



DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

annual report



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

The Honourable John Ajaka MLC
President of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr President

It is with pleasure that I submit for your information and presentation to the House the annual report for the Department of the Legislative Council for the year ended 30 June 2020.

As you are aware, the Department of the Legislative Council is not legislatively required to table an annual report. However, as has been customary over previous years, the opportunity to provide information on the performance of the Department is embraced.

The content of the report incorporates the reporting requirements of the Annual Reports (Departments) Act 1985 and the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983, particularly in regard to the Department of the Legislative Council's aims, objectives, operations and financial performance.

I commend the report and hope you find it informative.

Your sincerely

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments

CONTACT US

Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

www.parliament.nsw.gov.au

Email: council@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Switchboard • (02) 9230 2111

between 9.00am and 5.00pm weekdays, excluding public holidays

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ACCESS TO THE CHAMBER

The Legislative Council Chamber and public areas of Parliament House are open to the public from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, every weekday (excluding public holidays).

During sitting days, public access to the Chamber is restricted to the visitors' gallery, where the public can watch the proceedings of the House. A calendar specifying sitting days is available from the Parliament's website.



The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President of the Legislative Council

The principal role of the President is to preside over the House. The President is the independent and impartial representative of the Legislative Council. Together with the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the President is jointly responsible for the Parliamentary precincts.

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present to the House the 2019-2020 Annual Report for the Department of the Legislative Council.

In what has been a difficult year for the State and indeed the entire world, the Department has adapted and worked exceptionally well under difficult circumstances to support members of the Legislative Council in their work in the House and committees.

Over the reporting period the Legislative Council continued its legislative program with 33 bills passing, 19 of which were amended by the House. The sharp increase in the number of orders for papers continued in this reporting period with 74 orders agreed to; an increase of 60 from the previous period. In addition, private members' business day has seen a marked increase in the number of items debated and passed, in large part due to the sessional order providing for 'short form' 30 minute debates.

During 2019-20, the Council again embarked on a tremendous amount of committee work with 36 inquiries being established and 30 reports being tabled. The House continued to increase its use of the Selection of Bills process by referring 13 bills for inquiry and report. In addition, for the very first time, portfolio committees held a second round of Budget Estimates hearings in March 2020 to elicit further responses from ministers and public officials. This process further enhanced the scrutiny function of the Legislative Council.

The Department proudly continued to support the Parliament's engagement with the wider community with several events throughout the year, including our annual Family Fun Day and Sydney Open festivities, as well as our management of the Fountain Court art exhibition space and school talks conducted by our Chamber and Support team.

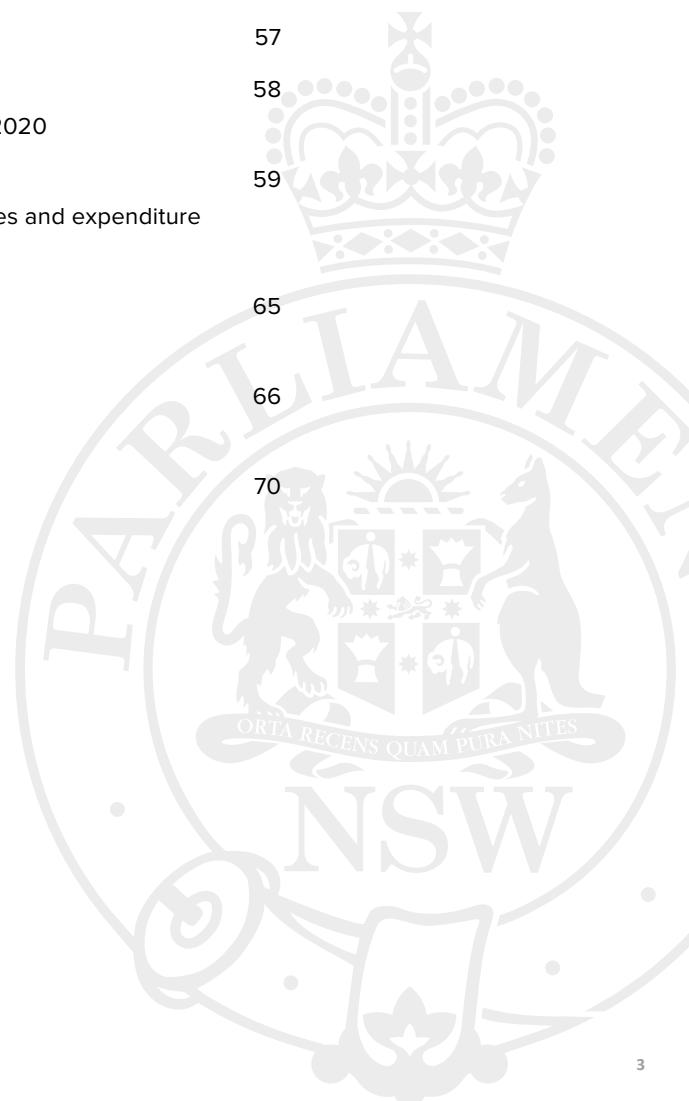
On behalf of all members I express my gratitude to the Clerk and all staff of the Department for their dedication to supporting the Legislative Council throughout the year.

The Honourable John Ajaka MLC
President



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Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments.

The Clerk provides expert advice on parliamentary law, practice and procedure to the President, ministers and members of the Legislative Council. The Clerk is also responsible to the President for the efficient and effective administration of the Department of the Legislative Council.

CLERK'S REVIEW

As noted in the President's Foreword, 2020 has been dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the Legislative Council has flexibly and successfully adapted its procedure to be COVIDSafe (see pages 18 to 20 for further details).

Even before the pandemic, 2019/20 was proving to be extraordinarily busy and demanding, both in the House and its committees. Applying the new procedural innovations adopted following the 2019 election (see page 20 of last year's annual report) the Legislative Council has sought to robustly hold the executive government to account (see pages 21 to 32). In addition to the usual extremely worthwhile committee work, one particularly notable evolution in the work of the House and its committees this year has been the increasing links between the work of committees in scrutinising legislation and ultimate legislative outcomes through amendments to bills in the House (see pages 29 to 32).

Additional funding obtained in the last two State budgets has enabled the staffing establishment in the Department of the Legislative Council to be enhanced to help support the increasing demands of the House and its committees. The senior officers and directors have put a lot of work into ensuring newly recruited staff are supported and it has been very pleasing that, while the team has expanded, its exceptional culture, commitment and teamwork has been maintained, despite the workload pressures and challenges posed by the pandemic (see pages 18 to 20). Many thanks to the excellent Deputy Clerk, Steven Reynolds, and Kate Cadell in the Office of the Clerk, and to all of the outstanding LC staff for your commitment and support to the Legislative Council throughout this difficult year.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank my colleagues the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Helen Minnican, and the Chief Executive of the Department of Parliamentary Services, Mark Webb, for their continued collaboration, including on a number of important initiatives that will hopefully be implemented in the next reporting period. The support provided to all members and staff by Mark and his DPS team throughout the pandemic has been outstanding.

It has, of course, continued to be a great pleasure and privilege to support the President of the Legislative Council, the Hon John Ajaka MLC, and all members of the House this past year. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of former Minister and Deputy Leader of the Government, the Hon Niall Blair, who retired from the Legislative Council in October 2019.

Finally, returning to the topic of the COVID-19 pandemic, I would also like to acknowledge the valuable collaboration this year across parliaments in Australia and New Zealand, but also throughout the Commonwealth. I have always enjoyed the camaraderie of these respected colleagues. But from March 2020 the network of Clerks became an absolutely invaluable information sharing network as parliaments grappled with how to best keep parliamentary democracy functioning in the face of a global pandemic. Initiatives such as the Public Accountability Committees scrutiny of the handling of the pandemic by the NSW Government (see page 20) and COVIDSafe arrangements for sittings of the House were direct learnings from the New Zealand and Victorian Parliaments respectively. Likewise the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association secretariat's April 2020 Toolkit for Commonwealth Parliaments: COVID-19 Delivering Parliamentary Democracy was very helpful. Never before have we felt so connected to parliamentary colleagues from diverse jurisdictions. Long may it continue.

Mr David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

It was a busy year for the Department. The Procedure Office supported the House through 330 hours of sittings. The Committee Office managed 36 committee inquiries and wrote 30 reports.

	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018	2016-2017	2015-2016
Department staff	39.0FTE	38.8FTE	37.8FTE	37.8FTE	37.8FTE
Secretary Research Assistants	57.0FTE	49.8FTE	48.8FTE	48.8FTE	46FTE
Sitting days	36	32	48	51	51
Sitting hours	330*	268	378	375	405
Bills passed	33	61	77	65	89
Amendments to bills (circulated)	584	422	672	633	714
Amendments to bills (agreed to)	212	68	102	63	99
Orders for papers	74	14	6	5	4
Notices of motion given	503	600	893	634	683
Committee inquiries	36	55	47	37	40
Committee reports tabled	30	37	20	18	16
Submissions to committees	5,331**	1,727	1,935	2,299	1,121
Inquiry witnesses (hearings and forums)	930	814	677	988	705

* The days of sitting of the House were reduced as a result of the motion on 22 March 2020 that House would not meet again until Tuesday 15 September 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, although 'normal' sittings in fact resumed in June.

** This figure does not include the 13,000+ submissions received to the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 inquiry.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018	2016-2017	2015-2016
Net cost of services for the Legislative Council	31,319,217	28,344,571	26,534,631	25,835,074	24,980,811
Operational, Committees and other costs	7,991,982	6,691,967	6,048,509	5,949,958	5,945,411

This year the Department completed a range of projects identified in the strategic plan 2019-2020 as well as other projects that emerged throughout the year. These achievements are highlighted throughout the report.

KEY CORPORATE ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Department adapted to the changing workplace environment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, continued supporting members in both the House and committees and developed a range of innovative solutions to ensure the Parliament continued to operate effectively during the 'new normal'.
- The second edition of *New South Wales Legislative Council Practice* was finalised and will be published during the next reporting period.
- Volume 4 of the Oral History project, a monograph titled 'At Cross-purposes?: Government and the Cross bench in the NSW Legislative Council, 1988-2011', was launched in September 2019.
- The Department established a Values statement after extensive staff consultation.
- All Department staff participated in social media writing workshops held throughout the reporting period.
- The Department implemented an internship program to supplement the Chamber and Support team.





THE DEPARTMENT



THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Legislative Council was established in 1823 and is the oldest legislative body in Australia.

It is a House of Review, and acts as a check and balance on the Executive Government. The Legislative Council performs this function through procedures such as questions to ministers, orders for the production of documents and a robust committee system which allows members to examine public affairs, including the administration of government, in more detail.

There are 42 members of the Legislative Council, elected according to a system of proportional representation with the entire State as a single electorate. Members serve an eight-year term, with one half of the Council elected every four years at a periodic election.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The role of the Department is to support the sittings of the House and the activities of its committees. This includes the provision of procedural, analytical and administrative support services to enable members of the Council to effectively perform their parliamentary duties.

The Department has an establishment of 39 full time equivalent (FTE) staff, with two principal areas, the Procedure Office and the Committee Office.

The Department is accountable to the President of the Legislative Council, the Hon John Ajaka MLC. Department staff work in collaboration with the Department of the Legislative Assembly and the Department of Parliamentary Services to ensure the effective running of the Parliament.

Department staff strive to provide exceptional services to the President, members and their staff, and to key stakeholders including government agencies, participants in committee inquiries, members of the public and visitors to Parliament.

OUR PURPOSE

The Department provides services to ensure:

- the effective functioning of the House and its committees
- that members of the Legislative Council are supported to fulfil their parliamentary roles
- the community has access to the Legislative Council and information about the role and function of the Council and of the Parliament as a whole.

OUR VALUES

In 2019-2020 the Legislative Council developed a set of Departmental values. This was coordinated by a project team which collaborated with all staff by seeking views through a survey. The values were launched in July 2020.

DEPARTMENT — OF THE — LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL VALUES



Department of the **Legislative Council** staff work together to provide procedural, analytical and administrative support services to enable members to effectively perform their parliamentary duties.

We seek to:

ACT WITH INTEGRITY

Be impartial, honest
and responsible

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

Produce high quality work

RESPECT OTHERS

Be welcoming, inclusive
and considerate

CHAMPION DEMOCRACY

Encourage community
engagement and enhance
knowledge of the
democratic process

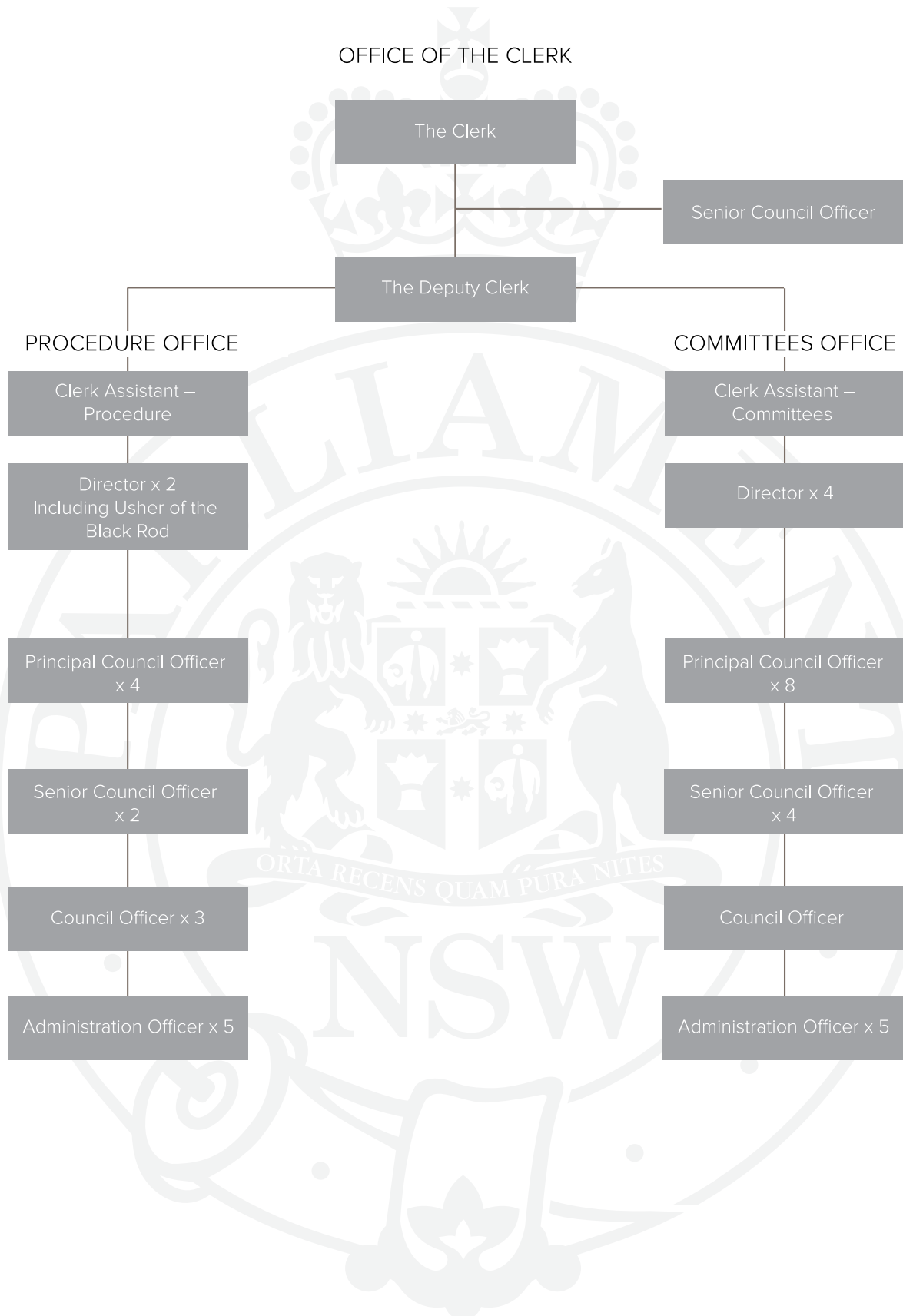
BALANCE TRADITION AND INNOVATION

Value tradition and parliamentary
practice while improving and
modernising where
appropriate



Design is based on the Black Rod

DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ORGANISATIONAL CHART
(AS AT 30 JUNE 2019)



EXECUTIVE TEAM



David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council

David is responsible to the President for the efficient and effective administration of the Department. He provides expert advice on parliamentary law, practice and procedure to the President, Deputy President, ministers and members.



Steven Reynolds
Deputy Clerk

Steven assists the Clerk to manage the planning, development and performance of the Department to ensure its effective operation, within budgetary constraints as well as managing the Office of the Clerk.



Beverly Duffy
Clerk Assistant – Procedure

Beverly provides strategic oversight of the Procedure Office, which includes providing authoritative and timely advice on complex parliamentary procedure, law and protocol.

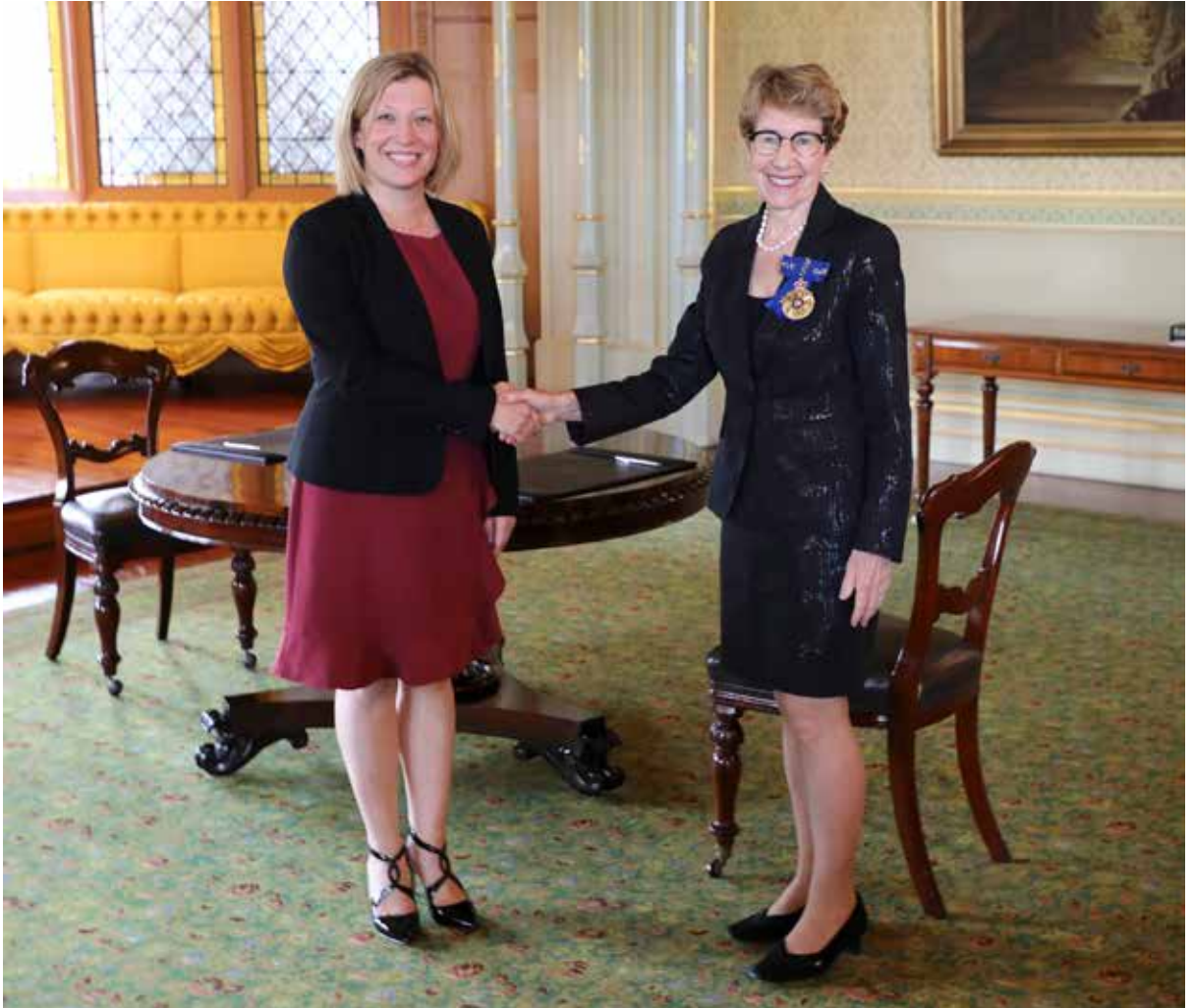


Stephen Frappell
Clerk Assistant – Committees

Stephen provides strategic oversight of the Committee Office, which includes providing authoritative and timely advice on complex parliamentary procedure, law and protocol.

NEW USHER OF THE BLACK ROD

In January 2020, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, appointed Ms Jenelle Moore as Usher of the Black Rod. A commission was issued in favour of Ms Moore, who made the Pledge of Allegiance and took the Oath of Office before Her Excellency the Governor on 17 February 2020 at Government House.



Ms Jenelle Moore being congratulated by the Governor of New South Wales, the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC at Government House. Jenelle is the 27th Usher of the Black Rod and the third woman to be appointed to this position since 1856.

FAREWELL TO LONG SERVING EMPLOYEES OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

During the reporting period the Department bade farewell to long serving staff members Ms Rebecca Main, Ms Kate Mihaljek and Mr John Young. Both Rebecca and John worked in the Council for over 15 years across the Procedure and Committees sections while Kate worked in the Council for over 10 years across the Committees and Black Rod sections. They will be missed, both professionally and personally, although we will continue to see plenty of John following his appointment as Director of the Legislative Assembly Table Office.

During the reporting period the Department also farewelled Ms Elise Williamson who worked in the Department for approximately two years.

PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE AWARDS

At a function held in the Preston Stanley Room on Thursday 14 November 2019, the Presiding Officers, Joint Clerks and Chief Executive presented awards to staff in the various Departments celebrating their longstanding service to Parliament. The recipients from the Legislative Council were:

35 years

Maurice Rebecchi Chamber and Support

25 years

Stewart Smith Committees

20 years

Steven Reynolds Office of the Clerk

15 years

Robert Despotoski Office of the Hon Robert Borsak MLC

Stephen Frappell Committees

Nicola Grieve Office of Mr David Shoebridge MLC

10 years

Megan Connor Office of the Hon Mick Veitch MLC



From left to right: Mr Steven Reynolds, Mr Stewart Smith, Mr Maurice Rebecchi, Mr David Blunt, Ms Nicola Grieve, Mr Stephen Frappell, Ms Megan Connor, and Mr Robert Despotoski celebrate their long-standing service to Parliament in the Preston Stanley Room.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to cultivating a professionally and personally rewarding workplace for staff. The Department provides opportunities for development through internal and external training programs.

Great Managers Program

The Institute of Public Administration Australia's Great Managers Academy program is targeted to executive, senior and mid-level managers. This intensive nine month course features seven in-person workshops, many online lectures and individual learning activities focused on developing personal, team and business leadership skills.

The Department of Parliamentary Services coordinates these courses and Legislative Council staff have participated for a number of years. Rebecca Main, Jenelle Moore, Alexander Stedman and Merrin Thompson graduated from the course in 2020.



The third cohort of the Great Managers Program celebrating their graduation with senior managers from all three parliamentary Departments. Legislative Council staff Rebecca Main, Jenelle Moore, Alexander Stedman and Merrin Thompson graduated from the course in 2020.

In addition to the coursework, participants also undertook cross-parliament corporate projects, presenting their findings to senior managers. Project groups promoted cross-collaboration between the Departments and provided staff with an opportunity to put into practise skills learned during the course.

Secondment program with the Parliament of Victoria

The reciprocal study visit arrangement between the NSW and Victorian Parliaments has continued. In October 2019 four staff from the Victorian Parliament were hosted by NSW Parliament for a three day study visit. Then, in November 2019, four staff from the NSW Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly committee offices visited the Victorian Parliament, including Ms Rhia Victorino and Ms Shu Fang-Wei.

The group participated in a three day program, meeting with various staff of the Victorian Parliament, and observing parliamentary and committee proceedings. The group engaged in discussions about parliamentary procedure, administrative processes, and community engagement and outreach.



Far left and far right: Ms Rhia Victorino and Ms Shu-fang, together with representatives from the Assembly, during a study visit to the Victorian Parliament where they discussed procedure, committee processes and engagement initiatives with their interstate counterparts.

Australia and New Zealand Association of Clerks-at-the-Table

ANZACATT is the professional body for clerks and parliamentary officers in Australia and New Zealand and runs a number of activities including the annual Parliamentary Law and Practice course, an annual professional development seminar, a case law database and an electronic information-sharing bulletin board.

Mr Steven Reynolds, Deputy Clerk, was re-elected as President of the Australia and New Zealand Association of Clerks-at-the-Table (ANZACATT) in December 2018. As President, Steven was invited to attend the 2019 American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries Professional Development Seminar held in Seattle, Washington State, from 22 to 27 September 2019.



Steven networking with Clerks of state legislatures during the ASLCS seminar in Seattle, Washington.

At the annual general meeting of ANZACATT held at the NSW Parliament in January 2020 Mr Reynolds handed over the role of President to Mr Les Gonye, Deputy Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Parliament of New South Wales.

The 2020 ANZACATT Professional Development Seminar, which was to be held in the ACT Legislative Assembly in January 2020, was cancelled due to the bushfires in Canberra and surrounding regions.

Parliamentary Law, Practice and Procedure Program (PLPP)

The PLPP is a university accredited professional development opportunity for parliamentary staff from around Australia and New Zealand managed by ANZACATT. The course develops participants' understanding of the fundamental principles of parliamentary law, practice and procedure, and of the place of parliaments in the systems of government of Australia and New Zealand. In addition to a sound theoretical grounding, the program provides an opportunity to learn from the practical experiences of officers from the different parliaments. For many years the program has been delivered by the University of Tasmania, together with presenters from Parliaments around Australia.

In 2019 Liz Clark and Sarah Dunn attended the course and obtained distinctions for their assessment tasks, a great result.



The Clerk presenting Ms Liz Clark and Ms Sarah Dunn with their certificates. Liz's paper examined the incorporation of Indigenous languages into parliamentary proceedings, while Sarah's canvassed the role citizen juries play in the committee process.

Even with the COVID-19 pandemic, the PLPP went ahead in 2020 with all content online. Department staff Joseph Cho and Monica Loftus are currently undertaking the 2020 course.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's professional development programs for parliamentary staff

In November 2019 the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association announced the launch of two new online professional development programs for parliamentary staff. The programs are delivered in collaboration with two globally prestigious universities, the School of Continuing Studies at McGill University, Canada and the International School for Government at King's College, London. Ms Rebecca Main completed the King's College program in early 2020.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

In March 2020, the NSW Parliament entered into a partnership with UNSW Co-NNECTIONS, a career development program designed to support students from the University of NSW. Just prior to the pandemic, two interns were selected to supplement the Chamber and Support team over a six month period. The first student, Karie Mayman, commenced her internship, but this was paused in response to the Pandemic. The program resumed in early September 2020.

PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Department's Performance Development Program provides an opportunity for managers and staff to identify performance and career goals. The program is conducted every 12 months, with the option of informal review at six months or earlier.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

In conjunction with the Legislative Assembly and the Department of Parliamentary Services, the Department of the Legislative Council engages the services of AccessEAP to provide counselling and support for staff who are experiencing personal or work related problems. The service is completely confidential and voluntary.

WORKLOAD AND STAFFING

In the previous year a restructure of the Department was announced to adjust to the increased workload since mid-2018, particularly in the Committee Office. An additional five positions were added to Committees covering four different grades, and the separate Office of the Black Rod and Procedure sections were brought together, with one position from Procedure deleted from the structure. Additional funding provided in 2019-2020 enabled this temporary structure to be given ongoing status.

This year saw the first full 12 month period under the new Parliament, where the cross bench and Opposition had far greater influence over decisions of the House than for several parliaments. The result has been an extremely rapid increase in workload, even over the high levels reached the previous year: new committees established, the largest number of inquiries during the operation of the Legislative Council's modern committee system; the largest numbers of orders for papers in any year; private members' days stretching from 10 am to midnight most sitting weeks and, as reported in the Committees section, a quadrupling of hearing times for the annual Estimates hearings.

Even with the new additional positions from 2019 this workload put staff of the Department under great strain. It is a tribute to the skill, professionalism and work ethic of all our staff that all of the work of the House continued to be supported in this period. Additional funding was sought to enable additional committee support staff to be recruited for 2020-2021, as current workloads are not sustainable even for staff as capable and hardworking as the Department currently has the good fortune to retain.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2021

Department of the Legislative Council

PRECONDITIONS FOR A SUCCESSFUL PARLIAMENT

- 1. Making of law
- 2. Holding the executive to account
- 3. Representation of electorates and broader constituency
 - Strength and independence of the institution
 - Understanding of the institution (civics education)
 - Efficient and effective use of public money
 - Productive stakeholder relationships
 - Inter-parliamentary connection
 - Fit for purpose facilities
 - Contemporary and relevant business systems
 - Expertise
 - Profession of the Clerk
 - Parliamentary administration

NSW PARLIAMENT PRIORITIES

2019-2023

1. Modernisation of Parliament

Strengthened governance framework, procedural innovations plus supporting technology/infrastructure, digital transformation, integrated service delivery, customer service enhancement, contemporary systems and processes.

Joint projects:

- Digital Parliament transformation
- Committee toolbox
- Performance regime for contemporary Parliament

2. Strengthening engagement with the public and enhanced trust in Parliament as an institution

Access to the institution, engagement models, institutional integrity initiatives, perceived independence of Parliament.

Joint projects:

- Regional outreach project

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL KEY PROJECTS

2020-2021

- Continued implementation of the social media strategy
- Electronic returns to SO 52s
- E petitions
- PIMS rollout for Questions and Answers database, ministerial portal, House papers: Votes and Minutes program, including enhancing virtual participation in committee activities
- Records management – rationalising storage on level 6; digitisation and publication of records
- New parliamentary procedure precedents database in PIMS
- Preliminary work for review of standing orders
- Contributing to the whole of parliament engagement strategy
- Regional seminars about the NSW Parliament (when public health situation permits)
- Delivery of parliamentary privilege seminars (when public health situation permits)
- Furthering innovative methods of committee engagement
- Developing strategies for promoting engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic - online tours, online exhibitions

NSW PARLIAMENT PRIORITIES

2019-2023

3. Safeguarding the independence of a strong Parliament

Financial independence from the executive, asserting Parliament's powers, strengthening inter-parliament relationships and administrative collaboration

Joint projects:

- Model for financial independence
- Legislative reinforcement of independence regime
- Manual of delegations
- Twinning program

4. Support members in their evolving role as elected representatives

Skills development, integrity, wellbeing and security

Joint projects:

- Integrity framework for members
- Responsibilities and professional development for members
- Welfare checks for former members

5. Develop the capabilities of the Parliament's workforce

Leadership development, further development of profession-specific capability frameworks, adaptive roles, succession planning and other workforce planning initiatives

Joint projects:

- Leadership development for departmental executive teams
- Great Managers Program

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL KEY PROJECTS

2020-2021

- Strategic plan for Twinning in conjunction with twins
- Fostering scholarship on parliamentary processes

- Launch of second edition of Legislative Council Practice
- Support new compliance officer/ethics regime enhancements

- Participation in leadership development for senior officers
- Continued implementation of diversity and inclusion plan; focus on disability access
- 12 month review of new structure and position descriptions and rotations
- Manual for Procedure Office

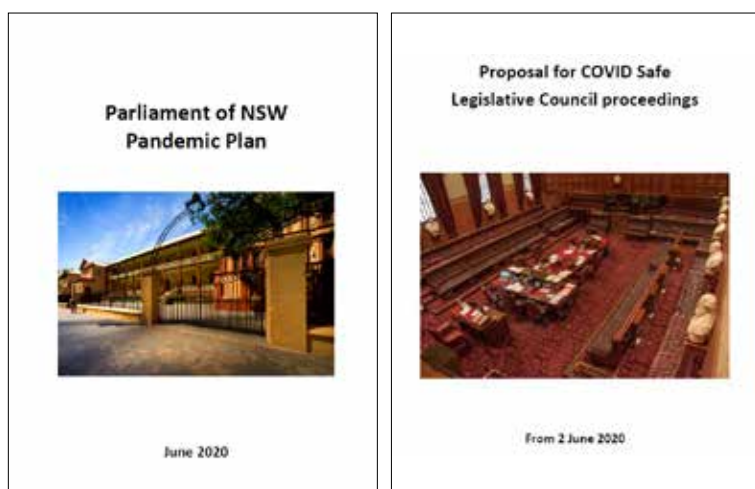
RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic, which first impacted the operation of the NSW Parliament in March 2020, has dramatically changed how both staff and members work and has required a range of innovative solutions from the Department and the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS) to ensure staff can continue to effectively support members.

In a rare step, the Parliament has remained closed to the public during the pandemic in order to protect the health of staff and members. This has of course impacted a huge range of projects and services across the institution. Staff have also been encouraged to work from home where possible and have been provided with technological solutions to ensure they stay connected to the parliamentary network as well as to each other.

The Legislative Council, along with the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Department of the Legislative Assembly developed The Parliament of NSW Pandemic Plan which was first issued on 13 March 2020 and revised on 1 June 2020. It details the Parliament's response to COVID-19 in order to maintain the operational viability of the Parliament. The plan considers a range of measures such as implementing employee leave, social distancing and travel, flexible working arrangements, flu vaccinations and accessing the Employee Assistance Program.

The Parliament's Senior Management Group has also met regularly during the pandemic and the Chief Executive of DPS, Mark Webb, has sent weekly emails to all staff with updates about the pandemic and the Parliament's evolving response.



SITTING DAYS

The Legislative Council sat as planned on 24 March 2020 and urgently passed two bills regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, which introduced a range of emergency measures to prepare New South Wales services and institutions for the impacts of the virus. Inevitably COVID-19 would also have an impact on the operation of the Chamber. On the same day, the House passed a motion to override the parliamentary sitting calendar agreed to earlier in the year so that the House would not meet again until Tuesday 15 September 2020.



A 'socially-distanced' Legislative Council Chamber, following the recall of the House in May 2020

However, at the request of the Government and having consulted with the leaders of all other parties in the Council, the President recalled the House to sit on 12 and 13 May in order to consider further bills to implement emergency measures in response to COVID-19. The House then made formal amendments to the 2020 sitting calendar to ensure the Council could return to a relatively normal schedule and would continue to sit during the pandemic, although on fewer days.

During sittings, members adhered to social distancing measures, with some sitting in the public gallery to maintain safe distances. Stickers were discreetly placed along the benches to indicate where members may sit and individual bottled water replaced shared jugs. Hand sanitiser was also readily available and, at the request of the President, used by members prior to completing division sheets.



Stickers were used in the Chamber to indicate where members should sit in order to maintain social distancing



Members standing in their place to be counted during a division under special COVID safety procedures in the Chamber

In addition, the House agreed to temporary orders to implement a 'paperless Chamber' to reduce the amount of paper changing hands and to vary the process for divisions, whereby members stand in their place to be counted rather than move to opposite sides of the Chamber.

The Parliament also implemented additional safety measures on sitting days including compulsory temperature checks when entering the building.

COMMITTEES

While the 57th Parliament was marked by an initial rapid expansion in the workload of committees, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic had significant implications for the conduct of inquiries. Public health orders meant that traditional hearings held in person were no longer feasible.

In response, on 24 March 2020, as the COVID 19 pandemic neared the peak of the first wave in New South Wales, the House adopted a new temporary order for the full electronic participation of all members and witnesses in committee proceedings. This gave committees maximum flexibility to hold hearings, site visits, meetings and report deliberations via electronic communication.



Members of the Public Accountability Committee go 'fully-virtual' via Webex for the building standards inquiry

Committees made immediate use of this with the Public Accountability Committee establishing an inquiry into the Government's management of the pandemic, with the intent of holding all hearings electronically (see below).

However, as the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic passed and public health restrictions on travel and gatherings of people in groups eased, many committees returned to holding hearings in person with appropriate precautions, including social distancing between members and inquiry participants, the closure of public galleries, the extensive use of hand sanitiser and the use of individual water bottles instead of shared jugs.

Public Accountability Committee inquiry

On 27 March 2020 the Public Accountability Committee established an inquiry into the Government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time the inquiry was established, the House was not scheduled to sit again until 15 September 2020. As such, the inquiry was seen as a mechanism for the House to continue to scrutinise the actions of the executive during the pandemic and to hold it to account.

In May and June 2020, the committee held seven public hearings. In a team effort with Hansard and IT Services, the committee was the first in the Council to hold hearings completely via videoconference. It was also the first committee to publish video recordings of the hearings to YouTube, in light of the community interest in the inquiry. Later hearings reverted to a more traditional in person format, although in some cases witnesses attended virtually. The portfolios examined included health, education, treasury, policy, better regulation and innovation, and planning.



The Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health and Medical Research and Dr Kerry Chant, Chief Health Officer appear as part of the Public Accountability Committee inquiry into the Government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic

Protocol and community engagement

In addition to the impact on the House and committees, many other activities across the Department have been affected by the pandemic.

Delegations comprised of visiting dignitaries were postponed due to border restrictions. Fountain Court exhibitions were postponed for several months due to the building being closed to the public and in anticipation of building works to be carried out in the exhibition space. Public and school tours were also cancelled. In the second half of 2020 the Black Rod team took steps to move both exhibitions and tour content online.

Other activities impacted included Twinning secondments planned for 2020, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association events and regional outreach seminars. The impact of the pandemic on these activities and the Parliament's response are discussed further in the 'Engaging with the community' and 'Parliamentary relations' sections later in the report.



IN THE HOUSE



THE PROCEDURE OFFICE

The Procedure Office, which incorporates the Black Rod and Chamber and Support teams, has 17 full time equivalent positions and is managed by the Clerk Assistant – Procedure.

The Procedure Office supports the sittings of the House, provides procedural advice to the President, members and the Clerk and manages protocol, engagement and training initiatives. The Procedure Office:

- coordinates bills, amendments and questions on notice
- prepares notices of motions and procedural scripts
- manages the operation of the Chamber
- prepares the official records of the House, including the Minutes of Proceedings, the Notice Paper and the Questions and Answers Paper
- publishes the live Running Record and House in Review social media blog
- supports the Privileges, Procedure and Selection of Bills Committees
- delivers training programs for members and their staff, departmental officers and public servants
- manages ceremonial events, international delegations, consular visits and parliamentary room bookings and the Fountain Court exhibition space
- presents school and public tours
- provides the secretariat for Parliament's Twinning Steering Committee



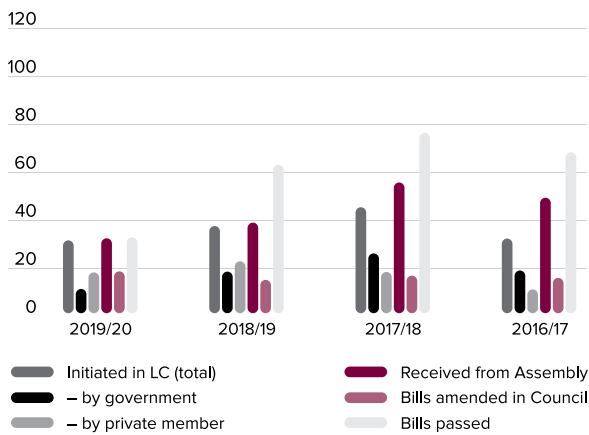
The Procedure Office participating in a virtual staff meeting. During the COVID-19 pandemic a skeleton staff attended the office and the team moved to weekly team meetings on Webex.

KEY STATISTICS

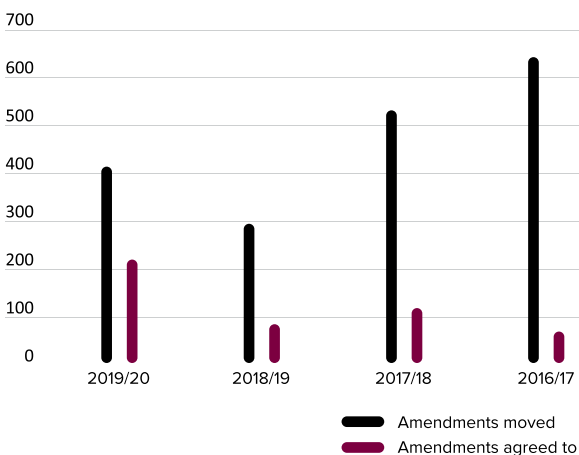
Notices of Motions



Bills considered in the Legislative Council



Amendments to bills



36

SITTING DAYS

330.39

SITTING HOURS

27

TOTAL BILLS INTRODUCED IN LC

9

GOVERNMENT BILLS INTRODUCED

18

PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS INTRODUCED

29

BILLS RECEIVED FROM LA

21

BILLS CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

584

AMDTS CIRCULATED

421

AMDTS MOVED

212

AMDTS AGREED TO

19

BILLS AMENDED IN THE COUNCIL

33

BILLS PASSED

74

ORDERS FOR PAPERS – SO52 HOUSE

1

ORDERS FOR PAPERS – SO208 COMMITTEES

8

CLAIMS OF PRIVILEGE OVER STATE PAPERS DISPUTED

503

NOTICES OF MOTIONS GIVEN

250

PMB RESOLVED – INCLUDING AS FORMAL BUSINESS

654

QUESTIONS ASKED IN QUESTION TIME

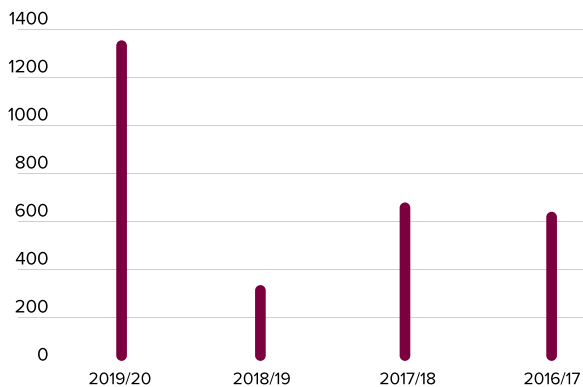
1369

WRITTEN QUESTIONS ON NOTICE LODGED

32

PETITIONS PRESENTED

Written questions on notice



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- New system for generating and publishing the Minutes of Proceedings up and running as part of the Parliamentary Information Management System.
- Effective management of record numbers of written questions on notice and a significant increase in returns to orders
- COVID safe procedures implemented in the chamber and successful transition to virtual post sitting week procedural debriefs
- Chamber intern program with the University of NSW initiated.

PROCEDURAL HIGHLIGHTS

Orders for papers

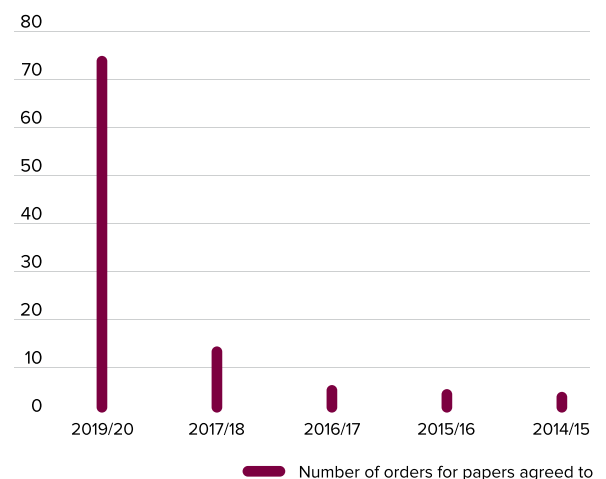
A number of procedural and information documents
A total of 74 orders for State papers were made during the reporting period, significantly more than in previous sessions, overshadowing the previous record of 38 orders in 2005-2006. The subject areas included:

- State infrastructure projects: CBD and South East Light Rail, Parramatta Light Rail Project, WestConnex contracts, Newell Highway government procurement contracts, Powerhouse Museum, Transport Asset Management Plan, Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link Business Cases.
- Education: Demountable classrooms, supplies to schools, cooler classroom programs, Young High School Joint Use Library and Community Facility, TAFE Underpayments
- Water: Barwon Darling Water Sharing Plan Review, Biodiversity assessment of the proposal to raise the Warragamba Wall, Floodplain harvesting, Rules Based Environmental Water
- Energy: Contamination at Power Station Associated Sites, Maules Creek Coal Mine, Operator of Maules Creek coal mine and biodiversity offsets

- State finance and the economy: Payroll tax compliance, Economic Modelling on Public Sector Wages, Federal Financial Relations Review, Funding for Independent Disability Advocacy Services, Stronger Communities Fund, Stronger Country Community Fund Grants.

The Procedure Office provides a high level of support throughout this process, liaising with members regarding the drafting notices of motions for order for papers, managing the receipt of returns to orders, supervising members and the public to view documents, supporting members and the independent legal arbiter in the evaluation of disputes over claims of privilege, and the records management and archiving of documents returned.

Orders for papers



Number of orders for papers agreed to

During the reporting period a total of 446 boxes of public documents were returned, as well as a further 225 boxes of documents over which claims of privilege were made by government agencies. Members lodged eight disputes in relation to claims of privilege in relation to the following orders:

- Landcom (disputed twice)
- Disclosures of Minister Sidoti under the Ministerial Code of Conduct (disputed twice)
- Premier's rulings in relation to disclosures under the Ministerial Code on Conduct
- Directors and Chair of Landcom
- Register of buildings with potentially combustible cladding
- Floodplain harvesting

The independent legal arbiter did not uphold claims of privilege made in seven of the eight disputes and the House published those documents. The claims over the remaining dispute, relating to the register of buildings with potential combustible cladding, was upheld.

As part of the Parliament's Digital Transformation project, the Procedure Office is working with Information Technology Services and the Department of Premier and Cabinet to move the Parliament and agencies to a system for receipt of returns to order in electronic format. The e>Returns system will provide for the secure transfer of files to the Parliament through a new parliamentary portal that links to the Parliament's existing document storage databases.

The project will be a key priority for the Procedure Office in the next financial year with completion expected before June 2021.

Procedure Committee

The Procedure Office provides secretariat and procedural support to the Procedure Committee and its inquiries.

The following inquiries were referred to the Procedure Committee during the reporting period:

- e-Petitions in the Legislative Council
- Impact of the sessional order variations to the scheduling of business and sitting days
- Engagement of external expert assistance by committees
- Broadcast of proceedings resolution
- Consultation on highly contentious bills.

e-Petitions

On 24 March 2020, the House agreed to a motion relating to the development of electronic petitions or 'e-Petitions' for the Legislative Council. The resolution noted the development of e-Petitions by the Legislative Assembly and other Australian legislatures, and authorised the President to investigate and report to the Procedure Committee on a proposed system for the Legislative Council.

To support the President's investigation, the Procedure Office has reviewed the progress of the current Legislative Assembly e-Petitions project

and assessed the technological and procedural requirements for e-Petitions in the Legislative Council. The Procedure Committee is authorised to initiate an e-Petitions trial during the latter half of 2020 and report by the first sitting day in 2021.

Supporting new House procedures

During the reporting period, the Procedure Office continued to support the implementation of the new sessional orders introduced in 2019. (See the Department of the Legislative Council Annual Report 2019)

Take note of answers

In 2019 the Legislative Council introduced a sessional order to allow members' to take note of an answer given in Question Time. Later that year the sessional order was further amended to expand the scope of debate to include answers to all questions asked in Question Time that day as well as any written answer provided either to questions on or without notice. The House also included a new provision requiring contributions to be relevant to the subject matter of the question asked and the answer given.

Whip's meeting

Since 2015 the items of business to be debated on private members' business day has been arranged at an informal 'Whip's meeting' convened by the Government Whip and attended by members' of all parties. The schedule agreed to at this meeting is presented to and agreed by the House at the beginning of the day.

Given the apparent success of this system, in June 2020 the House formally set aside the standing orders which had previously determined the agenda for determining the order in which private members' motions would be debated. Under these standing orders the order and precedence of private members' business was determined by a draw conducted by the Clerk from time to time (affectionately referred to as the 'chook raffle').



Members attending a Tuesday evening Whip's meeting chaired by the Government Whip, the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones. At the meeting, members agree on the items of Private Members' Business to be debated the following day.

Private members' business

In May 2019, following the election, the House adopted two new provisions relating to private members' business.

The first was the allocation of more time for the consideration of private members' business. In previous years private members' business had been allocated a proportion of a Thursday sitting day with Government Business taking precedence for the remainder of that day. In May 2019, the House agreed that private members' business would take precedence for the whole of each sitting Thursday. This resulted in the House sitting longer hours on Thursdays and an increased number of items of private members' business debated. However, it also caused some difficulties for country members' seeking to return to their homes on Thursday nights. In February 2020, private members' day was changed to Wednesday. This arrangement is to be reviewed by the Procedure Committee by the end of March 2021.

The second reform was provision for private members' motions to be considered in a 30 minute debate, rather than the two hours set by sessional order.

Together, these provisions resulted in a significantly greater number of items of private members' business being debated on private members' days. While the overall number of motions dealt with during the reporting period (263) is less than in previous years (due to fewer sitting days as a consequence of COVID-19) the average number of items debated each private members' day has increased in comparison to previous years. In the second half of 2018, prior to the introduction of these changes, an average of 6 items of private members' business were considered each private members' day. Since 2019 approximately 11 – 15 items of private members' business have been dealt with each private members' day. We would expect to see a marked increase in motions dealt with in the next reporting period.

LEGISLATION

In 2018-2019 the House sat on fewer days than usual due to the long recess for the general election. In 2019-2020, the House again sat on fewer days than usual as sittings were cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In 2019-2020, 56 bills were considered by the House, with 33 bills agreed to. As shown in the Key Statistics graphs, while overall there were fewer bills considered by the House, compared to the previous reporting period more bills were amended. This year, 412 amendments were circulated and 212 agreed to, whereas in 2018-2019, 299 amendments were circulated, with 68 agreed to.

In total 38 government bills were considered by the House. Additionally, 18 bills were introduced by private members', of which 6 bills were referred to a committee for inquiry and report and one, the Building Amendment (Mechanical Services and Medical Gas Work) Bill 2020, was agreed to by the House and forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence. The Legislative Council bill was not considered by the Legislative Assembly, as the government introduced a related bill which was subsequently agreed to by both Houses.

Abortion Law Reform Act 2019

The Abortion Law Reform Act 2019 was initially introduced as the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill in the Assembly. This private members bill sought to decriminalise abortion in New South Wales. The bill was introduced following collaboration by a cross party working group of 15 members across both Houses and from across the political divide with members from all parties allowed a conscience vote.

Consideration of the bill in the Council extended for more than two months in the second half of 2019. Following a 10 hour second reading debate, 122 amendments were considered in committee of the whole over five days in September during a 30 hour debate.

Following the bill's passage in the Council, a protest was lodged with the Clerk signed by 10 members of the Council, detailing reasons why it should not become law.

The bill was returned to the Assembly and assented to by the Governor on 2 October 2019.



IN COMMITTEES



OVERVIEW

Legislative Council committees allow the House to scrutinise government policy, and are a key mechanism for holding ministers to account for the administration of their portfolios. They also serve allow the public to engage directly with members and the political process. Increasingly, they are also being used by the House to examine the government's legislative program through the regular referral of bills to committees.

During the reporting period, the Legislative Council's committees were exceedingly active, with 36 inquiries established and 30 reports tabled.

Inevitably, the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the work of committees. In particular, it forced a rapid rethink of the traditional committee hearing model, with many committees moving to fully online hearings. Whilst other committee inquiries were temporarily put on hold during the peak of the pandemic in March 2020, by June 2020 committee activity had returned to pre-pandemic levels.

With the ever growing work of committees, the Committee Office has also expanded. During the reporting period, the Committee Office operated at 23 full-time effective officers, supporting 13 standing committees and a number of select committees.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Support for the rapid move of committees to virtual and online hearing during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Support of a significant expansion of the annual budget estimates inquiry, with the workload more than doubling from the previous reporting year.
- Support of 13 bills inquiries, a new record for the Council, including innovations in engagement with stakeholders.
- Ongoing management of more traditional committee inquiries, including significant inquiries into the regulation of building standards, quality and disputes and the budget process for independent oversight bodies and the NSW Parliament.

KEY STATISTICS



EXPANSION OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATES INQUIRY

In 2019-20, the Legislative Council adopted a new model for the annual Budget Estimates inquiry conducted by the portfolio committees designed to increase executive oversight and accountability. Key changes included:

- an initial round of hearings over 12 days in August/September 2019, an increase from seven days scheduled in previous years
- a full day of hearings to examine each portfolio compared to half days adopted previously
- the authorisation for committees to invite parliamentary secretaries to appear as witnesses
- additional supplementary hearings
- a further round of hearings over 12 days in March 2020
- a split hearing structure with ministers, parliamentary secretaries and departmental officers appearing during morning sessions and departmental officers only appearing during afternoon sessions.

Number of length	Budget Estimates 2018-2019	Budget Estimates 2019-2020
Hearing days	10	28
Hearings	29	62
Hours of hearings	57 hrs and 15 mins	363 hrs and 6 mins
Witnesses	176	513
Meetings other than hearings	24	42
Questions (supplementary and on notice)	7,452	13,839

The 'Working in the Legislative Council' program

The 'Working in the Legislative Council' program is a 12-week professional development initiative offered to departmental officers in the broader public service who want to gain first-hand experience of the operations of Parliament, including assisting with the annual budget estimates process and committees generally.

In 2019, Ms Cassandra Li and Mr Patrick McCreanor from the State Insurance Regulatory Authority took part in the program and made a significant contribution to the work of the secretariat supporting the initial round of estimates hearings. In March 2020, the Council ran the program a second time. Ms Bertina Wong from NSW Health took part in the program for 5 weeks before returning to NSW Health during the COVID-19 pandemic. All participants provided positive feedback about their experiences.



The 2019 Estimates team celebrating another successful Budget Estimates inquiry, including 28 hearing days.

BILLS INQUIRIES IN 2019-2020

In recent years the Legislative Council has significantly expanded the use of committees to inquire into and report on both government and private members' bills. In most instances inquiries into bills are recommended to the House by the Selection of Bills Committee, which is administered by the Procedure Office and meets on the Tuesday of every sitting week. During the reporting period, the House referred the following 13 bills to committees for inquiry and report:

- Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019
- Right to Farm Bill 2019
- Road Transport Amendment (Mobile Phone Detection) Bill 2019
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Territorial Limits) Bill 2019
- Digital Restart Fund Bill 2019
- Work Health and Safety Amendment (Review) Bill 2019
- Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Complaint Handling) Bill 2020
- Firearms and Weapons Legislation (Criminal Use) Bill 2020
- Rural Fires Amendment (NSW RFS and Brigades Donations Fund) Bill 2020
- Constitution Amendment (Water Accountability and Transparency) Bill 2020
- Water Management Amendment (Transparency of Water Rights) Bill 2020
- Water Management Amendment (Water Allocations – Drought Information) Bill 2020
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment (Restrictions on Stock Animal Procedures) Bill 2019.

With the increasing referral of bills to committees, new practices and new technologies have been adopted. During the reporting period, several committees conducting bills inquiries used online questionnaires through survey monkey as an alternative to an open call for submissions to facilitate public participation in the inquiry process. In such cases, committees decided not to accept proformas, on the basis that individuals already have a simple way to inform the committee of their views through the online questionnaire.

Once a questionnaire closes, a summary report is prepared for the committee and published on the website. The summary report analyses the responses received and draws out key themes, as well as quoting relevant participants in a de-identified form. The summary report provides members with an accessible snapshot of community views. The summary report is quoted in the committee's final report as a means to reflect community sentiment on an issue.

The Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019

A particularly significant inquiry was that relating to the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019. As noted earlier, the bill was controversial and sought to amend the law relating to terminations of pregnancies and regulating the conduct of health practitioners in relation to terminations. Despite the very short time-frame, the committee:

- received over 13,000 submissions via the website portal or email
- conducted over 15 hours of hearings over three days
- took evidence from 15 panels of witnesses grouped into areas of interest, including religious leaders, ethicists, right to life and right to choose advocates, academics, women's organisations and legal and medical professionals
- asked approximately 300 questions
- took 174 pages of Hansard transcript.

The receipt of over 13,000 submissions was a new record for the Council. However, due to the short timeframe, it was impractical to process all the submissions received. Consistent with the approach taken in an earlier inquiry into same sex marriage, the committee published all submissions provided by witnesses appearing at the hearings, and a number of other more extensive submissions by agencies and organisations. To fairly reflect the other submissions, the secretariat processed close to 900 submissions received through the website. A sample of 100 of these submissions was then de-identified and published as a document to provide an indication of the views expressed by those who engaged with the inquiry.

Ultimately, the committee recommended that the Legislative Council proceed to consider the bill, including any amendments in the committee stage that address stakeholder concerns raised during the inquiry. The debate on the bill during the second reading stage and in committee of the whole was a testament to the importance of the work of the committee in bringing the views of parties and organisations before members and the House.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND POLICY INQUIRIES IN 2019-2020

Inquiry into the regulation of building standards, building quality and building disputes

The Public Accountability Committee conducted an extensive inquiry into the regulation of building standards, building quality and building disputes. The inquiry was established following two high profile building failures that resulted in the evacuation of hundreds of residents from the Opal Tower and Mascot Towers high rise apartments in Sydney. The committee received almost 200 submissions and 390 responses to an online questionnaire and held six public hearings.

The committee explored a wide range of complex issues within the building and construction industry, including the adequacy of consumer protections for owners and purchasers of new apartments, the limitations of building insurance and compensation schemes, the regulation of building practitioners, the role of private certification in protecting building standards and the role of strata committees in responding to building defects. The committee also considered the important issue of flammable cladding on New South Wales buildings.

An overarching focus of the inquiry was the NSW Government's initiatives and reforms to the building and construction industry. The inquiry progressed alongside the introduction of the government's legislative agenda in this space, including the introduction of the Design and Building Practitioners Bill 2019. The committee tabled two reports making a total of 41 recommendations, many of which formed the basis of amendments introduced in the Legislative Council when the bill was debated. The bill was agreed to by both Houses (with amendments) and assented to in June 2020.

The committee indicated that it will be establishing a further inquiry by the end of 2020 to continue its review of the government's reforms into the building and construction industry and the implementation of the recommendations.



Mr David Chandler, NSW Building Commissioner, appearing at a hearing of the building standards inquiry

2019 Review into the Dust Diseases Scheme

The Standing Committee on Law and Justice regularly reviews a number of insurance and compensation schemes, including the Dust Diseases Scheme.

In 2019, the committee for the first time used its regular oversight review of the Dust Diseases Scheme to focus on a single issue – silicosis in the manufactured stone industry. Caused by breathing in crystalline silica dust, silicosis is an occupational dust disease that has re-emerged in recent years with an increasing prevalence amongst manufactured stone workers. The inquiry examined the response to silicosis in New South Wales to date.

The inquiry was conducted amidst a changing regulatory landscape – government decisions updating standards and enforcing new rules were made throughout the inquiry, both at the state and federal level. The inquiry was also conducted alongside a National Dust Disease Taskforce which has been charged with developing a national approach to managing and preventing dust diseases.

Following an extension of the inquiry to consider these regulatory developments as well as industry action in this area, the committee made 14 recommendations aiming to protect workers from exposure to crystalline silica and to provide support after diagnosis. This includes ensuring that medical screening is readily available to manufactured stone workers, and that appropriate control measures are in place to lower the risk, such as an explicit ban on dry cutting. Measures to ensure industry standards are lifted and regulatory enforcement is strengthened were also recommended.

So important was this issue to the committee that they undertook to monitor and evaluate the implementation of their recommendations in their next review. The outcome of this work will be reported on in next year's annual report.

Inquiry into the budget process for independent oversight bodies and the NSW Parliament

The Public Accountability Committee examined funding processes and outcomes of four key integrity institutions in NSW – the Independent Commission Against Corruption, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, the Electoral Commission, and the Ombudsman – and the NSW Parliament.

The inquiry was unusual not only in that it looked at the budget processes of key integrity institutions but in that it also examined the budget process for the NSW Parliament itself.

The committee recommended a range of reforms including a public review of the annual budget submissions of the oversight agencies and the Parliament by key parliamentary committees. The relevant committee would make recommendations as to the funding priorities and any requests for supplementary funding. In addition, the report recommended:

- contingency funding for the integrity bodies to address the inevitable unforeseen financial demands
- the need to fund such bodies directly through the Appropriation Act rather than through the relevant minister
- the removal of the integrity bodies from the Government's 'cluster' system
- a funding model for the Parliament based on the models in place in the United Kingdom or Canada.

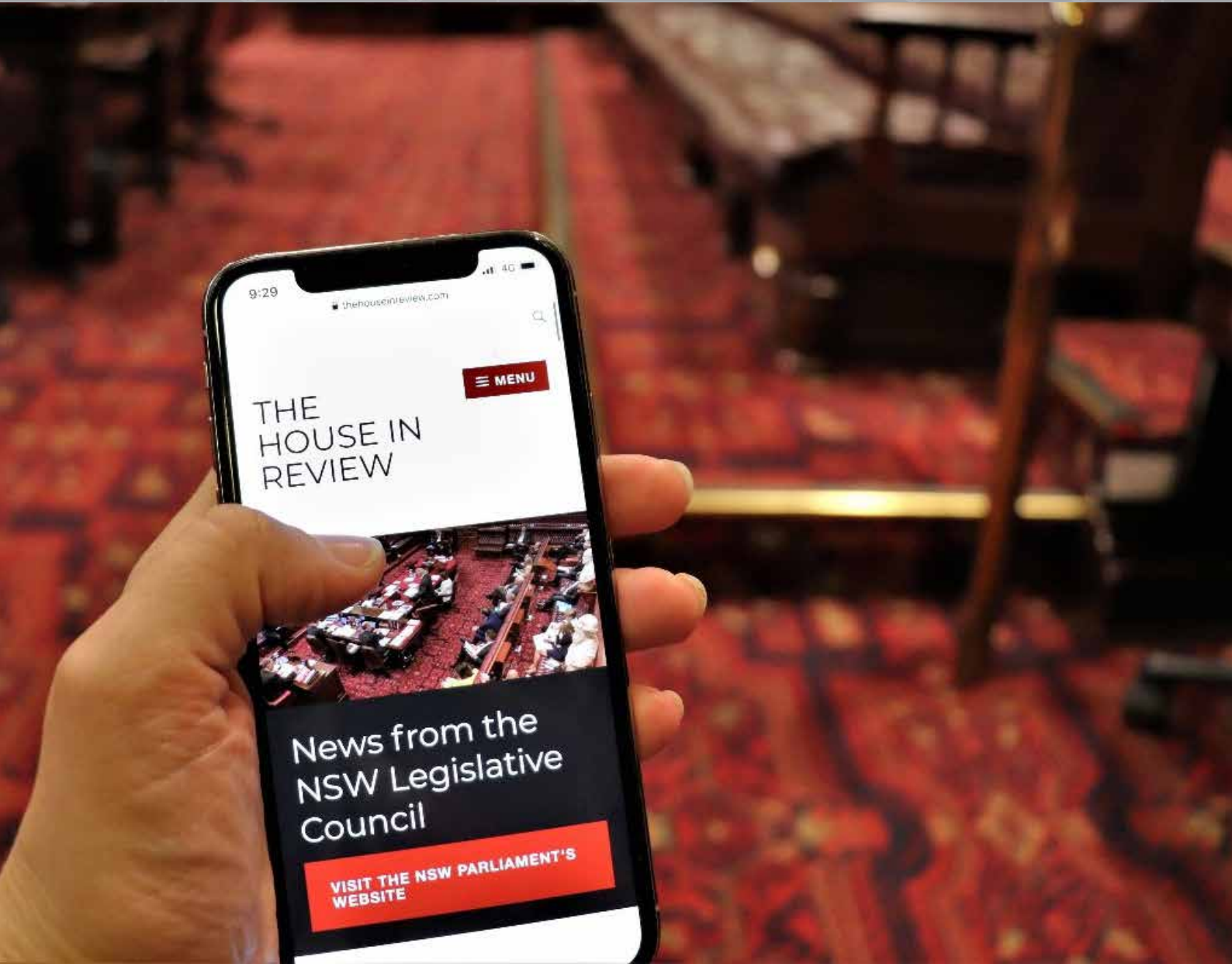
The committee intends to continue the inquiry in the second half of 2020 by addressing the budget process for the NSW Audit Office.

Inquiry into measurement and outcome based funding in New South Wales schools

During the reporting period, Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education inquired into the existing state of measurement in the New South Wales education system and consequences of introducing outcome based budgeting for schools. During this inquiry a number of interesting procedural and administrative issues arose.

- the committee considered engaging an external education expert, with the Clerk of the Parliaments providing advice on the matter. Subsequently, the Chair of the Committee, the Hon Mark Latham MLC, moved a motion in the House referring the matter to the Procedure Committee to develop, if appropriate, guidelines for how committees can benefit from external expert assistance while also easing the workload of the committee secretariat.
- the committee conducted site visits to several government, Catholic and independent schools around Sydney acting as an informal way for members to see firsthand what practices and methods schools were using to achieve results. These site visits proved valuable in forming the views of committee members and providing the foundations of the committee's report.
- an unprecedented circumstance occurred in that the Chair undertook to draft the report (rather than the standard process of the secretariat drafting the report under the chair's direction). In this unusual approach, the report as agreed to by the committee, became what the Chair described as an 'advocacy document' to reform the education system.

In its report, the committee made 66 recommendations to assist with the introduction of outcome based budgeting and halt the decline in the New South Wales schooling system and student results. For example, sharing and scaling up across the education system the use of evidence-based teaching practices such as explicit instruction to improve learning outcomes of students. The committee also made recommendations to bring about greater accountability and transparency in the education system, and more rigorous, reliable systems of performance measurement and reporting.



ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY



OVERVIEW

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to strengthening our community engagement. The Department aims to deliver programs that educate and encourage participation in the parliamentary process and to inform the community about the work of the Legislative Council, including through social media.

ROLE OF BLACK ROD AND CHAMBER AND SUPPORT TEAMS

The Office of the Black Rod and Chamber and Support teams play an important role in the engagement process. The Office of the Black Rod is primarily responsible for managing Fountain Court art exhibitions, social media coordination and various engagement events such as Sydney Open and the Legislative Council in Practice seminars, while the Chamber and Support teams (Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly) are the public face of the Parliament, welcoming visitors into the building and leading tours of the Chamber.



Chamber and Support staff participating in a training workshop in the Legislative Council Chamber

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Designed and launched a new brochure promoting the Fountain Court exhibition space to artists and redesigned the Fountain Court website pages to enhance navigation and readability
- Coordinated Parliament's involvement in Sydney Open and Commonwealth Day
- Participated in Chamber workshops to enhance knowledge and understanding of parliamentary procedure and process and trial new methods of delivering content
- Conducted public tours and school tours for a large number of students and visitors
- Implemented a new internship program for university students.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Department implemented all recommendations from the March 2019 review of its social media strategy to continue enhancing the Council's Twitter, Facebook and *House in Review* blog.

As recommended by the review, all staff have attended social media writing workshops run by the NSW Parliament's Digital Engagement Officer to further enhance content quality.

As part of the Department's mini-restructure in 2019, and as recommended by the review, a Digital Engagement position was established on a temporary part time basis to enhance the Department's communications. The NSW Parliament's Digital Engagement Officer filled this position from 29 July 2019 until 31 January 2020. The position will again be filled during the next reporting period.

The number of followers and engagement with content continues to increase on all platforms, with Facebook recording almost 500 new followers, Twitter recording over 200 new followers and blog posts being read over 12,000 times during the reporting period.

The *House in Review* blog continues to go from strength to strength with the Procedure and Committee Offices posting in both sitting and non-sitting weeks. The blog has proved to be a popular resource to explain in Plain English the core business and procedures of the Council while maintaining a light touch.

The Department continues to collaborate with DPS and the Assembly including through regularly sharing NSW Parliament Facebook posts on the Council's page and developing joint strategies for significant events.



A popular blog post informing readers about the recall of the House in April

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Throughout the reporting period, the Department participated in a wide range of whole of parliament community engagement activities, as follows:

- Sydney Open
- Young Women's Leadership Seminar
- YMCA Youth and Junior Parliaments
- Family Fun Day
- Internship Program.

A number of other programs had been scheduled to take place during the reporting period, but were cancelled due to COVID-19.

COMMUNICATIONS, ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION STRATEGY

One of the NSW Parliament's strategic priorities is to strengthen engagement with the public. With this in mind, work has commenced on developing a Legislative Council communications strategy which would then feed into a similar Parliament-wide document.

Focus groups have been held with both members and staff to ascertain the key matters that should be canvassed in the strategies. These documents are due to be completed in the next reporting period.

FOUNTAIN COURT EXHIBITIONS

The Fountain Court is a free exhibition space for monthly art exhibitions which are relevant to New South Wales and hosted by a member of Parliament. Information about holding an exhibition is available on the Parliament's website.

The following exhibitions were displayed during the year in the Fountain Court exhibition space:

- July 2019 – Opulence, sponsored by Dr Geoff Lee MP
- August 2019 – Out of the Illawarra, sponsored by Mr Gareth Ward MP and Mr Ryan Park MP
- September 2019 – Shades of the Plateau, sponsored by the Hon John Ajaka MLC
- November 2019 – Art Circles



The President's Dining Room was open to the public for the first time for Family Fun Day 2019

- February 2020 – Beyond Duty, sponsored by the Hon Walt Secord, MLC
- March 2020 – Art of Ageing, sponsored by the Hon John Sidoti MP.

With the closure of Parliament owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, exhibitions were initially postponed. However the department continued working in the exhibitions space and organised the first virtual Fountain Court exhibition in August 2020. Details of this will be included in the next annual report.

Where possible, these will be given priority when the Parliament reopens following the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition the Black Rod team developed and launched a brochure during the reporting period to encourage artists to exhibit at Parliament and redesigned the Fountain Court website pages to make them more inviting and user-friendly.

COMMONWEALTH DAY

Commonwealth Day was celebrated on 9 March 2020, with the Usher of the Black Rod assisting the Commonwealth Day Council to coordinate an official event at Parliament. The day included an official visit from the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, involvement of students from a number of schools and a lunch for Commonwealth Day Council members.



Exhibiting at Parliament House

The Parliament of New South Wales is a prominent public venue in the central business district of Sydney that attracts thousands of visitors each year. Its high profile and expansive exhibition space – the Fountain Court – joins the heritage facade of the building to the modern office building. The exhibition walls, including the Reconciliation Wall, are available for non-partisan exhibitions of a high curatorial and artistic standard. Exhibitors are welcome to utilise Parliament's in-house catering and events facilities to hold launch events or similar to coincide with their exhibition.

Lead:
Michelle Dack, Usher of the Black Rod
Lead:
Walt Tegen, Usher of the Black Rod
Fountain Court, King Street Sydney, 400 m² Floor 10/11

The Black Rod team launched a new Fountain Court brochure, promoting the Fountain Court exhibition space and Reconciliation Wall to new exhibitors



The Governor of New South Wales being welcomed to the NSW Parliament for Commonwealth Day 2020

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Oral History Project is an ongoing initiative of the Legislative Council. It records and shares aspects of a number of milestones in the Legislative Council's history by the people who have shaped its evolution as a House of Review.

A monograph encapsulating the fourth stage of the project 'At Cross-purposes? Governments and the Crossbench in the NSW Legislative Council, 1988-2011' by Dr David Clune OAM, was launched on 17 September 2019. The special guest speaker for the event was Adjunct Professor Antony Green, with a number of the key crossbench members also present.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Legislative Council in Practice seminars

The Legislative Council in Practice seminar program is aimed at public servants who are looking to develop their knowledge and understanding of the role and functions of the Legislative Council.

The seminars are presented by senior parliamentary officers including the Clerk of the Parliaments and the Deputy Clerk. A highlight for many participants is the visit to the Council Chamber. Participants also find the interactive members' panel session, which involves several Council members discussing their backgrounds and parliamentary roles and answering participants' questions, both valuable and enjoyable.

Two seminars were held during the reporting period, with a total of 100 public sector staff attending. The seminars have received consistently positive feedback.

In early 2020 a working group of officers from both Houses was formed to develop a joint seminar to be delivered to public sector employees in regional areas. It is envisioned that the joint 'Parliament in Practice' seminar would draw from the successful practical seminars run by each House Department at NSW Parliament. Unfortunately, the project is currently on pause due to COVID-19 restrictions, but will continue when circumstances allow.

Effective participation in parliamentary inquiries

Committee staff continued the very successful program of workshops run in conjunction with the Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS) aimed at improving non-government stakeholders' understanding of parliamentary inquiries and their skills in participating in them.

During the reporting period workshops were held at Parliament House on 21 August and 28 November 2019.

University of Sydney 'Parliament and Democracy' course

In the second half of 2019, students from the University of Sydney participating in the Parliament and Democracy course attended four sessions at the NSW Parliament. The sessions were coordinated and delivered by officers from both Houses, and involved a variety of presentations, including:

- a legislation role play in which students 'passed' a bill in each House
- a panel of Government and Opposition Whips discussing their role in relation to their party and the Parliament
- a presentation on the role of committees, including observation of budget estimates hearings



Former members (together with Revd Mr Nile), Dr David Clune and Mr Antony Green celebrating the launch of the monograph, entitled 'At Cross-purposes? Governments and the Crossbench in the NSW Legislative Council, 1988-2011'

- observation of and discussion about Question Time in each House
- a panel of ex-Ministers discussing their roles and the relationship between the Executive and the Parliament.

Feedback from the students was overwhelmingly positive and both House Departments and the University look forward to offering the course again in the future.

School outreach program

The Procedure Office offers a school outreach program to students in regional areas visited by Legislative Council committees. Officers deliver presentations on the Parliament and its committees, before giving students the opportunity to observe committee hearings and discuss their observations with committee members. During the reporting period, the Procedure Office undertook a review of program content. While activities were restricted by the cessation of regional hearings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program will be offered again when circumstances allow.

PUBLIC TOURS AND SCHOOL TALKS

Chamber and Support staff deliver talks on the functions and history of the Legislative Council to primary and secondary schools and conduct role plays with special interest groups and visiting dignitaries. During the reporting year, approximately 432 schools and other groups visited the Parliament and undertook tours delivered by Chamber and Support staff. This number was slightly less than the previous reporting period due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Ms Susan Want, the former Usher of the Black Rod, presenting to public sector staff in November 2019



PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS



OVERVIEW

The Parliament welcomes official visitors, foreign dignitaries, parliamentary colleagues and delegations from around the world, embracing opportunities to share knowledge and exchange ideas.

The Legislative Council is also a committed participant in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's Twinning Program.

HOSPITALITY AND VISITORS

The following delegations and official visitors were received during 2019-20:

Delegations

- Delegation of Consuls led by the Vice Consul of the Chinese Consulate in Sydney, Mr Jia Xiaopan – August 2019.
- Delegation from Mozambique led by the Hon Gania Aly Abdula Mussagy MP – August 2019
- Visitor from Botswana's Parliamentary Counsel Office – August 2019
- Delegation from Queensland led by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Hon Curtis Pitt MP – August 2019
- Delegation from Myanmar led by His Excellency U Tin Myint, Deputy Union Minister, Union Government Office – October 2019

- Delegation from Vietnam hosted by the Australian Political Exchange Council – October 2019
- Delegation from Victoria led by The Hon Shaun Leane MLC, President of the Legislative Council of Victoria – October 2019
- Delegation from Cook Islands led by the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, the Hon Henry Puna, and hosted by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – November 2019
- Delegation from Shenzhen's Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference – December 2019
- Visitor from Oregon, USA representing the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries – January 2020
- Delegation from Cyprus led by Mr Demetris Syllouris, President of the House of Representatives of Cyprus – February 2020.

OFFICIAL VISITS

Official visits are made to the NSW Parliament. These mainly comprise diplomats of ambassadorial status either presenting their credentials before taking up their duties or at the conclusion of their posting. A list of official calls made during 2019-2020 include:

- Consul-General of the Republic of Korea
- Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia
- Consul-General of Bangladesh



Official lunch in the Speaker's Dining Room in November 2019 for a delegation from the Cook Islands, led by the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, the Hon Henry Puna

- High Commissioner of Bangladesh
- Deputy Consul General of Japan
- Chairperson of Mozambique CPA Branch
- Consul-General of France
- Head of Delegation of the France-Australia Group to the Senate in France
- Ambassador of Brazil
- Consul-General of the Philippines
- Speaker of Arunachal Legislative Assembly
- Ambassador of Hungary
- Consul-General of Hungary
- Member of the Standing Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union (Delegation Leader)
- Consul-General of Japan
- High Commissioner- designate to the Solomon Islands
- Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates
- High Commissioner of Fiji
- Consul-General of Italy
- Consul-General of Croatia
- Consul-General of Namibia
- High Commissioner of South Africa
- High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) is made up of parliamentarians united by a community of interest, respect for the rule of law and the rights and freedoms of individual citizens, and the pursuit of positive ideals of parliamentary democracy. The Association's mission is to promote the advancement of parliamentary democracy by enhancing knowledge and understanding of democratic governance. This mission is achieved through a range of programs and activities for parliamentarians and parliamentary staff.

Appointment of the Hon John Ajaka MLC as Vice Chairperson of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and conference in Uganda

In September 2019 the President, the Hon John Ajaka MLC, represented the CPA NSW Branch at the 64th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Kampala, Uganda, as one of the current Australian Region representatives on the International Executive Committee. The President was accompanied by Ms Julia Finn MP, Member for Granville, as the NSW Branch's delegate and Ms Jenelle Moore, then-Director-Committees in the Legislative Council, who participated in the associated meeting of the Society of Clerks at the Table.



The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President (right) together with Ms Julia Finn MP (left) at the CPA General Assembly, following which President Ajaka was elected Vice Chairperson of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association



The Hon John Ajaka MLC presenting on the role of Parliament in facilitating the involvement in parliaments of persons with disabilities as legislators

In a significant achievement and great honour for the NSW Branch, the Hon John Ajaka MLC was elected as Vice Chairperson of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, a role that will continue until the conclusion of the 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference which will be held in Canada in August 2021.

2019 Westminster Seminar on Effective Parliaments

In November 2019 the Hon Courtney Houssos MLC, the Hon Taylor Martin MLC and Mr Stephen Frappell, Clerk Assistant – Committees participated in the 2019 Westminster Seminar on Effective Parliaments, hosted by the CPA United Kingdom Branch in London. The five day program provided a unique platform for participants from across the Commonwealth to network and engage with counterparts, exploring approaches to parliamentary democracy, practice and procedure in the context of the Westminster System and drawing comparisons between Commonwealth legislatures.

Following his attendance at the seminar, Stephen undertook a day's program at the National Assembly of Wales, where he met with a number of senior staff in relation to House and committee work and the devolution of powers and responsibilities to the National Assembly.

10th Commonwealth Youth Parliament in India

Over 40 Commonwealth youth delegates aged 18 to 29 years attended the 10th Commonwealth Youth Parliament hosted by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and the Delhi Legislative Assembly in Delhi, India, in November 2019. Two young people from the CPA NSW Branch attended the conference: Ms Kaelee Aboud, nominated by the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, and Ms Stephanie Horton, nominated by the Hon Gareth Ward MP. The 10th Commonwealth Youth Parliament gave participants a glimpse into the procedures and mechanisms of Parliament as an institution and engendered an environment for youth Parliamentarians to develop their skills of debate and their interpersonal intelligence.



Ms Stephanie Horton (left) and Ms Kaelee Aboud (right) during their time in India as part of the 10th Commonwealth Youth Parliament. Participants from across the Commonwealth took part, ranging from the largest democracy in the Commonwealth (India) to one of the smallest (Tonga)



Mr Stephen Frappell during his time at the UK Westminster Seminar on Effective Parliaments, a capacity-building program for parliamentarians and procedural and committee clerks from across the Commonwealth

Twinning Program

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Twinning Program links every Australian state and territory parliament with one or more parliaments in the Pacific region. The program is designed to promote collaboration and understanding between twinned parliaments to ensure they each fulfil their legislative, representative and oversight roles.

The NSW Parliament is twinned with the parliaments of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (the Bougainville House of Representatives) and the Solomon Islands (the National Parliament of Solomon Islands).

The Twinning Steering Committee provides strategic direction and oversight of twinning and is comprised of the following representatives of the three parliamentary Departments:

- Ms Beverly Duffy, Chair, and Clerk Assistant – Procedure, Legislative Council,
- Mr Simon Johnston, Director, Procedural Research & Protocol and Serjeant-at-Arms, Legislative Assembly
- Ms Jeannie Douglass, Senior Manager, Parliamentary Education, Department of Parliamentary Services
- Ms Jenelle Moore, Director – Committees, (now Usher of the Black Rod), Legislative Council.

Twinning activities included:

- In November 2019 two Legislative Council members, the Hon Greg Donnelly and the Hon Shayne Mallard, joined an Australian Observer team to observe the conduct of the Bougainville referendum.
- In June 2020 the Clerk of the Parliaments presented at a webinar for Pacific Parliaments organised by the UNDP Pacific Office entitled: Parliamentary Response to the Pandemic – An Overview of Good Practices in the Pacific.
- In February 2020 the steering committee commissioned the design of two large panels that will be prominently displayed in the Fountain Court. The panels explain the twinning partnership and highlight key activities undertaken by members and staff in 2019.

Several other twinning activities planned for 2020 have been affected by the pandemic. This includes a delegation to Bougainville to be led by the Speaker; a delegation to Solomon Islands led by Jonathan Pyke, agreed to collaborate on a joint seminar on the Bougainville referendum. The seminar did not proceed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC (left photo) and The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC (right photo) observing the November 2019 Bougainville referendum as part of an Australian Government observer mission

PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

Parliamentary Friendship Groups are established by members of Parliament to provide a forum for a shared cause or interest, or to arrange events and assist delegations associated with countries and regions.

At the time of reporting 54 Parliamentary Friendship Groups were in operation, with 11 new groups being established during the reporting period. The Black Rod team in the Procedure Office processes applications from members of the Legislative Council to form a new group and coordinates the annual reports from Parliamentary Friendship Groups which are required by 31 March each year. A list of all groups is provided at Appendix 5.

AUSTRALASIAN STUDY OF PARLIAMENT GROUP (ASPG) FORUMS

The Australasian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG) is a politically non-partisan body which encourages research, writing, teaching and discussion about parliamentary institutions, particularly those in Australasia and the South Pacific.

Mr Alexander Stedman held the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the NSW ASPG Chapter for the last two years, and at the AGM held in December 2019 this role went to Mr Rohan Tyler of the Legislative Assembly.

A number of ASPG forums/seminars were held throughout the year, including:

Democracy and Citizen Engagement in Uncertain Times

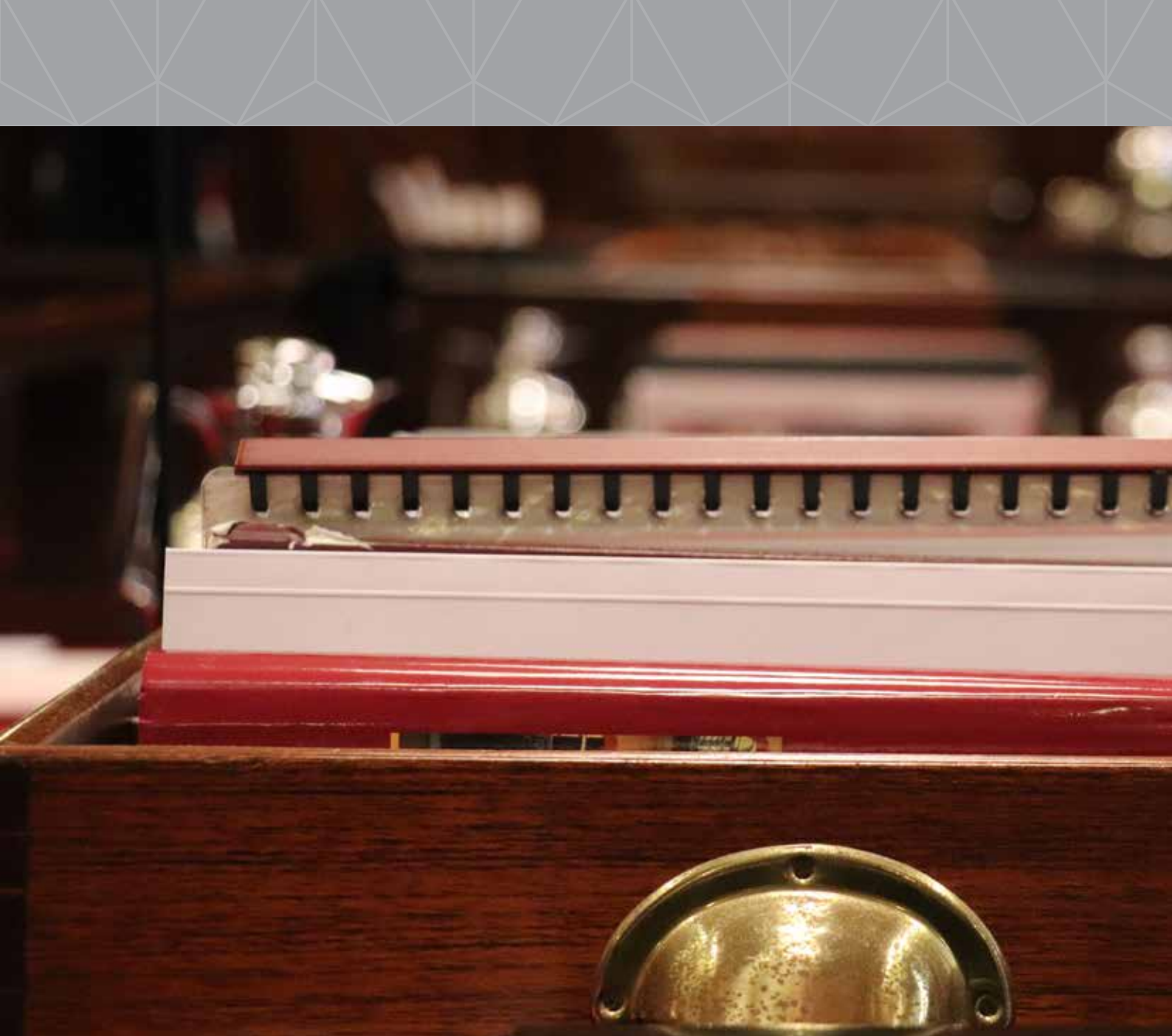
On 14 November 2019 Rodney Smith, Professor of Australian Politics in the Department of Government and International Relations at the University of Sydney gave an address on the current state of democratic engagement in Australia and elsewhere.

Screening of the film Peterloo

On 3 December 2019 a screening of the film Peterloo was held in the parliamentary Theatre with an introduction from Professor Kirsten McKenzie FAHA FRHistS, Department of History, School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney. The film is an account of the Peterloo massacre which saw a number of pro-democracy activists killed at a protest in Manchester in 1819.

Women's right to vote in New South Wales

On 10 March 2020 Professor Lee Ann Banaszak, Department of Political Science, Pennsylvania State University presented on 'How women got the vote on the state level: NSW in a comparative context'.



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



OVERVIEW

The Department of the Legislative Council works collaboratively with the Department of the Legislative Assembly and the Department of Parliamentary Services to ensure that the Parliament of New South Wales is supported by a strong governance framework.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORKPLACE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PLAN

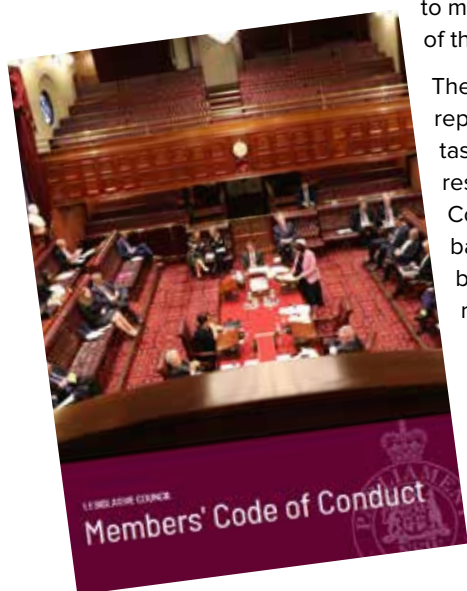
The Department has implemented its Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Plan 2019-2023 which is supported by the whole of Parliament Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Strategy. Implementation has included:

- All staff have undertaken training provided by Diversity Australia
- Three events have been organised by DPS celebrating NAIDOC Week, people with disability and LGBT awareness
- Job advertisements now include reference to the Department's diversity plan
- Department applying to participate in Public Service Commission's Aboriginal Internship Program.
- Input into the development of a whole-of-parliament Disability Inclusion Strategy.

ETHICS REGIME ENHANCEMENTS AND MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

Following agreement between the Privileges Committees of both Houses, a revised Code of Conduct for Members was adopted in the Legislative Council on 24 March 2020. The Clerk and Parliamentary Ethics Advisor then presented a briefing to members on the implications of the Code in August 2020.

The Deputy Clerk is also a representative on the Speaker's taskforce developing a resource on the Code of Conduct using the phone based app EdApp. This will be rolled out in the next reporting period.



PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (PIMS)

The Parliamentary Information Management Systems (PIMS) project is a significant whole-of-Parliament undertaking to transition parliamentary information from Lotus Notes to the SharePoint platform. During the financial year, the Department was focused on the development and implementation of the PIMS Minutes User Interface (UI).

The PIMS Minutes UI was a joint project with the Legislative Assembly, managed by the Department of Parliamentary Services IT section, to develop a new method of generating the minutes of proceedings in each House. The new PIMS Minutes system includes a number of significant benefits to the Department, providing the capacity to:

- access information directly from other databases such as bills, members, tabled papers and committees
- easily share information between the Houses and Hansard
- provide for advance searching of the Minutes (LC) and Votes & Proceedings (LA) on the Parliament's website
- provide the capacity to generate an index of the minutes at the end of the Parliamentary session.

The new system was successfully launched in December 2019 and by the 2020 February sittings, the PIMS Minutes UI was being used by the Legislative Council to successfully generate and publish the Minutes.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to providing a workplace that provides equal employment opportunity (EEO). The Department's commitment is evidenced by:

- Flexible work practices to assist staff in achieving a balance between their professional and personal life
- Merit selection
- Fair work practices and procedures.

Women are well represented in the Department and occupy six of the 10 management or supervisory positions the Department has in its establishment. The Department contributes EEO data for the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Workforce Profile, which measures performance in meeting NSW Government employment benchmarks for employees from EEO minority groups. The Department's EEO trends are outlined in the table below.

Trends in the representation of EEO Groups in the Legislative Council at 30 June 2020

Representation	Benchmark/Target	2020
Women	50%	65%
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders	2.6%	4.08%
People whose language first spoken as a child was not English	19%	9.00%
People with a disability	N/A	2.00%
People with a disability requiring work related adjustments	1.5%	0%

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES

Under section 31 of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*, all public authorities must report on any public interest disclosures made by public officials.

During the reporting period, no public official made a disclosure under the Act to the Department of the Legislative Council.

The Parliament encourages the disclosure, in the public interest, of corrupt conduct and maladministration. The Department's Public Interest Disclosure Policy 2011 is accessible on the intranet and the Department ensures that all staff are aware of the policy. In addition, the Human Services team of the Department of Parliamentary Services delivers a session on Public Interest Disclosures at the Induction Program for new staff.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

The Parliament's Audit and Risk Committee operates in accordance with Treasury Policy Paper (TPP15-03) 'Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy for the NSW Public Sector'. The Committee's Charter states that the objective of the Committee is 'to provide independent assistance to the Clerks and the Executive Manager by monitoring, reviewing and providing advice about the Legislature's governance processes, risk management and control frameworks, and its external accountability obligations'.

The current Members of the Audit and Risk Committee are Ms Carol Holley, Mr Alex Smith and Mr David Antaw. Ms Carol Holley was Chair from 1 July to 31 May 2020 when her maximum five year term expired. On 1st June 2020 she was succeeded as Chair by Mr Alex Smith but remained as a Member. All Members are independent and were re-appointed with effect from 1 June 2019.

The Committee met five times during 2019-2020 and Committee Member attendance is shown in the table below.

Audit and Risk Committee Members	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Ms Carol Holley (Chair)	5	5
Mr Alex Smith	5	5
Mr David Antaw	5	5

The Committee monitored the following activities in 2019-2020:

- Risk assessments including updates to the Parliament's Corporate Risk Register (CRR);
- Endorsement of the Parliament's Internal Audit Universe, Strategic (three year) and Annual Internal Audit Plan
- Progress against the Internal Audit Plan
- Final internal audit reports
- Status reports on the implementation of internal audit and external audit recommendations
- Draft and Final Legislature Annual Financial Statements
- Internal financial performance reports
- The Parliament's early close procedures
- The Audit Office of NSW's Client Services Report and Management Letter
- Management's representation letter to the Audit Office of NSW
- Annual attestation against the Parliament's Legislative Compliance Register
- Business Continuity Management implementation
- Reports on Fraud and Corruption Control.

INTERNAL AUDIT

The Parliament's Internal Audit function is an independent review activity headed by the Chief Audit Executive. The Internal Audit Function, through the Chief Audit Executive, reports functionally to the Audit and Risk Committee on the results of completed audits, and for strategic direction and accountability purposes; and reports administratively to the Clerks and Chief Executive DPS, to facilitate day to day operations.

The Chief Audit Executive manages, through an outsourced audit service provider, an annual plan of risk-based audits. The annual audit plan for 2019-2020 was endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee in June 2018.

During 2019-2020, the following final audit reports were presented to the Audit and Risk Committee:

- Accounts Payable
- Members Entitlements FY 2017-2018
- Work Health and Safety in Electorate Offices
- Catering
- Members Entitlements FY 2018-2019

In addition to the above, fieldwork had been completed by 30 June 2020 on the following two internal audit reviews from the 2019-2020 audit plan, with final reports to be issued in early 2020-2021:

- IT Security
- Recruitment

An updated 'Audit Universe', Strategic (three year), and annual audit plan for 2020-2021 has been prepared in consultation with senior management for presentation to the Audit and Risk Committee in July 2020.

ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT

The Parliament's Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Framework incorporates all the Parliament's policies, processes, and methodologies for identifying and managing risk. The ERM Framework also sets out how risk management is embedded in key business processes. The ERM Framework was reviewed and updated in 2019-2020.

The Parliament maintains a Corporate Risk Register (CRR) which is subject to quarterly review by the Parliament's Senior Management Group (SMG) and the Audit and Risk Committee.

In addition, Departments/Branches maintain operational risk registers which are also reviewed on a quarterly basis. A network of 'Risk Champions' was established in 2019-2020 to promote better practice in risk management across the Parliament, promote the embedding of risk management in business processes, and coordinate on cross departmental risks. There were three formal meetings of this network in 2019-2020.

INSURANCE

The Parliament's insurance requirements are managed as part of the Treasury Managed Fund (TMF) portfolio. Under the TMF management arrangements, the Parliament's business insurer is Gallagher Bassett for all insurance lines except for workers' compensation insurance which is provided by Employers Mutual. Deposit premiums paid to the Treasury Managed Fund for all lines of insurance over the past five years are shown in the table below.

	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018	2016-2017	2015-2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Property	229,780	203,150	173,230	179,100	192,430
Workers' Compensation	340,804	402,790	483,882	371,277	245,301
Motor	540	580	750	750	880
Liability	52,990	51,090	49,740	52,420	60,670
Misc	7,060	5,230	5,930	9,030	12,390
Total	631,174	662,840	713,532	612,577	511,671



BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT

The Parliament has continued to make progress in implementing its Business Continuity Management System in 2019/20. Activities have included:

- Four meetings of the Business Continuity Governance Group, with representation from all three Parliamentary Departments, in August 2019, December 2019, March 2020 and April 2020.
- Implementation of the Telstra Instant Messaging System (TIMS), and associated procedure guide, as Parliament's preferred communication channel for notifying Members, staff, contractors and other Parliament House occupants of a business interruption event.
- Development and implementation of a Pandemic Plan.
- Update of individual Business Recovery Plans for the Parliament's critical processes to include pandemic response.

The Covid-19 pandemic was a business interruption event for the Parliament requiring the activation of the above plans during the third and fourth quarters of the financial year.

FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PREVENTION

The Parliament's Fraud and Corruption Control Committee met five times in 2019-2020 and oversaw the implementation of the Corruption Control Plan.

The following initiatives were undertaken in 2019-2020 to ensure staff awareness of responsibilities under section 6E(1)b of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 have been met:

- promotion of the new fraud and corruption control training module through emails to staff by Department Heads,
- completion of remaining recommendations from the 2018 Fraud and Corruption internal audit,
- update of new Public Interest Disclosure Policies for each of the three Parliamentary Departments,
- promotion of the new Public Interest Disclosure policies through Department Head emails to all staff, an article in the staff newsletter, and an anti corruption poster on the intranet,
- preparation and approval of a Fraud Health Check survey to be run in the second quarter of 2020- 2021.

Code of conduct

The NSW Parliament has a strong ethical framework which includes separate codes of conduct for members, Departmental staff and members' staff. Each code, while different, incorporates the common principles of honesty, integrity, confidentiality, and requires the appropriate use of public resources. All new members and staff are provided with copies of the relevant code of conduct.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to ensuring the workplace health and safety of our employees as well as that of visitors. The Parliament has a Work Health and Safety (WHS) Committee which meets quarterly. The Department of Legislative Council is represented by Ms Jenelle Moore, Usher of the Black Rod and two staff representatives elected every 3 years, currently Mr Zachary Gillies-Palmer and Mr Sam Griffith.

The Parliament utilises an online WHS reporting system through which members and staff can report injuries, near-misses and hazards in the workplace. The system improves injury management at the Parliament and helps ensure we continue to prioritise WHS for all members, staff and visitors. The Parliament also has a Work Health and Safety Policy with the objective of providing for a pro-active, reasonably practicable risk management approach to identify, assess, control, monitor and review hazards in the workplace, in compliance with work

health and safety legislation, regulation and codes of practice established by SafeWork NSW and other regulators.

The following table indicates that in 2019-2020 the number of reported incidents in the Legislative Council this year compared to the same as last year, with no new lost-time claims.

Summary of Workplace Health and Safety Incidents

	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018	2016-2017
No. of incidents	4	4	7	6
Near miss/hazards	3	1	1	1
Strains & overuse	1	0	1	2
Slips trips and falls	0	1	3	0
Other (not categorised above)	0	2	2	3
Lost time injuries	0	0	0	0
Claims	0	0	0	0
New claims cost	\$0	\$0	\$801.20	\$0

CROSS-PARLIAMENT COMMITTEES

The Department also has representatives on a number of cross Department committees aimed at improving communication, workflow and governance across the Parliament. These committees are the:

- Visitor Experience Group
- Policy Review Steering Committee
- Training Committee
- Records Management Committee
- Business Continuity Committee
- ICT Steering Committee.

TRAVEL EXPENDITURE

Overseas travel – Department

Date	Travellers	Purpose	Cost
September 2019	Mr Steven Reynolds, Deputy Clerk and President of ANZACATT	2019 ASLCS Professional Development Seminar, Seattle, Washington State, USA	\$5,875
November 2019	Mr Stephen Frappell, Clerk Assistant – Committees	Following the 2019 Westminster Seminar on Effective Parliament, Mr Frappell travelled to the National Assembly of Wales	\$643
February 2020	Ms Merrin Thompson, Principal Council Officer – Committees	Australia/New Zealand Parliamentary Human Resources Forum, Wellington, New Zealand	\$1,992

Domestic travel

Date	Travellers	Purpose	Cost
July 2019	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments	50th Presiding Officers and Clerks' Conference, Brisbane, Queensland	\$4,833
October 2019	Mr Alexander Stedman, Principal Council Officer – Procedural Research in his capacity as ASPG Secretary/ Treasurer of the NSW Chapter Ms Monica Loftus, Senior Council Officer – Committees	ASPG annual conference, Canberra	\$3,122
November 2019	Ms Rhia Victorino, Principal Council Officer – Committees Ms Shu-fang Wei, Senior Council Officer – Committees	Attachment to the Committee Office at the Parliament of Victoria	\$2,482

CPA Parliamentary Supported travel

Date	Travellers	Purpose	Cost
July 2019	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President – delegation leader The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC The Hon Robert Borsak MLC Ms Susan Want, Usher of the Black Rod – delegation secretary Mr Tom Anderson, Chief of Staff to the President (<i>funded by the office of the President</i>)	Delegation to Guangdong, China. The Legislature of Guangdong Province has had a sister-state relationship with the New South Wales Parliament since the 1970s	\$35,421

CPA Parliamentary Supported travel (continued)

Date	Travellers	Purpose	Cost
September 2019	The Hon Scott Farlow MLC	Speaker led delegation to London, United Kingdom and Eupen, Belgium. The delegation investigated initiatives for the modernisation of parliamentary practice and procedure and attended the G1000 Foundation for Future Generations Summer School on Deliberative Democracy for Policy Makers	\$12,588
September 2019	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President, as Regional Representative on the CPA International Executive Committee Ms Jenelle Moore, Director – Committees	64th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Kampala, Uganda Attended conference as a member of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table in Commonwealth Parliaments	\$25,484
October 2019	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President, as Vice Chairperson of the CPA International Executive Committee	Extraordinary meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee convened by the CPA Chairperson <i>(Additional costs were reimbursed by CPA Headquarters)</i>	\$5,591
November 2019	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President, as Australian Regional Representative on the CPA Executive Committee Ms Beverly Duffy, Clerk Assistant – Procedure	38th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Australia and Pacific Regional Conference in Adelaide, South Australia <i>(Additional costs related to travel by the President's spouse and Chief and Staff have been charged to the President's cost centre)</i>	\$4,546
November 2019	Ms Kaelee Aboud, sponsored by the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC Ms Stephanie Horton, sponsored by the Hon Gareth Ward MP	10th Commonwealth Youth Parliament in Delhi, India	\$5,506
November 2019	The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC The Hon Taylor Martin MLC Mr Stephen Frappell, Clerk Assistant – Committees	2019 Westminster Seminar on Effective Parliament, hosted by the CPA United Kingdom Branch	\$31,841
January 2020	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President, as Vice Chairperson on the CPA International Executive Committee	Extraordinary meeting of the Co-ordinating Committee meeting convened by the CPA Chairperson, the Hon Emilia Lifaka <i>(Additional costs were reimbursed by CPA Headquarters)</i>	\$5,642*
February 2020	The Hon Scott Farlow MLC	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK 2020 Cybersecurity Workshop, hosted by the CPA United Kingdom Branch	\$8,322

CPA Parliamentary Supported travel (continued)

Date	Travellers	Purpose	Cost
February/ March 2020	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President, as Vice Chairperson of the CPA International Executive Committee	Represented the Chairperson of the CPA at 14th PAM Plenary Session in Athens, Greece, followed by travel to the United Kingdom to attend meetings of the CPA International Executive Committee—Co-ordinating Committee, and interviews for the position of Secretary-General of the CPA <i>(Additional costs were reimbursed by CPA Headquarters)</i>	\$3,433
March 2020	The Hon John Ajaka MLC, President Mr Tom Anderson, Chief of Staff to the President <i>(funded by the office of the President)</i> Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments	Canberra for a day's program at the Australian Parliament	Nil

USE OF CONSULTANTS, CONTRACTORS AND LEGAL SERVICES

The Department expended approximately \$104,000 on consultancy, contractor and legal services, the detail of which is provided below.

Advices obtained from the Crown Solicitor

During the financial year advice was also obtained from the Crown Solicitor's office on one matter, however, as this was classified as core legal work there was no cost to the Department of the Legislative Council.

Legal Services

The Department engaged the Honourable Keith Mason AC QC, as an independent legal arbiter to evaluate and report on claims of privilege on documents relating to the following orders for papers for a total of \$22,753.50, including GST.

- Schedule 2 of the VIP Gaming Management Agreement
- Landcom (two advices)
- Directors and Chair of Landcom – Part 3 – Draft Werman report
- Register of buildings with potentially combustible cladding and the Premier's rulings in relation to disclosures under the Ministerial Code of Conduct (two advices)
- Floodplain harvesting.

In addition, the Department engaged the Honourable Joseph Campbell QC as an independent legal arbiter to evaluate and report on a claim of privilege on documents relating to the disclosures of Minister Sidoti under the ministerial Code of Conduct for a total of \$9,570, including GST.

Chamber coverage and other filming services

Camera operator services for the Chamber have been delivered by Corporate Technology Services Pty Ltd. The consultancy fees paid by the Department to Corporate Technology Services Pty Ltd was \$33,000 in 2019-2020.

Shared expenditure

The Department contributes to the cost of services delivered across the Parliament, including:

- the Employee Assistance Program (\$3,920.76)
- Flu vaccine program (\$1,933.80)
- professional fees charged by the independent members of the Parliament's Audit and Risk Committee (\$32,423).

In addition, some consultancy fees or contractor fees are charged to the Members Representation funds set aside in Parliament's budget, as they relate to LC members without being directly related to the Department's responsibilities. An example of these costs is fees paid to: Mr John Evans PSM, provision of services as Parliament Ethics Advisor (\$10,000), being the Legislative Council's share of the overall contract fee.

Annual report

This report is available on the New South Wales Parliament website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au. The 2019-2020 annual report was compiled in house, with design assistance from Studio Rouge and a small print run, with a total cost of \$5,940.



FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The net cost of services of the Legislative Council, including members' programs was \$31.319 million, representing 18.9% of the total net cost of services of the Parliament for the 2019-2020 financial year. This compares to a budget of \$31.045 million reflecting an unfavourable variance against budget of \$274,000 or 0.9%.

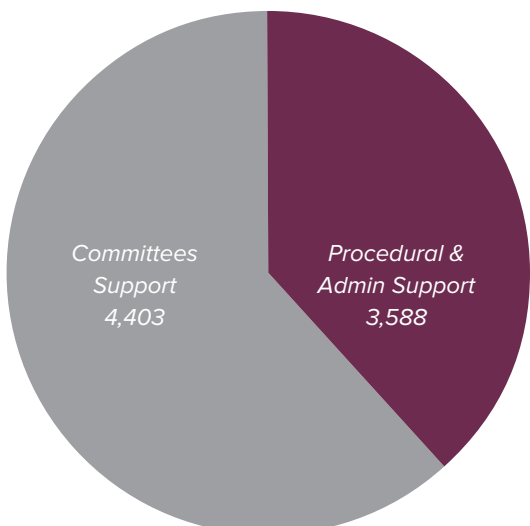
The main components of this variation include:

- Employee related expenses being higher than budget by \$320,000 due to: Members' staff separations of \$112,000; higher annual leave provision of \$250,000; and \$304,000 in additional staffing required to meet the additional committees formed during the year offset by \$251,000 in positions temporarily held vacant
- Operating expenses being lower than budget by \$373,000 due to: lower Communication Allowance of \$51,000, lower General Travel Allowance of \$181,000, lower Electorate to Sydney Allowance of \$68,000, and lower Skills Development Allowance of \$55,000 and
- Other expenses for Members remuneration being higher than budget by \$320,000 due to higher Members & Ministers Salaries costs.

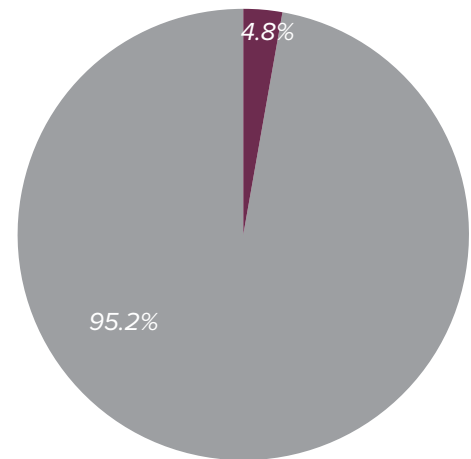
The net cost of services for the Council, excluding direct expenditure on Members, was \$7.991 million which equates to 4.8% of the total net cost of services for the Parliament and 25.5% of the Legislative Council's total net cost of services. The two main operational activities within the Council are Procedural and Administrative Support and Committee Support.

'The costs shown in this financial report are unaudited and represent the best known cost distribution for both cash and non-cash items attributable to the Legislative Council.

Legislative Council Operations \$'000

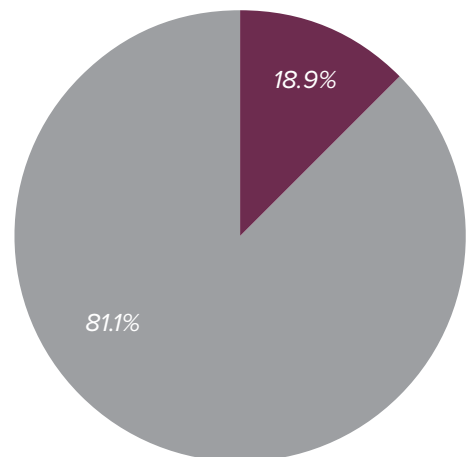


Net cost of services of the Legislative Council, excluding Members Program, as a proportion of total cost of services of Parliament



- Net cost of services of the Legislative Council, excluding Members Program
- Net cost of services of the Parliament

Net cost of services of the Legislative Council, including Members Program, as a proportion of total cost of services of Parliament



- Net cost of services of the Legislative Council, including Members Program
- Net cost of services of the Parliament

Start of unaudited financial statements

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CONSOLIDATED

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2020

	Actual 2020 \$'000	Budget 2020 \$'000	Actual 2019 \$'000
Expenses excluding losses			
Employee related expenses	13,178	12,858	13,514
Operating expenses	1,817	2,190	1,918
Depreciation and amortisation	2,723	2,718	2,558
Grants and subsidies	–	–	–
Other expenses (Members' remuneration)	14,311	13,991	13,598
Total Expenses excluding losses	32,029	31,757	31,588
Revenue			
Sale of goods and services	696	697	668
Other income	14	15	43
Total Revenue	710	712	711
Gain / (loss) on disposal	–	–	4
Net Cost of Services	31,319	31,045	30,873

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL – PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2020

	Actual 2020 \$'000	Budget 2020 \$'000	Actual 2019 \$'000
Expenses excluding losses			
Employee related expenses	6,738	6,506	7,491
Operating expenses	1,232	1,574	1,285
Depreciation and amortisation	1,743	1,740	1,621
Grants and subsidies	–	–	–
Other expenses (Members' remuneration)	14,311	13,991	13,598
Total Expenses excluding losses	24,024	23,811	23,995
Revenue			
Sale of goods and services	696	697	668
Other income	–	–	–
Total Revenue	696	697	668
Gain / (loss) on disposal	–	–	4
Net Cost of Services	23,328	23,114	23,323

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL – OPERATIONS

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2020

	Actual 2020 \$'000	Budget 2020 \$'000	Actual 2019 \$'000
Expenses excluding losses			
Employee related expenses	6,440	6,352	6,023
Operating expenses	585	616	633
Depreciation and amortisation	980	978	937
Grants and subsidies	–	–	–
Other expenses (Members' remuneration)	–	–	–
Total Expenses excluding losses	8,005	7,946	7,593
Revenue			
Sale of goods and services	–	–	–
Other income	14	15	43
Total Revenue	14	15	43
Gain / (loss) on disposal	–	–	–
Net Cost of Services	7,991	7,931	7,550

End of unaudited financial statements



APPENDICES



APPENDIX 1

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

Ajaka , The Honourable John George <i>President</i>	LIB	Mitchell , The Honourable Sarah <i>Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning</i>	NAT
Amato , The Honourable Lou	LIB	Mookhey , The Honourable Daniel	ALP
Banasiak , The Honourable Mark Jared	SFF	Moriarty , The Honourable Tara	ALP
Borsak , The Honourable Robert B Bus FCPA JP	SFF	Moselmane , The Honourable Shaoquett Chaher	*
Boyd , Ms Abigail	G	Nile , The Reverend the Honourable Frederick John Ed LTh	CDP
Buttigieg , The Honourable Mark BA BEc(Hons) <i>Opposition Whip</i>	ALP	Pearson , The Honourable Mark	AJP
Cusack , The Honourable Catherine Eileen BEc(SocSc) <i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>	LIB	Primrose , The Honourable Peter Thomas B SocStud (Syd)	ALP
D'Adam , The Honourable Anthony <i>Deputy Opposition Whip</i>	ALP	Roberts , The Honourable Rod <i>Assistant President</i>	PHON
Donnelly , The Honourable Gregory John BEc MIR	ALP	Searle , The Honourable Adam Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council	ALP
Faehrmann , Ms Cate	G	Secord , The Honourable Walt	ALP
Fang , The Honourable Wes	NAT	Sharpe , The Honourable Penelope Gail <i>Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council</i>	ALP
Farlow , The Honourable Scott <i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>	LIB	Shoebridge , Mr David	G
Farraway , The Honourable Sam Jacob <i>Deputy Government Whip</i>	NAT	Taylor , The Honourable Bronnie <i>Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women</i>	NAT
Field , Mr Justin	IND	Tudehope , The Honourable Damien <i>Minister for Finance and Small Business and Vice-President of the Executive Council</i>	LIB
Franklin , The Honourable Ben <i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>	NAT	Veitch , The Honourable Michael Stanley	ALP
Graham , The Honourable John	ALP	Ward , The Honourable Natalie Peta <i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>	LIB
Harwin , The Honourable Donald Thomas BEc(Hons)	LIB		
Houssos , The Honourable Courtney <i>Temporary Chair of Committees</i>	ALP		
Hurst , The Honourable Emma	AJP		
Jackson , The Honourable Rose	ALP		
Khan , The Honourable Trevor John B Juris LLB (UNSW) <i>Deputy President and Chair of Committees</i>	NAT		
Latham , The Honourable Mark	PHON		
Maclaren-Jones , The Honourable Natasha BN MHSM <i>Parliamentary Secretary, Government Whip</i>	LIB		
Mallard , The Honourable Shayne <i>Temporary Chair of Committees</i>	LIB		
Martin , The Honourable Taylor Mitchell B Com (UoN) <i>Temporary Chair of Committees</i>	LIB		
Mason-Cox , The Honourable Matthew Ryan	LIB		
		Party Representation: House Of 42 Members	
		AJP – Animal Justice Party	2
		ALP – Australian Labor Party	14
		CDP – Christian Democratic Party (Fred Nile Group)	1
		G – The Greens	3
		IND – Independent	1
		LIB – Liberal Party of Australia (NSW Division)	11
		NAT – The Nationals	6
		PHON – Pauline Hanson's One Nation	2
		SFF – Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	2
		Total	42

* Mr Moselmane, elected to represent the ALP, was suspended by the ALP from 27 June 2020 until November 2020.

APPENDIX 2

2019-2020 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1 JULY 2019 TO 30 JUNE 2020

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
John Ajaka	Allocation for 2019/20	12,911.25			8,144.50				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,254.79			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	14,166.04			9,818.47				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	0.00			0.00				0.00
	Funds Remaining	14,166.04			9,818.47				2,000.00
Lou Amato	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,229.34			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,924.34			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,342.14			0.00				0.00
	Funds Remaining	4,582.20			7,938.97				2,000.00
Mark Banasiak	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19				1,660.60				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	4,695.00			7,925.60				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	1,429.53			1,344.79	875.68	136.37	332.74	0.00
	Funds Remaining	3,265.47			6,580.81				2,500.00
Niall Blair	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,242.66			4,035.29				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,937.66			19,700.29				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,358.27		0.00	0.01	0.00			0.00
	Funds Remaining	4,579.39			19,700.28				2,000.00
Robert Borsak	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,174.09			1,518.10				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,869.09			7,783.10				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	1,912.17			7,647.62	6,547.11	918.69	181.82	0.00
	Funds Remaining	3,956.92			135.48				2,500.00
Abigail Boyd	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,034.21			49.57				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,729.21			6,314.57				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	4,820.65		6,661.28	5,272.95	5,017.97		254.98	0.00
	Funds Remaining	908.56			1,041.62				2,500.00
Mark Buttigieg	Allocation for 2019/20	5,397.33			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,231.01			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	6,628.34			7,938.97				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	1,536.29			628.99	628.99			2,281.00
	Funds Remaining	5,092.05			7,309.98				219.00
Catherine Cusack	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
C/Forward from 2018/19	1,204.36			1,658.44				n/a	
Total available 2019/20	5,899.36			17,323.44				2,000.00	
Expended claimed	377.52		13,410.56	13,745.16	9,069.93	4,407.08	268.15	0.00	
Funds Remaining	5,521.84			3,578.28				2,000.00	
Anthony D'Adam	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,188.21			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,883.21			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,757.48			2,639.35	2,639.35			500.00
	Funds Remaining	3,125.73			5,299.62				1,500.00
Greg Donnelly	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19				1,273.18				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	4,695.00			7,538.18				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	4,695.00			736.14	736.14			0.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00			6,802.04				2,000.00
Cate Faehrmann	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	941.32			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,636.32			7,938.97				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	5,138.83			7,938.96	5,134.69		2,804.27	2,089.99
	Funds Remaining	497.49			0.01				410.01

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
Wes Fang	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,239.05			2,279.36				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,934.05			17,944.36				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,518.33		19,479.34	6,195.46	6,115.46		80.00	0.00
	Funds Remaining	2,415.72			11,748.90				2,000.00
Scott Farlow	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	851.95			1,217.26				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,546.95			7,482.26				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,263.88			4,707.79	4,590.01		117.78	0.00
	Funds Remaining	4,283.07			2,774.47				2,000.00
Sam Farraway	Allocation for 2019/20	3,309.59			11,042.54				1,409.84
	C/Forward from 2018/19								n/a
	Total available 2019/20	3,309.59			11,042.54				1,409.84
	Expended claimed	2,991.43		9,399.72	8,220.79	7,484.93		735.86	0.00
	Funds Remaining	318.16			2,821.75				1,409.84
Justin Field	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,071.58			3,180.96				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,766.58			18,845.96				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	727.24		885.36	3,678.09	1,973.24		1,704.85	0.00
	Funds Remaining	5,039.34			15,167.87				2,500.00
Ben Franklin	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	652.81			0.64				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,347.81			15,665.64				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,320.57		19,784.14	15,660.12	15,468.63		191.49	0.00
	Funds Remaining	2,027.24			5.52				2,000.00
John Graham	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,178.97			517.51				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,873.97			6,782.51				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,913.55			1,967.68	1,967.68			0.00
	Funds Remaining	3,960.42			4,814.83				2,000.00
Don Harwin	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			7,007.04				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,254.79			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,949.79			8,681.01				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,360.05			0.00				0.00
	Funds Remaining	4,589.74			8,681.01				2,000.00
Courtney Houssos	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	865.07			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,560.07			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	5,560.07			3,184.93	2,054.24	1,068.35	62.34	1,536.36
	Funds Remaining	0.00			4,754.04				463.64
Emma Hurst	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	517.01			1,658.33				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,212.01			7,923.33				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	4,629.56	1,075.00		4,403.23	4,103.30		299.93	0.00
	Funds Remaining	582.45			3,520.10				2,500.00
Rose Jackson	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	677.59			903.95				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,372.59			7,168.95				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,767.34			1,668.43	951.24		717.19	454.55
	Funds Remaining	2,605.25			5,500.52				1,545.45
Trevor Khan	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	935.60			3,420.40				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,630.60			19,085.40				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	916.12		11,280.93	5,290.07	2,911.80	2,378.27		0.00
	Funds Remaining	4,714.48			13,795.33				2,000.00
Mark Latham	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	524.27			198.87				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,219.27			6,463.87				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	2,470.76		2,674.67	6,428.06	6,399.79		28.27	0.00
	Funds Remaining	2,748.51			35.81				2,500.00

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
Natasha Maclaren-Jones	Allocation for 2019/20	5,399.25			15,665.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,254.79			56.86				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	6,654.04			15,721.86				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	4,128.67		5,278.84	5,311.52	5,152.13		159.39	0.00
	Funds Remaining	2,525.37			10,410.34				2,500.00
Shayne Mallard	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,250.36			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	2,731.53			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	728.65			0.00				0.00
	Funds Remaining	5,216.71			7,938.97				2,000.00
Taylor Martin	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,217.97			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,912.97			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,731.53		2,214.76	3,659.76	3,659.76			0.00
	Funds Remaining	3,181.44			4,279.21				2,000.00
Matthew Mason-Cox	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,206.64			3,458.19				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,901.64			19,123.19				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	777.14		20,186.04	4,187.27	4,187.27			0.00
	Funds Remaining	5,124.50			14,935.92				2,000.00
Sarah Mitchell	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			17,231.50				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,254.79			4,187.67				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,949.79			21,419.17				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	4,749.52		24,214.24	5,416.34	413.26	5,003.08		0.00
	Funds Remaining	1,200.27			16,002.83				2,000.00
Daniel Mookhey	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,248.00			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,943.00			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	542.13			2,809.72	2,623.01		186.71	337.50
	Funds Remaining	5,400.87			5,129.25				1,662.50
Tara Moriarty	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	350.21			3,593.36				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,045.21			19,258.36				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	855.93		6,328.76	6,369.36	4,431.47		1,937.89	0.00
	Funds Remaining	4,189.28			12,889.00				2,000.00
Shaoquett Moselmane	Allocation for 2019/20	4,696.92			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	640.34			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,337.26			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	4,521.37			0.00				0.00
	Funds Remaining	815.89			7,938.97				2,000.00
Fred Nile	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	442.83			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,137.83			7,938.97				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	3,253.42			0.00				0.00
	Funds Remaining	1,884.41			7,938.97				2,500.00
Mark Pearson	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,249.87			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,944.87			7,938.97				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	4,167.19	860.00		7,813.19	5,411.17	2,402.02		0.00
	Funds Remaining	1,777.68			125.78				2,500.00
Peter Primrose	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,008.97			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,703.97			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	4,536.07			2,731.12	1,378.67		1,352.45	0.00
	Funds Remaining	1,167.90			5,207.85				2,000.00
Rod Roberts	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	411.03			3,627.57				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,106.03			19,292.57				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	1,826.57		8,753.44	7,798.14	4,723.46		3,074.68	0.00
	Funds Remaining	3,279.46			11,494.43				2,500.00

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
Adam Searle	Allocation for 2019/20	12,911.25			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,254.79			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	14,166.04			7,938.97				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,399.76			6,096.71	6,096.71			0.00
	Funds Remaining	10,766.28			1,842.26				2,000.00
Walt Secord	Allocation for 2019/20	4,696.92			6,266.71				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,245.19			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,942.11			7,940.68				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,240.47			1,115.23	786.10	329.13		0.00
	Funds Remaining	2,701.64			6,825.45				2,000.00
Penny Sharpe	Allocation for 2019/20	5,397.33			6,889.79				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,200.69			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	6,598.02			8,563.76				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	5,228.79			6,108.06	4,714.53		1,393.53	697.50
	Funds Remaining	1,369.23			2,455.70				1,302.50
David Shoebridge	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	896.40			1,087.68				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,591.40			7,352.68				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	5,338.80			7,050.06	6,996.66		53.40	1,019.26
	Funds Remaining	252.60			302.62				1,480.74
Bronnie Taylor	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,254.79			3,317.79				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,949.79			18,982.79				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	4,330.73		21,704.03	9,946.00	9,946.00			0.00
	Funds Remaining	1,619.06			9,036.79				2,000.00
Damien Tudehope	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,462.71				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,254.79			1,673.97				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,949.79			8,136.68				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	963.63			1,507.52	753.76	753.76		0.00
	Funds Remaining	4,986.16			6,629.16				2,000.00
Michael Veitch	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	1,200.99			4,003.05				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	5,895.99			19,668.05				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,417.14		7,655.88	12,797.06	12,656.06		141.00	0.00
	Funds Remaining	2,478.85			6,870.99				2,000.00
Natalie Ward	Allocation for 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2018/19	124.88			1,515.12				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	4,819.88			7,780.12				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,647.61			2,350.92	2,350.92			0.00
	Funds Remaining	1,172.27			5,429.20				2,000.00
LC Total	Allocation for 2019/20	219,044.84			401,384.79				91,909.84
	C/Forward from 2018/19	40,237.00			78,551.21				n/a
	Total available 2019/20	259,281.84			479,936.00				91,909.84
	Expended claimed	119,191.90	1,935.00	179,911.99	194,426.60	160,951.12	17,396.75	16,078.72	8,916.16
	Funds Remaining	140,089.94			285,509.40				82,993.68
Check Total	Allocation for 2019/20								
	C/Forward from 2018/19								
	Total available 2019/20	259,281.84			479,936.00				91,909.84
	Expended claimed	119,191.90	1,935.00	179,815.43	194,426.60	160,951.13	17,396.75	16,078.72	8,916.16
	Funds Remaining	140,089.94			285,509.40				82,993.68

2018-2019 SYDNEY ALLOWANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
TO 30 JUNE 2019

**56th Parliament – for the period 1 July 2018
to 22 March 2019**

Member	Description	Sydney Allowance 2018-2019 (may include actual expenses claimed)
Lou Amato	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	6,447.00
	Funds Remaining	24,560.00
Niall Blair	Allocation for 2018/19	39,910.00
	Expended claimed	19,341.00
	Funds Remaining	20,569.00
Jeremy Buckingham	Allocation for 2018/19	30,086.00
	Expended claimed	12,587.00
	Funds Remaining	17,499.00
Rick Colless	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	17,806.00
	Funds Remaining	13,201.00
Catherine Cusack	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	19,955.00
	Funds Remaining	11,052.00
Wes Fang	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	15,350.00
	Funds Remaining	15,657.00
Justin Field	Allocation for 2018/19	30,086.00
	Expended claimed	6,658.00
	Funds Remaining	23,428.00
Ben Franklin	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	18,719.00
	Funds Remaining	12,288.00
Paul Green	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	31,007.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00
Trevor Khan	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	30,086.00
	Funds Remaining	921.00
Scot MacDonald	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	31,007.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00
Natasha Maclaren-Jones	Allocation for 2018/19	See post-election column for full year details
	Expended claimed	
	Funds Remaining	
Shayne Mallard	Allocation for 2018/19	See post-election column for full year details
	Expended claimed	
	Funds Remaining	

**57th Parliament – for the period 23 March
to 30 June 2019**

Member	Description	Sydney Allowance 2018-2019 (may include actual expenses claimed)
Lou Amato	Allocation for 2018/19	9,210.00
	Expended claimed	3,684.00
	Funds Remaining	5,526.00
Mark Banasiak	Allocation for 2018/19	9,517.00
	Expended claimed	2,456.00
	Funds Remaining	7,061.00
Niall Blair	Allocation for 2018/19	11,973.00
	Expended claimed	11,052.00
	Funds Remaining	921.00
Abigail Boyd	Allocation for 2018/19	9,517.00
	Expended claimed	6,754.00
	Funds Remaining	2,763.00
Catherine Cusack	Allocation for 2018/19	11,666.00
	Expended claimed	7,982.00
	Funds Remaining	3,684.00
Wes Fang	Allocation for 2018/19	11,973.00
	Expended claimed	7,675.00
	Funds Remaining	4,298.00
Justin Field	Allocation for 2018/19	11,359.00
	Expended claimed	5,833.00
	Funds Remaining	5,526.00
Ben Franklin	Allocation for 2018/19	6,140.00
	Expended claimed	6,140.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00
Trevor Khan	Allocation for 2018/19	11,973.00
	Expended claimed	10,131.00
	Funds Remaining	1,842.00
Mark Latham	Allocation for 2018/19	9,517.00
	Expended claimed	307.00
	Funds Remaining	9,210.00
Natasha Maclaren-Jones	Allocation for 2018/19	42,980.00
	Expended claimed	42,980.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00
Shayne Mallard	Allocation for 2018/19	41,138.00
	Expended claimed	41,138.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00
Taylor Martin	Allocation for 2018/19	10,131.00
	Expended claimed	4,605.00
	Funds Remaining	5,526.00
Matthew Mason-Cox	Allocation for 2018/19	11,359.00
	Expended claimed	4,605.00
	Funds Remaining	6,754.00

Member	Description	Sydney Allowance 2018-2019 (may include actual expenses claimed)
Taylor Martin	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	7,061.00
	Funds Remaining	23,946.00
Matthew Mason-Cox	Allocation for 2018/19	30,086.00
	Expended claimed	11,028.00
	Funds Remaining	19,058.00
Sarah Mitchell	Allocation for 2018/19	39,910.00
	Expended claimed	16,578.00
	Funds Remaining	23,332.00
Mark Pearson	Allocation for 2018/19	30,086.00
	Expended claimed	18,428.00
	Funds Remaining	11,658.00
Peter Phelps	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	30,983.00
	Funds Remaining	24.00
Adam Searle	Allocation for 2018/19	See post-election column for full year details
	Expended claimed	
	Funds Remaining	
Bronnie Taylor	Allocation for 2018/19	31,007.00
	Expended claimed	16,578.00
	Funds Remaining	14,429.00
Michael Veitch	Allocation for 2018/19	30,086.00
	Expended claimed	30,086.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00
Dawn Walker	Allocation for 2018/19	30,086.00
	Expended claimed	11,052.00
	Funds Remaining	19,034.00
Totals	Allocation for 2018/19	940,648.00
	Expended claimed – daily	416,455.00
	Expended claimed – annual	181,744.00
Check Total	Allocation for 2018/19	940,648.00
	Expended claimed – daily	416,455.00
	Expended claimed – annual	181,744.00

Member	Description	Sydney Allowance 2018-2019 (may include actual expenses claimed)
Sarah Mitchell	Allocation for 2018/19	15,350.00
	Expended claimed	11,973.00
	Funds Remaining	3,377.00
Tara Moriarty	Allocation for 2018/19	11,359.00
	Expended claimed	8,289.00
	Funds Remaining	3,070.00
Mark Pearson	Allocation for 2018/19	11,359.00
	Expended claimed	3,377.00
	Funds Remaining	7,982.00
Rod Roberts	Allocation for 2018/19	11,052.00
	Expended claimed	9,210.00
	Funds Remaining	1,842.00
Adam Searle	Allocation for 2018/19	55,260.00
	Expended claimed	36,226.00
	Funds Remaining	19,034.00
Bronwyn Taylor	Allocation for 2018/19	15,043.00
	Expended claimed	13,201.00
	Funds Remaining	1,842.00
Michael Veitch	Allocation for 2018/19	11,359.00
	Expended claimed	9,824.00
	Funds Remaining	1,535.00

APPENDIX 3

COMMITTEE TRAVEL EXPENSES 2019-2020

Public Accountability Committee

Regulation of building standards, building quality and building disputes

Date	Destination	Activity
20 February 2020	Newcastle NSW	Hearing
	TOTAL	\$3,550.04

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health

Inquiry into the Operation and management of the Northern Beaches Hospital

Date	Destination	Activity
27 September 2019	Northern Beaches Hospital, Frenchs Forest NSW	Site visit
	TOTAL	\$118.13

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Inquiry into Measurement and outcome-based funding in New South Wales schools

Date	Destination	Activity
25 October 2019	King Catholic Primary School, Yagoona NSW Auburn North Public School, Auburn NSW Sefton High School, Sefton NSW	Site visits
29 October 2019	Mimosa Public School, Frenchs Forest NSW Northern Beaches Secondary College, Freshwater NSW Balgowlah Boys Campus, Balgowlah NSW	Site visits
	TOTAL	\$1,577.00

Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment

Inquiry into Koala populations and habitat in New South Wales

Date	Destination	Activity
18 October 2019	Ballina	Hearing
25 October 2019	Beulah Reserve, Gilead NSW Figtree Hill, Lendlease development, Gilead NSW Campbelltown NSW	Site visit Site visit Hearing
13 December 2019	Breeza Station, Breeza NSW Gunnedah NSW	Site visit Hearing
3 February 2020	Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, Port Macquarie NSW Port Macquarie NSW	Site visit Hearing
4 February 2020	Great Koala National Park (GKNP) headquarters, Urunga NSW, and Mailmans Track Road, proposed entrance to GKNP, Repton NSW	Site visit Hearing
	TOTAL	\$40,468.61

Standing Committee on State Development

Inquiry into the Uranium Mining and Nuclear Facilities (Prohibitions) Repeal Bill 2019

Date	Destination	Activity
24 July 2020	ANSTO, Lucas Heights	Site visit
14 August 2019	Beverly and Four Miles uranium mines, South Australia	Site Visit
15 August 2019	Adelaide, South Australia	Briefings and meetings with South Australian Government and stakeholders
	TOTAL	\$19,118.33*

Select Committee on the Proposal to Raise the Warragamba Dam Wall

Date	Destination	Activity
23 September 2019	Warragamba Dam – Upstream	Site visit
22 November 2019	Warragamba Dam – Downstream	Site visit with briefings with expert stakeholders
25 November 2019	Hawkesbury – Nepean	Site visit and hearing
	TOTAL	\$9,522.80

Select Committee on the Use of Battery Cages for Hens in the Egg Production Industry

Date	Destination	Activity
12 August 2019	Glenwarrie Eggs, Tamworth NSW	Site Visit
	TOTAL	\$6,731.75

* Charter flights included in expenses

APPENDIX 4

COMMITTEE INQUIRY STATISTICS 2019-2020

	Terms of Reference	Submissions	Proforms	Online responses	Hearings	Witnesses	Report tabled	Government response received
Portfolio Committee No 1 – Premier and Finance								
Fresh food pricing	13/04/2018	0	0	0	0	0	17/10/2018	29/07/2019
Budget Estimates 2019-2020	18/06/2019	0	0	0	11	45	20/05/2020	NA
Work Health and Safety Amendment (Review) Bill 2019	19/11/2019	12	0	6	1	13	24/03/2020	
Budget Estimates 2019-2020 relating to the portfolios of Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney and the Legislature	09/03/2020	0	0	0	2	9	20/05/2020	NA
Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health								
Operation and management of the Northern Beaches Hospital	06/06/2019	231	0	0	3	34	27/02/2020	
Budget Estimates 2019-2020	18/06/2019	0	0	0	6	26	20/05/2020	NA
Health impacts of exposure to poor levels of air quality resulting from bushfires and drought	05/02/2020	50	76	0	2	31		
Current and future provision of health services in the South-West Sydney Growth Region	05/02/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education								
Budget Estimates 2019-2020	18/06/2019	0	0	0	4	24	20/05/2020	NA
Measurement and outcome-based funding in New South Wales schools	03/07/2019	21	0	0	3	24	18/02/2020	
Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector	28/05/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Industry								
Museums and galleries in New South Wales	23/06/2016	0	0	0	0	0	28/02/2019	17/07/2019
Budget Estimates 2019-2020	18/06/2019	0	0	0	9	44	20/05/2020	NA
Right to Farm Bill 2019	24/09/2019	391	2,829	0	1	14	21/10/2019	NA
Exhibition of exotic animals in circuses and exhibition of cetaceans in New South Wales	26/09/2019	0	0	0	0	0		
The implementation of the recommendations contained in the NSW Chief Scientist's Independent Review of Coal Seam Gas Activities in New South Wales	03/10/2019	29	0	0	2	17	27/02/2020	
Constitution Amendment (Water Accountability and Transparency) Bill 2020, Water Management Amendment (Transparency of Water Rights) Bill 2020 and Water Management Amendment (Water Allocations – Drought Information) Bill 2020	16/06/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment (Restrictions on Stock Animal Procedures) Bill 2019	17/06/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Legal Affairs								
Budget Estimates 2019-2020	18/06/2019	0	0	0	10	49	20/05/2020	NA
Road Transport Amendment (Mobile Phone Detection) Bill 2019	15/10/2019	7	0	0	1	12	12/11/2019	NA
Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Complaint Handling) Bill 2020	27/02/2020	0	0	0	0	0		

	Terms of Reference	Submissions	Proforms	Online responses	Hearings	Witnesses	Report tabled	Government response received
Provisions of the Firearms and Weapons Legislation (Criminal Use) Bill 2020	24/03/2020	88	0	0	0	0		
Rural Fires Amendment (NSW RFS and Brigades Donations Fund) Bill 2020	16/06/2020	1	0	0	0	0		
Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport and Customer Service								
Budget Estimates 2019-2020	18/06/2019	0	0	0	11	55	20/05/2020	NA
Sydenham-Bankstown Line conversion	22/08/2019	111	1,490	0	3	28	09/04/2020	
Digital Restart Fund Bill 2019	12/11/2019	4	0	0	1	4	23/03/2020	
Operation of the Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016	09/04/2020	106	0	617	0	0		
Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment								
Budget Estimates 2019-2020	18/06/2019	0	0	0	9	51	20/05/2020	NA
Koala populations and habitat in New South Wales	20/06/2019	326	5,752	0	9	88	30/06/2020	
Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Territorial Limits) Bill 2019	12/11/2019	19	0	2,602	1	19	06/02/2020	
Law and Justice Committee								
2018 review of the Dust Diseases scheme	01/05/2018	0	0	0	0	0	26/02/2019	08/07/2019
2018 review of the Lifetime Care and Support scheme	01/05/2018	0	0	0	0	0	26/02/2019	08/07/2019
2018 review of the Compulsory Third Party insurance scheme	01/05/2018	0	0	0	0	0	12/02/2019	09/07/2019
2018 review of the workers compensation scheme	01/05/2018	0	0	0	0	0	12/02/2019	09/07/2019
2019 review of the Dust Diseases scheme	08/05/2019	17	0	0	5	29	24/03/2020	
Crimes (Appeal and Review) Amendment (Double Jeopardy) Bill 2019	30/05/2019	18	0	0	1	12	30/08/2019	26/02/2019
Mining Amendment (Compensation for Cancellation of Exploration Licence) Bill 2019	06/06/2019	25	0	0	1	6	30/10/2019	30/04/2020
2020 Review of the Workers Compensation Scheme	18/03/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Regulation Committee								
Cemeteries and Crematoria Amendment Regulation 2018	15/08/2018	0	0	0	0	0	09/11/2018	06/08/2019
Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019 and Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019	30/05/2019	49	28	0	1	19	28/08/2019	28/02/2020
Local Land Services Amendment (Critically Endangered Ecological Communities) Regulation 2019 and Local Land Services Amendment (Allowable Activities) Regulation 2019	20/08/2019	8	0	0	1	8	21/10/2019	20/04/2020
Making of delegated legislation in New South Wales	26/02/2020	8	0	0	0	0		
Impact and implementation of the Water Management (General) Amendment (Exemptions for Floodplain Harvesting) Regulation 2020	27/02/2020	21	0	0	0	0		
Committee on Social Issues								
Gay and Transgender hate crimes between 1970 and 2010 (Interim report)	19/09/2018	0		0	0	0	26/02/2019	29/08/2019

	Terms of Reference	Submissions	Proforms	Online responses	Hearings	Witnesses	Report tabled	Government response received
Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019*	06/08/2019	49	0	0	3	44	27/08/2019	NA
Modern Slavery Act 2018 and associated matters	06/08/2019	102	0	0	1	27	25/03/2020	
Gay and Transgender hate crimes between 1970 and 2010 – 57th Parliament	15/10/2019	0	0	0	0	0		
State Records Act 1998 and the Policy Paper on its review	11/03/2020	66	0	0	1	5		
State Development								
Water NSW Amendment (Warragamba Dam) Bill 2018	26/09/2018	0	0	0	0	0	10/10/2018	03/07/2019
Uranium Mining and Nuclear Facilities (Prohibitions) Repeal Bill 2019	06/06/2019	77	0	0	3	34	04/02/2020	
Public Accountability Committee								
Impact of the CBD and South East Light Rail Project	22/05/2018	0	0	0	0	0	25/01/2019	09/07/2019
Regulation of building standards, building quality and building disputes	04/07/2019	202	0	390	7	79	30/04/2020	
Budget process for independent oversight bodies and the Parliament of New South Wales (TINA)	14/10/2019	56	0	0	2	23	24/03/2020	
NSW Government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic	27/03/2020	0	0	0	7	37		
Public Works Committee								
Impact of Port of Newcastle sale arrangements on public works expenditure in New South Wales	20/11/2018	0	0	0	0	0	25/02/2019	09/07/2019
Costs for remediation of sites containing coal ash repositories	01/10/2019	84	0	0	0	0		
Select Committees								
Use of Battery Cages for Hens in the Egg Production Industry	6/06/2019	2977	10,910	0	2	20	30/10/2019	30/04/2020
Proposal to Raise the Warragamba Dam Wall	20/06/2019	0	0	0	0	0		
Animal cruelty laws in New South Wales	08/08/2019	0	0	0	0	0		
Government's management of the Powerhouse Museum and other museums and cultural projects in New South Wales	27/02/2020	156	0	301	0	0		
Impact of technological and other change on the future of work and workers in New South Wales	24/03/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
First Nations people in custody in New South Wales	17/06/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Procedure Committee								
Broadcast of Proceedings Resolution	20/06/2019	7	0	0	0	0		
Consultation on highly contentious bills	20/06/2019	12	0	0	0	0		
Engagement of external expert assistance by committees	16/10/2019	1	0	0	0	0		
Impact of the sessional order variations to the scheduling of business and sitting days	26/02/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
E-petitions in the Legislative Council	16/06/2020	0	0	0	0	0		

	Terms of Reference	Submissions	Proforms	Online responses	Hearings	Witnesses	Report tabled	Government response received
Privileges Committee								
Citizen's Right of Reply (Mr Garry Burns)	11/09/2019	0	0	0	0	0	15/10/2019	N/A
Citizen's Right of Reply (Mr Michael Eberand)	13/09/2019	0	0	0	0	0	15/10/2019	N/A
Disputed claim of privilege and independent legal arbiter reports	24/10/2019	0	0	0	0	0	27/02/2020	
Disputed claim of privilege and independent legal arbiter reports (March 2020)	24/03/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Total		5,331	21,085	3,916	124	930	33	16

* 13,000 submissions were received. 49 submissions were published.

JOINT COMMITTEES

Members of the Legislative Council also serve on joint standing, statutory and select committees administered by the Legislative Assembly:

- Joint Select Committee on the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 (Select)
- Joint Select Committee on Sydney's Night Time Economy (Select)
- Committee on Children and Young People (Joint Statutory)
- Committee on Electoral Matters (Joint Standing)
- Committee on Health Care Complaints Commission (Joint Statutory)
- Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption (Joint Statutory)
- Legislation Review Committee (Joint Statutory)
- Committee on the Ombudsman, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission and the Crime Commission (Joint Statutory)
- Staysafe Committee, also known as the Road Safety Committee (Joint Standing)
- Committee on the Office of the Valuer-General (Joint Standing).

APPENDIX 5

PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

The following Parliamentary Friendship Groups were in operation during the reporting period:

1. Parliamentary Friends of AFL
2. Parliamentary Friends of Aquatic Recreation
3. Parliamentary Friends of Animals
4. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Argentina
5. Armenia-Australia Parliamentary Friendship Group
6. Asia Pacific Friendship Group
7. Australasian Study of Parliament Group (NSW Chapter)
8. Parliamentary Friends of an Australian Head of State
9. Parliamentary Friends of Basketball
10. Parliamentary Friends of Brazil
11. Parliamentary Friends of Catholic Schools
12. Parliamentary Friends of Cricket
13. Parliamentary Friends of Defence and Veterans
14. Parliamentary Friends of Dementia
15. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Duke of Edinburgh's Award
16. Parliamentary Friends of Egypt
17. Parliamentary Friends of the European Union
18. Parliamentary Friends of Forestry
19. Friends of Hearing Health and Deafness
20. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Ireland
21. Parliamentary Friends of Israel
22. Parliamentary Friends of Italy
23. Parliamentary Friends of Landcare
24. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Lebanon
25. Parliamentary Friends of Local Government
26. Parliamentary Friends of Macarthur Football Club
27. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Mental Health
28. Parliamentary Friends of Mining
29. Parliamentary Friends of Music
30. Parliamentary Friends of Nature
31. Parliamentary Friends of Nuclear
32. Parliamentary Friends of Older People
33. Parliamentary Auxiliary of St. John
34. Parliamentary Friends of Palestine
35. Parliamentary Friends of Police and Emergency Services
36. Parliamentary Friends for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
37. Parliamentary Friends of Public Schools
38. Parliamentary Friends of Racing and Breeding
39. Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation
40. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Religious Freedom
41. Parliamentary Friends of Rotary International
42. Parliamentary Friends of Rugby League
43. Parliamentary Friends of Rugby Union
44. Parliamentary Friends of Scotland
45. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Scouting
46. Parliamentary Friends of Seafood
47. Parliamentary Friends of Small Business
48. Parliamentary Friends of Surf Lifesaving
49. Parliamentary Friends of the Sydney Swans
50. Parliamentary Friends of Taiwan
51. Parliamentary Friends of Turkey
52. NSW Parliamentary Friends of the United Kingdom
53. Friends of the United States of America
54. Friends of Western Sydney Wanderers.









LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
www.parliament.nsw.gov.au
Ph (02) 9230 2111