporting local jobs, boosting local businesses with Jobs First Commission and 'If not, why not' government spending rules'.

The Minister and Mr Coutts-Trotter withdrew at 12.47 pm.

The other witnesses, the public and the media withdrew at 12.47 pm.

4.5 Opportunity to respond

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the Chair write to Ms Nyree Reynolds to provide her with an opportunity to respond to the potential adverse mention included in the transcript of the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the portfolios of Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources held on 5 September 2024.

4.6 Public hearing– Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources (Houssos)

Witnesses, the public and the media were readmitted at 2.00 pm.

The following witness was examined on her former oath:

- Ms Liz Livingstone, Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury.

The Chair withdrew at 3.00 pm. In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair took the Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

The public hearing concluded at 4.06 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

4.7 Tabled and tendered documents

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

- Extract, Part 3 'General principles for procurement' from *Procurement (Enforceable Procurement Provision) Direction 2019 [NSW]*, tendered by Hon Courtney Houssos MLC
- Joint media release from Minister Houssos, Minister Chanthivong, and Minister Whan, 'Supporting local jobs, boosting local businesses with Jobs First Commission and 'If not, why not' government spending rules', tabled by Mr Borsak.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.06 pm, until Friday 6 September 2024, 9.00am, Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research (public hearing).

Kate Mihaljek
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 38

Friday 6 September 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.01 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair* (until 10.44 am, from 11.15 am until 12.56 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating) (until 11.39 am, from 2.02 pm)

Mr Buttigieg (substituting for Mr Lawrence) (until 10.48 am, from 11.20 am until 11.30 am, from 3.59 pm)

Mr Donnelly (substituting for Mr Lawrence) (from 11.30 am until 12.56 pm)

Mr Farlow (substituting for Mr Tudehope) (until 3.32 pm, from 3.56 pm)

Ms Higginson (participating) (from 9.03 am until 12.26 pm)

Ms Hurst (participating) (until 12.21 pm, from 2.31 pm until 3.06 pm)

Mr Latham (participating) (until 3.08 pm)

Ms Munro (substituting for Mr Rath)

Mr Primrose (substituting for Mr Nanva) (until 12.56 pm, from 2.57 pm until 4.00 pm)

Ms Suvaal (substituting for Dr Kaine until 3.01 pm)

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

2.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution:

- (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature is to 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.

2.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the portfolios of Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research alternate between crossbench and opposition members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each.

2.3 Public hearing – Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research (Harris)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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.

Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for the Central Coast, Minister for Medical Research was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Ms Elizabeth Mildwater, Secretary, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
- Ms Caroline Lamb, Chairperson, Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority
- Mr Tarek Barakat, Deputy Secretary Hospitality and Racing, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
- Mr Steve Griffin, CEO, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission
- Ms Lea Drake, Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission
- Mr Shane Hamilton, Deputy Secretary, Aboriginal Affairs, Premier's Department
- Dr Jean-Frédéric Levesque, Deputy Secretary, Clinical Innovation and Research, NSW Health
- Ms Caroline Mackaness, Director, Office of Veterans Affairs, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Philip Crawford, Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Casino Commission.

Mr Simon Draper PSM, Secretary, Premier's Department was examined on his former oath.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research open for examination.

The Minister tendered the following documents:

- Document, Project status update, Racing for the Regions funded projects
- Document, Racing NSW funded projects.

Ms Mildwater and Ms Lamb withdrew at 10.46 am.

Ms Munro tabled the following document:

- Media article, titled 'Star secret: The bombshell casino report we can't print', Sydney Morning Herald dated 4 September 2024.

The Minister withdrew at 12.48 pm.

All other witnesses, the public and media withdrew and 12.48 pm.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Sent:

- 5 September 2024 – Letter from Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC, Chair, Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance to Hon Mark Latham MLC seeking a response to concerns raised in the letter received by the Clerk of the Parliaments from The Cabinet Office on 4 September 2024 regarding disclosure of information contained within a privileged document at the Budget Estimates hearing on 28 August 2024.

Received:

- 5 September 2024 – Email from Hon Mark Latham MLC to Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC, Chair, Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance in response to letter from the Chair regarding the disclosure of information contained within a privileged document at the Budget Estimates hearing on 28 August 2024.

The Clerk of the Parliaments briefed the committee on issues relating to Mr Latham's correspondence.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That

- The Chair, on behalf of the committee write to the Clerk of the Parliaments requesting that the correspondence received from Mr Latham in response to correspondence from The Cabinet Office relating to the disclosure of information contained within a privileged document during a Budget Estimates Hearing be provided to Ms Kate Boyd PSM, Secretary, The Cabinet Office.
- The Chair write to the Hon Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council, requesting that educational materials be sent to members regarding the principal of privilege both in general terms and specifically in relation to privileged returns to Standing Order 52 orders for papers.

3.1 Public hearing– Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research

Witnesses, the public and the media were readmitted at 2.00 pm.

Ms Kate Meagher, Deputy Secretary, Community Engagement Group, Premier's Department, Ms Mildwater and Ms Lamb were examined on their former oaths.

Mr Terry O'Brian, Director, Policy & Racing, Hospitality & Racing, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport was sworn and examined.

Ms Mildwater, Ms Lamb, Mr Hamilton, Dr Levesque, Ms Mackaness, Mr Crawford, Ms Meagher and Mr O'Brian withdrew at 3.32 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.02 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

3.2 Tabled and tendered documents

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

- Document, Project status update, Racing for the Regions funded projects, tendered by Hon David Harris MP
- Document, Racing NSW funded projects, tendered by Hon David Harris MP
- Media article, titled 'Star secret: The bombshell casino report we can't print', Sydney Morning Herald dated 4 September 2024, tabled by Hon Jacqui Munro MLC.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.03 pm until Wednesday 11 September 2024, 9.00 am, Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025, Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety (public hearing).

Madeleine Dowd
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 39

Wednesday 11 September 2024

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.00 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Ms Boyd (participating) (from 10.02 am until 10.22 am, from 11.58 am until 12.14 pm, from 2.00 pm until 2.22 pm)

Mr Lawrence (until 10.11 am, from 11.13 am until 12.45 pm)

Mr Latham (participating) (until 11.40 am)

Mr Nanva (until 2.54 pm)

Mr Primrose (substituting for Dr Kaine) (until 12.45 pm, from 2.53 pm)

Mr Rath

Mr Tudehope

2. Apologies

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair*

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Nanva: That draft minutes nos. 34 and 35 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following correspondence:

Received:

- 27 August 2024 – Email from Jessica Barton, Premier's Department advising that Ms Samara Dobbins, Deputy Secretary, Delivery and Coordination, Premier's Department cannot appear at PC1 Budget Estimates hearing for the Premier portfolio on Wednesday 4 September owing to illness
- 30 August 2024 – Email from Chair to Budget Estimates secretariat conveying request of Hon Mark Latham MLC for Office of Racing witness to be invited to hearing for Minister Harris' portfolios, 6 September 2024
- 2 September 2024 – Emails from Andy Meehan, office of Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast to the Budget Estimates secretariat requesting a further change to the witness list for the hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 6 September 2024, to replace Ms Harriet Whyte with Ms Kate Meagher.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025**5.1 Order for examination of portfolios**

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution:

- (a) each portfolio, except The Legislature is to 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.

5.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearings for the portfolios of Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety alternate between crossbench and opposition members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each.

5.3 Public hearing – Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety (Cotsis)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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.

Hon Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Work Health and Safety was admitted and examined.

The following witnessed were sworn and examined:

- Mr Stuart Farquharson, Interim Chief Executive Officer, icare
- Mr Tony Wessling, Group Executive, Workers Compensation, icare
- Mr Graeme Head AO, Secretary, Department of Customer Service
- Mr Trent Curtin, Deputy Secretary, SafeWork NSW, Department of Customer Service
- Ms Samara Dobbins, Deputy Secretary Delivery & Coordination, Premier's Department.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Simon Draper PSM, Secretary, Premier's Department
- Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Industrial Relations, and Work Health and Safety open for examination.

The Minister withdrew at 12.45 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.30 pm. The public and the media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.31 pm, until Friday 13 September 2024, 10.30 am, Room 1136, Parliament House, Alcohol Consumption in Public Places (Liberalisation) Bill 2024 inquiry.

Vanessa O'Loan
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 42

Monday 11 November 2024
Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance
Room 813, Parliament House, 2.00 pm

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, Chair
Dr Kaine (via videoconference)
Mr Lawrence (via videoconference)
Mr Nanva (via videoconference)
Mr Farlow (substituting for Mr Rath)
Ms Munro (substituting for Mr Tudehope)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Kaine: that draft minutes no. 36, 37, 38 and 39 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 5 September 2024 – Email from Emma Ross, office of Hon Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Work Health and Safety proposing the addition of Mr Tony Wessling, Group Executive, Workers Compensation to witness list for PC1 Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for the Minister's portfolios, 11 September 2024

- 9 October 2024 – Letter from Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast providing an updated copy of answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions arising from the Minister's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing on 6 September 2024 as there was an error in the answers originally provided.

The committee further noted that it agreed by email on 10 October 2024 to publish Minister Harris' updated, corrected answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions in place of the responses originally provided.

Sent

- 9 September 2024 – Letter from Chair to Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments requesting that he provide Ms Kate Boyd PSM, Secretary, The Cabinet Office with email from Hon Mark Latham MLC, dated 5 September 2024, responding to correspondence from The Cabinet Office relating to the disclosure of information contained within a privileged document at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier hearing on 28 August 2024
- 9 September 2024 – Letter from Chair to Hon Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council requesting that educational material be sent to Members regarding the principal of privilege both in general terms and in relation to privileged returns to Standing Order 52 orders for papers.
- 18 September 2024 – Letter from Chair to an individual advising of potential adverse mention at Portfolio Committee No. 1 Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing (Houssos), 5 September 2024 and providing opportunity for response.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

4.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions

The committee noted the following answers to questions on notice relating to the Budget Estimates (Minns) hearing on 28 August 2024 were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution appointing the committee:

- Answers to question on notice and supplementary questions from Mr Paul Lakatos SC, Acting Chief Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption, received 13 September 2024
- Answers to questions on notice from Ms Kathrina Lo, Public Service Commissioner, received 19 September 2024
- Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Mr Bola Oyeturji, Auditor-General for New South Wales, received 19 September 2024
- Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier, received 25 September 2024
- Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the NSW Electoral Commission, received 25 September 2024
- Answers to question on notice from Ms Anina Johnson, Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, received 8 October 2024.

The committee noted the following answers to questions on notice relating to the Budget Estimates (Mookhey) hearing on 29 August 2024 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 Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, received 26 September 2024.

The committee noted the following answers to questions on notice relating to the Budget Estimates (Franklin) hearing on 30 August 2024 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 Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council, received 26 September 2024.

The committee noted the following answers to questions on notice relating to the Budget Estimates (Houssos) hearing on 5 September 2024 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 Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources received 3 October 2024.

The committee noted the following answers to questions on notice relating to the Budget Estimates (Harris) hearing on 6 September 2024 were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution appointing the committee:

- Corrected answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast received 9 October 2024.

The committee noted the following answers to questions on notice relating to the Budget Estimates (Cotsis) hearing on 11 September 2024 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 Sophie Cotsis MLC, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Work Health and Safety received 9 October 2024.

4.2 Clarification of evidence

The committee noted the following correspondence clarifying evidence was published by the committee clerk, and explanatory footnotes inserted in transcripts of evidence, as per the committee's agreement via email. The committee further noted that it now needed to pass formal resolutions:

- 13 September 2024 – Letter from Mr Paul Lakatos SC, Acting Chief Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption seeking to correct evidence given by the Chief Commissioner, Hon John Hatzistergos AM at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 28 August 2024 (Minns)
- 16 September 2024 – Letter from Ms Joann Wilkie, Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity, NSW Treasury seeking to clarify her evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 29 August 2024 (Mookhey)
- 26 September 2024 – Letter from Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, seeking to clarify his evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 29 August 2024 (Mookhey)
- Undated advice from Mr Mark Webb, Chief Executive, Department of Parliamentary Services seeking to clarify his evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 30 August 2024 (Franklin)
- 8 October 2024 – Letter from Ms Anina Johnson, Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, seeking to clarify her evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 28 August 2024 (Minns).

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Farlow: That:

- The letter from Mr Paul Lakatos SC, Acting Chief Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption dated 13 September 2024 seeking to correct evidence given by the Chief Commissioner, Hon John Hatzistergos AM at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 28 August 2024 (Minns) be published and the evidence be clarified by inserting an explanatory footnote into the transcript of evidence
- The letter from Ms Joann Wilkie, Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity, NSW Treasury dated 16 September 2024 seeking to clarify her evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates

2024-2025 hearing, 29 August 2024 (Mookhey) be published and her evidence clarified by inserting an explanatory footnote in the transcript of evidence

- The letter from Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer dated 26 September 2024, seeking to clarify his evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 29 August 2024 (Mookhey) be published and his evidence clarified by inserting explanatory footnotes into the transcript of evidence
- The undated advice from Mr Mark Webb, Chief Executive, Department of Parliamentary Services seeking to clarify his evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 30 August 2024 (Franklin) be published and his evidence clarified by inserting an explanatory footnote in the transcript of evidence
- The letter from Ms Anina Johnson, Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission dated 8 October 2024 seeking to clarify her evidence given at the committee's Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing, 28 August 2024 (Minns) be published and the evidence be clarified by inserting an explanatory footnote into the transcript of evidence.

4.3 Supplementary hearing

The committee considered the Chair's proposal to hold a half day supplementary hearing for the portfolios of Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast and Medical Research (Harris).

Ms Munro moved: That:

- a half day Budget Estimates 2024-2025 supplementary hearing for the portfolios of Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast and Medical Research be held on 3 December 2024
- if the Minister is not available on 3 December 2024, the Chair propose an alternative date for the supplementary hearing, to be agreed by the committee over email, unless a meeting of the committee is required to resolve any disagreement
- the secretariat write to Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast inviting him to the supplementary hearing
- Ms Lea Drake, Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission be invited to accompany the Minister at the supplementary hearing.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Buckingham, Mr Farlow and Ms Munro.

Noes: Dr Kaine, Mr Lawrence and Mr Nanva.

Question resolved in the affirmative on the casting vote of the Chair.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 2.04 pm, *sine die*.

Elspeth Dyer
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 45

Wednesday 26 February 2025

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.03 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Rath, *Acting Deputy Chair*

Mr Banasiak (substituting for Mr Borsak from 9.30 am until 10.02 am, and from 11.31 am until 11.58 am)

Ms Boyd (participating until 10.47 am, and from 2.00 pm until 4.38 pm)

Mr Buttigieg (substituting for Dr Kaine until 12.49 pm, and from 3.41 pm until 4.29 pm, and from 4.58 pm)

Dr Cohn (participating from 9.44 am until 10.47 am)

Ms Higginson (participating from 9.51 am until 12.46 pm)

Mr Latham (participating from 2.00 pm)

Mrs Mitchell (substituting for Mr Tudehope)

Mr Nanva (until 3.29 pm, and via videoconference from 4.58 pm)

Mr Ruddick (participating until 12.49 pm)

Ms Suvaal (substituting for Mr Lawrence until 12.49 pm, and from 4.26 pm)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Nanva: That draft minutes no. 42 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 14 November 2024 – Email from Mr Andy Meehan, Office of the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast, declining the invitation for the Minister to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 supplementary hearing on 3 December 2024 and advising that the Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission, is also unavailable
- 7 January 2025 – Email from the Office of the Public Service Commissioner, requesting amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025
- 30 January 2025 – Email from Ms Rhia Jones, Senior Executive Support Officer, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption, requesting amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025
- 30 January 2025 – Email from Ms Julie Morris, Executive Support Officer, NSW Electoral Commission, requesting amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025
- 31 January 2025 – Letter from the Hon Penny Sharpe MLC, Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, advising that due to a delay in finalising the arrangements for some witnesses, the Government will be unable to provide confirmation of witnesses to the secretariat until 5.00 pm Monday 3 February 2025
- 31 January 2025 – Email from Ms Julia Little, Office of the Treasurer the Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, requesting amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Treasurer additional hearing on 5 March 2025
- 31 January 2025 – Email from Mr Taylor Rundell, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, requesting amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources additional hearing on 6 March 2025
- 3 February 2025 – Email from Ms Rhia Jones, Senior Executive Support Officer, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption, providing reasons for the proposed amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025
- 3 February 2025 – Email from Ms Cara Punch, Senior Parliamentary Advisor, Office of the Premier the Hon Chris Minns MP, requesting amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025

- 24 February 2025 – Email from Ms Dianne Ford, Executive Officer/Office Manager/Policy Adviser, Office of the Hon David Harris MP, requesting amendments to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research additional hearing on 4 March 2025
- 25 February 2025 – Email from Ms Dianne Ford, Executive Officer/Office Manager/Policy Adviser, Office of the Hon David Harris MP, requesting an amendment to the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research additional hearing on 4 March 2025.

Sent

- 11 November 2024 – Email to the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for the Central Coast inviting the Minister and the Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 supplementary hearing on 3 December 2024
- 20 December 2024 – Email to the Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier, inviting him to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 20 December 2024 – Email to the Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources, inviting her to appear at Budget Estimates 2024-2025 additional hearing on 6 March 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 20 December 2024 – Email to the Hon Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Workplace Health and Safety, inviting her to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 additional hearing on 3 March 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 20 December 2024 – Email to the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast, inviting him to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 additional hearing on 4 March 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 20 December 2024 – Email to the Hon Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council, inviting him to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 additional hearing on 11 March 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 6 January 2025 – Email to the Office of the Public Service Commissioner, inviting witnesses to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 6 January 2025 – Email to the NSW Audit Office, inviting witnesses to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 6 January 2025 – Email to the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption, inviting witnesses to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 6 January 2025 – Email to the NSW Electoral Commission, inviting witnesses to appear at Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 6 January 2025 – Email to the NSW Ombudsman inviting, witnesses to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 6 January 2025 – Email to the NSW Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, inviting witnesses to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing on 26 February 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee
- 23 January 2025 – Email to the Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, inviting him to appear at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Treasurer additional hearing on 5 March 2025 and attaching the witness list agreed to by the committee.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Nanva: That the committee note its agreement by email on 19 November 2024 to no longer proceed with a supplementary Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearing for Minister Harris' portfolios on 3 December 2024 given the Minister declined to appear and the lack of availability of the Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

4.1 Resolution for additional hearings

The committee noted the resolution of the House on 21 November 2024 to conduct additional hearings for the inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025.

4.2 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, is to 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.

4.3 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearing for the Premier portfolio is to alternate between *opposition and crossbench members, in that order*, with equal time allocated to each.

4.4 Witness lists

The committee noted that it agreed via email on 17 December 2024 to the following approach to arranging the additional round of Budget Estimates 2024-2025 hearings in February/March 2025:

- arrangements for the additional hearings be made over email in the first instance, rather than holding a meeting, unless a meeting is required to resolve any disagreement
- the confirmed witness lists from the initial round in August/September 2024 and, if applicable, supplementary round of hearings in December 2024, be the proposed witness lists for the additional round of hearings in February/March 2025
- committee members be given 48 hours following receipt of the proposed witness lists to provide any feedback or additional witnesses, as per the practice adopted for initial round of hearings
- responses from Ministers' offices to witness invitations be due by Friday 31 January 2025.

5. Election of Acting Deputy Chair for the Premier additional hearing

The Chair called for nominations for Acting Deputy Chair, noting the substantive position holder, Mr Borsak, is being substituted by Mr Banasiak for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier (Minns) public hearing on Wednesday 26 February 2025.

Mr Nanva moved: That Mr Rath be elected Acting Deputy Chair of the committee for the purpose of the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier (Minns) public hearing on 26 February 2025.

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

6. Public hearing – Premier (Minns)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Premier open for examination.

The Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier, was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Simon Draper PSM, Secretary, Premier's Department

- Ms Kate Boyd PSM, Secretary, The Cabinet Office.

Mr Rath tendered the following documents:

- Extract from the index to the Local Small Commitments Allocation return to order
- LCSA Assessment Outcome Report – Project 17
- Social media profile of ‘The Muslim Vote’
- Article titled ‘Muslim Vote convener warned by his education department employer over comments made on Sydney nurses’

The Premier withdrew at 12.49 pm.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined (2.00 pm):

- Ms Samara Dobbins, Deputy Secretary, People and Workforce Group, Premier’s Department
- Ms Kate Meagher, Deputy Secretary, Delivery and Engagement Group, Premier’s Department
- Ms Lucy Hartas, Acting Deputy Secretary, Energy, Environment and Evidence, The Cabinet Office.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath (2.00 pm):

- Ms Gillian White, Deputy Secretary, Social Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, The Cabinet Office
- Mr Marcus Ray PSM, Deputy Secretary, Economic Housing and Infrastructure Policy, The Cabinet Office.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew at 3.29 pm.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined (3.45 pm):

- Ms Tiana Jaeschke, Director of Policy and Programs, Office of the Public Service Commissioner
- Mr Peter Coulogeorgiou, Executive Director, Quality, Improvement and Performance, Audit Office of NSW
- Ms Michelle Ward, Acting Chief Executive Officer, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
- Ms Rachel McCallum, NSW Electoral Commissioner, NSW Electoral Commission
- Mr Hugo Bergeron, Acting Executive Director, Funding Disclosure & Compliance, NSW Electoral Commission
- Mr Doug Catchpole, Chief Financial Officer, NSW Electoral Commission
- Hon Peter Johnson SC, Chief Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath (3.45 pm):

- Ms Kathrina Lo, Public Service Commissioner, Office of the Public Service Commissioner
- Mr Bola Oyetunji, Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
- Ms Claudia Migotto, Deputy Auditor-General, Audit Office of NSW
- Hon John Hatzistergos AM, Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
- Ms Andrea Summerell, Executive Director, Elections, NSW Electoral Commission
- Mr Paul Miller, Ombudsman, NSW Ombudsman
- Ms Christina Anderson, Chief Executive Officer, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew at 4.57 pm.

The public hearing concluded at 4.57 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

6.1 Tabled documents

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

- Extract from the index to the Local Small Commitments Allocation return to order, tabled by Mr Rath
- LCSA Assessment Outcome Report – Project 17, tabled by Mr Rath

- Social media profile of ‘The Muslim Vote’, tabled by Mr Rath
- Article titled ‘Muslim Vote convener warned by his education department employer over comments made on Sydney nurses’, tabled by Mr Rath.

7. Witness lists

7.1 Treasurer portfolio

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Rath: That the committee include Ms Donna Award, Executive Director, Tolling Reform, NSW Treasury, in the witness list for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Treasurer additional hearing on 5 March 2025.

7.2 Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research portfolio

Mr Rath moved: That Mr Steve Griffin, former Chief Executive, Greyhound Welfare Integrity Commission and incoming Chief Executive Officer, Greyhound Racing NSW, be invited to appear at the Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research additional hearing on 4 March 2025.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Buckingham, Mrs Mitchell, Mr Rath.

Noes: Mr Buttigieg, Mr Nanva, Mrs Suvaal.

There being an equality of votes, question resolved in the affirmative on the casting vote of the Chair.

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Mitchell: That the committee accept the Minister's request that Dr Kim Sutherland, Acting Deputy Secretary, Clinical Innovation and Research, appear instead of Dr Jean-Frederic Levesque, Deputy Secretary, Clinical Innovation and Research, who will be on leave, at the Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research additional hearing on 4 March 2025.

8. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.06 pm, until 9.00 am, Monday 3 March 2025, Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety.

Stephen Frappell
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 46

Monday 3 March 2025

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.00 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair* (until 12.59 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating until 4.16 pm)

Mr Donnelly (substituting for Dr Kaine until 2.04 pm, and from 3.21 pm)

Mr Latham (participating until 12.59 pm)

Mr Lawrence

Mr Rath (from 9.03 am until 11.58 am, and from 12.08 pm)

Ms Suvaal (substituting for Mr Nanva until 12.59 pm)

Mr Tudehope (from 9.03 am)

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

2.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, is to 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.

2.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearing for the Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety portfolio is to alternate between *crossbench and opposition members, in that order*, with equal time allocated to each.

2.3 Public hearing – Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety open for examination.

The Hon Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Ms Marina Rizzo, Executive Director, Industrial Relations, Premier's Department
- Dr Petrina Casey, Executive Director, Strategic & Corporate Services, SafeWork NSW.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Simon Draper PSM, Secretary, Premier's Department
- Ms Samara Dobbins, Deputy Secretary, People and Workforce Group, Premier's Department
- Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
- Mr Stuart Farquharson, Interim Chief Executive Officer, icare
- Mr Tony Wessling, Group Executive, Workers Compensation, icare
- Mr Graeme Head AO, Secretary, Department of Customer Service
- Mr Trent Curtin, Acting Deputy Secretary, SafeWork NSW, Department of Customer Service.

Mr Latham tabled the following document:

- Intersection, 'Out in the Open: Changing the culture at Nine Entertainment, Independent review of the Nine Entertainment Corporation 2024'.

The Minister withdrew at 12.48 pm.

The witnesses, the public and the media withdrew at 12.48 pm.

2.4 Private deliberative meeting

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Donnelly: That the committee seek advice from the Clerk regarding options available to the committee on dealing with adverse mention made at a public hearing.

2.5 Resumption of public hearing – Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety

The witnesses, the public and the media were readmitted at 2.00 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.19 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

2.6 Consideration of Clerk's advice

The committee considered Clerk's advice regarding adverse comments made during a public hearing.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Lawrence: That:

- the committee authorise the redaction of the names of the four individuals mentioned during the Budget Estimates hearing examining the portfolio of Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety on 3 March 2025, both from the transcript and the recording of the hearing
- the Chair make a statement about the redaction at the additional Budget Estimates hearing for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research on 4 March 2024
- the secretariat write to the four individuals informing them of the committee's resolution.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.30 pm, until 9.00 am, Tuesday 4 March 2025, Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research.

Vanessa O'Loan

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 47

Tuesday 4 March 2025

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.00 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair* (from 9.06 am until 10.24 am, and from 11.15 am until 12.56 pm)

Mr Barrett (substituting for Mr Rath)

Ms Boyd (participating from 9.23 am until 10.26 am, and from 2.08 pm until 3.04 pm)

Mr Buttigieg (substituting for Mr Lawrence until 12.56 pm, and from 3.58 pm)

Mrs Carter (substituting for Mr Tudehope from 9.03 am)

Ms Faehrmann (participating until 9.05 am, and from 9.27 am until 10.18 am, and from 3.51 pm until 4.22 pm)

Ms Hurst (participating from 9.13 am until 3.04 pm)

Mr Latham (participating from 9.02 am until 12.56 pm)

Mr Nanva (until 12.56 pm, and from 2.56 pm until 4.01 pm)

Mr Primrose (substituting for Dr Kaine until 3.01 pm)

2. Tabled document from Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety hearing (Cotsis), 3 March 2025

Resolved, on the motion Mr Nanva: That the committee accept and publish the following document tabled by Mr Latham during the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety (Cotsis) held on 3 March 2025:

- Intersection, 'Out in the Open: Changing the culture at Nine Entertainment, Independent review of the Nine Entertainment Corporation 2024', tabled by Mr Latham.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

3.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, is to 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.

3.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearing for the Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research portfolio is to alternate between *crossbench and opposition members, in that order*, with equal time allocated to each.

3.3 Public hearing – Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, Medical Research, the Central Coast

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, Medical Research, and the Central Coast, open for examination.

The Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, and Minister for the Central Coast, was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined:

- Dr Kim Sutherland, Acting Deputy Secretary, Clinical Innovation and Research, NSW Health
- Mr Matthew Tutt, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Ms Elizabeth Mildwater, Secretary, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
- Mr Simon Draper PSM, Secretary, Premier's Department
- Mr Tarek Barakat, Deputy Secretary, Hospitality and Racing, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport
- Mr Shane Hamilton, Deputy Secretary, Aboriginal Affairs, Premier's Department
- Ms Kate Meagher, Deputy Secretary, Delivery and Engagement Group, Premier's Department
- Ms Caroline Lamb, Chairperson, Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority
- Ms Lea Drake, Acting Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission
- Mr Philip Crawford, Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Casino Commission
- Ms Caroline Mackaness, Director, Office of Veterans Affairs, Department of Communities and Justice.

Mr Latham tabled the following document:

- Office of the Registrar-General, Land Registry documents, outlining the transfer of ownership of 101 William St Bathurst 2795.

The Minister withdrew at 12.56 pm.

Ms Meagher withdrew at 12.56 pm.

Mr Draper PSM withdrew at 2.53 pm.

Ms Drake withdrew at 3.05 pm.

Mr Tutt withdrew at 3.11 pm.

Ms Lamb and Mr Crawford withdrew at 3.31 pm.

Ms Mildwater tendered the following documents:

- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Mr Adam Casselden SC, Chair, Greyhound Racing NSW, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 20 December 2024
- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Alby Taylor, Chief Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 14 February 2025
- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Alby Taylor, Chief Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 3 March 2025
- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Mr Adam Casselden SC, Chair, Greyhound Racing NSW, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 3 March 2025.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.31pm.

The public and media withdrew.

3.4 Correspondence

The committee noted the following item of correspondence:

Received

- 4 March 2025 – Email from Ms Jess Barton, Director, Office of the Secretary, Premier's Department, requesting that Mr Simon Draper, Secretary, Premier's Department, and Ms Kate Meagher, Deputy Secretary Premier's Department, be excused from the Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, Medical Research, the Central Coast hearing before the scheduled end time of 5.30 pm on 4 March 2025.

3.5 Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Barrett: That the committee accept and publish the following document tabled during the hearing with the exception of potential identifying information including email addresses, document identification and reference numbers, which is to be kept confidential:

- Office of the Registrar-General, Land Registry documents, outlining the transfer of ownership of 101 William St Bathurst 2795, tendered by Mr Latham, and

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Buttigieg: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the hearing:

- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Mr Adam Casselden SC, Chair, Greyhound Racing NSW, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 20 December 2024, tendered by Ms Mildwater
- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Alby Taylor, Chief Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 14 February 2025, tendered by Ms Mildwater
- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Alby Taylor, Chief Commissioner, Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 3 March 2025, tendered by Ms Mildwater
- Letter from The Hon David Harris MP to Mr Adam Casselden SC, Chair, Greyhound Racing NSW, regarding the appointment of Mr Steve Griffin to the role of Greyhound Racing NSW CEO, dated 3 March 2025, tendered by Ms Mildwater.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.37 pm, until 9.00 am, Wednesday 5 March 2025, Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – Treasurer.

Jessie Halligan
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 48

Wednesday 5 March 2025

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.01 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Rath, *Acting Deputy Chair* (until 2.29 pm, and from 2.41 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating until 3.29 pm)

Dr Kaine (until 12.46 pm, and from 3.58 pm)

Mr Latham (participating until 10.16 am, and from 10.29 am until 2.44 pm)

Mr Murphy (substituting for Mr Lawrence until 10.18 am, and from 10.37 am until 3.00 pm)

Mr Nanva (until 12.46 pm, and from 3.00 pm until 3.59 pm)

Mr Tudehope (until 12.46 pm, and from 2.09 pm)

Mrs Ward (participating from 2.00 pm until 2.22 pm)

2. Apologies

Mr Borsak

3. Election of Acting Deputy Chair for the Treasurer additional hearing

The Chair called for nominations for Acting Deputy Chair, noting the substantive position holder, Mr Borsak, is an apology for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Treasurer public hearing on Wednesday 5 March 2025.

Mr Murphy moved: That Mr Rath be elected Acting Deputy Chair of the committee for the purpose of the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Treasurer public hearing on 5 March 2025.

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

4. Correspondence

The committee considered the following item of correspondence:

Received

- 4 March 2025 – Letter from the Hon John Hatzistergos AM, Chief Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), providing additional information to the evidence given to the committee on 26 February 2025 at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Rath: That the committee authorise the publication of the correspondence from the Hon John Hatzistergos AM, Chief Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) dated 4 March 2025, providing additional information to the evidence given to the committee on 26 February 2025 at the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier additional hearing.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025**5.1 Order for examination of portfolios**

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, is to 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.

5.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearing for the Treasurer portfolio is to alternate between *opposition and crossbench members, in that order*, with equal time allocated to each.

5.3 Public hearing – Treasurer (Mookhey)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Treasurer open for examination.

The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer was admitted and examined.

The following witness was examined on their former oath:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, NSW Treasury.

The Minister withdrew at 12.46 pm.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath at 2.00 pm:

- Ms Marina van der Walk, Deputy Secretary, Financial Management and Services, NSW Treasury
- Ms Liz Livingstone, Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury
- Ms Joann Wilkie, Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity, NSW Treasury
- Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
- Ms Donna Awad, Executive Director, Tolling Reform, NSW Treasury
- Mr David Deverall, Chief Executive, NSW Treasury Corporation
- Mr Tom Gellibrand, Chief Executive, Infrastructure NSW
- Mr Said Hirsh, Head of Strategy, Planning and Innovation, Infrastructure NSW.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.22 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.22 pm, until 9.00 am, Thursday 6 March 2025, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources.

Frances Arguelles
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 49

Thursday 6 March 2025

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.00 am

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Rath, *Acting Deputy Chair*

Ms Boyd (participating from 9.24 am until 10.49 am)

Ms Donnelly (substituting for Mr Nanva from 9.01 am until 10.49 am, and from 11.18 am until 12.56 pm)

Ms Faehrmann (participating from 11.16 am until 12.43 pm, and from 2.17 pm until 2.44 pm)

Dr Kaine (until 12.56 pm, and from 2.57 pm)

Mr Lawrence (until 3.10 pm)

Mrs Mitchell (participating from 9.06 am until 12.56 pm)

Mr Tudehope (until 10.49 am, and from 11.38 am until 12.51 pm, and from 2.00 pm until 3.00 pm)

2. Apologies

Mr Borsak

3. Election of Acting Deputy Chair for the Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources additional hearing

The Chair called for nominations for Acting Deputy Chair, noting the substantive position holder, Mr Borsak, is an apology for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources public hearing on Thursday 6 March 2025.

Dr Kaine moved: That Mr Rath be elected Acting Deputy Chair of the committee for the purpose of the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources public hearing on 6 March 2025.

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

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution each portfolio, except The Legislature, is to 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 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution, unless the committee decides otherwise, the sequence of questions to be asked at the hearing for the Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources portfolio is to alternate between *opposition and crossbench members, in that order*, with equal time allocated to each.

4.3 Public hearing – Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources (Houssos)

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Finance, Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Natural Resources open for examination.

The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, and Minister for Natural Resources was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, NSW Treasury
- Mr Scott Johnston, Deputy Secretary, Chief Commissioner of State Revenue, Commissioner of Fines Administration, Revenue NSW
- Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury
- Ms Georgina Beattie, Deputy Secretary, NSW Resources, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
- Ms Andrea Forbes, Deputy Secretary, Procurement Reform and Banking, NSW Treasury

- Mr Cullen Smythe, Executive Director, Technical and Advisory Services, Commissioner of State Revenue, Revenue NSW
- Mr Peter Day, Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Minister Houssos tendered the following documents:

- Document, List of Zero Emissions Buses Procurement by NSW Government with CATYL Batteries, 2020-2023
- Letter from Michael Khoury, Senior Solicitor for NSW Crown Solicitor, regarding power of Service NSW to charge customers a service fee, dated 3 February 2016.

Mr Tudehope tabled the following documents:

- Document, Current and Historical Company Extract, Go Zero Group Limited, Australian Securities and Investments Commission, dated 30 January 2025
- Document, Notification of resolutions regarding shares, form 2205, Australian Securities and Investments Commission, stamped date of 22 November 2024.

The Minister withdrew at 12.56 pm.

Mr Coutts-Trotter withdrew at 12.56 pm.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath (2.00 pm):

- Ms Joan Wilkie, Deputy Secretary, Economic Strategy and Productivity Group, NSW Treasury
- Ms Liz Livingstone, Deputy Secretary, Policy and Budget, NSW Treasury.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.11 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

4.4 Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Kaine: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the hearing:

- Document, List of Zero Emissions Buses Procurement by NSW Government with CATYL Batteries, 2020-2023, tendered by Minister Houssos
- Letter from Michael Khoury, Senior Solicitor for NSW Crown Solicitor, regarding power of Service NSW to charge customers a service fee, dated 3 February 2016, tendered by Minister Houssos.

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Kaine: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tabled during the hearing with the exception of potential identifying and/or sensitive information, which is to be kept confidential, as per the recommendation of the secretariat:

- Document, Current and Historical Company Extract, Go Zero Group Limited, Australian Securities and Investments Commission, dated 30 January 2025, tabled by Mr Tudehope
- Document, Notification of resolutions regarding shares, form 2205, Australian Securities and Investments Commission, stamped date of 22 November 2024, tabled by Mr Tudehope.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.15 pm, until 9.00 am, Tuesday, 11 March 2025, Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Budget Estimates 2024-2025 – The Legislature.

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 50

Tuesday 11 March 2025

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, 9.00 am

1. Members presentMr Buckingham, *Chair*Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair*

Ms Boyd (participating from 9.33 am)

Mr Fang (substituting for Mr Tudehope)

Dr Kaine

Mr Murphy (substituting for Mr Lawrence)

Mr Nanva

Mr Rath

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 28 February 2025 – Email from the secretariat to the committee, advising that Mr Steve Griffin verbally advised that he is of the view that Greyhound Racing NSW is not captured by the Budget Estimates resolution and therefore he cannot be invited to attend the Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Gaming and Racing, Veterans, the Central Coast, Medical Research portfolio hearing when he starts as Chief Executive Officer of Greyhound Racing NSW on Monday 3 March 2025.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025**3.1 Order for examination of portfolios**

The committee noted that under the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 resolution The Legislature portfolio is to 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.

3.2 Sequence of questions

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Rath: That the sequence of questions to be asked at the Legislature hearing on Tuesday 11 March 2025 alternate between crossbench, opposition and government members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each.

3.3 Public hearing – The Legislature

Witnesses, the public and the media were 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 Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of The Legislature open for examination.

The Hon Ben Franklin MLC, President of Legislative Council, was admitted and examined.

The following witnesses were examined on their former oath:

- Mr David Blunt AM, Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW
- Mr Mark Webb, Chief Executive Officer, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW
- Ms Margaret Palmer, Director, Financial Services & Governance, Department of Parliamentary Services, Parliament of NSW.

The President withdrew at 1.00 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 1.00 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 1.01 pm, *Sine die*.

Sharon Ohnesorge
Committee Clerk

Draft minutes no. 54

Monday 23 June 2025

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Room 1043, Parliament House, Sydney, 10.01 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Deputy Chair*

Dr Kaine (via videoconference)

Mr Lawrence (via videoconference)

Mr Nanva (via videoconference)

Mr Tudehope

2. Apologies

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair took the Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Lawrence: That draft minutes nos. 45, 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 21 March 2025 – Letter from Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury, requesting transcript clarifications to her evidence from the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Industrial Relations, Work Health and Safety (Cotsis) additional hearing on 3 March 2025
- 1 April 2025 – Letter from Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury, and Ms Donna Awad, Executive Director, Tolling Reform, NSW Treasury, requesting transcript clarifications to Ms Campbell and Ms Awad's evidence from the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Treasurer (Mookhey) additional hearing on 5 March 2025
- 9 April 2025 – Letter from the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast, attaching corrected answers to questions on notice and an attachment for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 additional hearing on 4 March 2025 and requesting the corrected answers be published on the webpage in place of the answers received on 31 March 2025
- 10 April 2025 – Letter from Ms Kate Boyd PSM, Secretary, The Cabinet Office, requesting transcript clarifications to her evidence from the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 Premier (Minns) additional hearing on 26 February 2025
- 17 April 2025 – Letter from the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast, attaching a corrected answer to supplementary question 102 for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 additional hearing on 4 March 2025 and requesting that it be published on the webpage.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2024-2025

5.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions

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

- answers to supplementary questions from the Hon John Hatzistergos AM, Chief Commissioner, NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption, received 18 March 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Ms Kathrina Lo, Public Service Commissioner, Office of the Public Service Commissioner, received 20 March 2025
- answers to supplementary questions from Mr Paul Miller, Ombudsman, NSW Ombudsman, received 24 March 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Peter Johnson SC, Chief Commissioner, Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, received 25 March 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier, received 25 March 2025
- answers to supplementary questions from Mr Bola Oyetunji, Auditor-General for New South Wales, Audit Office, received 25 March 2025
- answers to supplementary questions from Ms Rachel McCallum, NSW Electoral Commissioner, NSW Electoral Commission, received 26 March 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Workplace Health and Safety, received 28 March 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast, received 31 March 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, received 1 April 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, Minister for Finance, Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement, Minister for Natural Resources, received 2 April 2025
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Ben Franklin MLC, President of the Legislative Council, received 4 April 2025.

The committee noted that it agreed via email on 11 April 2025 and 23 April 2025 to requests from the Hon David Harris MP, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast to publish the following corrected answers for the Budget Estimates 2024-2025 additional hearing on 4 March 2025:

- corrected answers to questions on notice and attachment, received 9 April 2025
- corrected answer to supplementary question 102, received 17 April 2025.

5.2 Transcript clarifications

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Kaine: That the committee authorise:

- the publication of correspondence from Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury, to the committee providing transcript clarifications, received 28 March 2025, and the insertion of a footnote on the transcript from the 3 March 2025 (Cotsis) hearing, clarifying the evidence of Ms Campbell as per the correspondence received 28 March 2025
- the publication of correspondence from Ms Sonya Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Commercial, NSW Treasury, and Ms Donna Awad, Executive Director, Tolling Reform, NSW Treasury, to the committee providing transcript clarifications, received 1 April 2025, and the insertion of a footnote on the transcript from the 5 March 2025 (Treasurer) hearing, clarifying the evidence of Ms Campbell and Ms Awad as per the correspondence received 1 April 2025
- the publication of correspondence from Ms Kate Boyd PSM, Secretary, The Cabinet Office, to the committee providing transcript clarifications, received 10 April 2025, and the insertion of a footnote on

the transcript from the 26 February 2025 (Premier) hearing, clarifying the evidence of Ms Boyd as per the correspondence received 10 April 2025.

5.3 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Deputy Chair submitted the Chair's draft report entitled 'Budget Estimates 2024-2025', which, having been previously circulated, was taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Kaine: That paragraph 2.7 be amended by inserting the word 'former' before 'Chief of Staff'.

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Kaine: That:

The draft report as amended 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 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;

The committee secretariat be authorised to update any committee comments where necessary to reflect changes to recommendations or new recommendations resolved by the committee;

Dissenting statements be provided to the secretariat within 24 hours after receipt of the draft minutes of the meeting;

The report be tabled at 11.00 am on Friday 27 June 2025;

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

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 10.04 am, *Sine die*.

Amanda Assoum
Committee Clerk

