

Legislative Council

Annual Report 2004

Volume Two

Legislative Council
Committees - Report on
Performance

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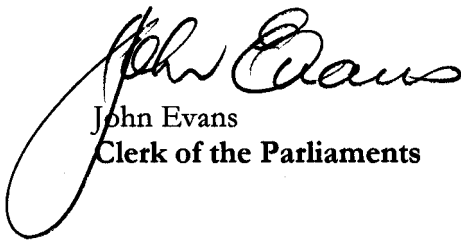
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Clerk's Foreword

The work of committees is essential to the Legislative Council's functions relating to reviewing legislation and providing an effective check and balance on the Executive Government. In the post-election period, Legislative Council committees returned to full operations, with a heavy workload for members and staff.

Policy-related inquiries by the Standing Committees have covered a broad range of subject areas, including community housing, pre-trial disclosure, the *Inebriates Act 1912*, and the commercialisation of science. Oversight-focused inquiries undertaken by the General Purpose Standing Committees have included examinations of the budget estimates, complaints handling within NSW Health, local government amalgamations, and serious injury and death in the workplace. The details of these committee activities and their outcomes are provided in this volume of the Annual Report.



John Evans
Clerk of the Parliaments

Table of Contents

	Clerk's Foreword	iii
	Statistical summary – Legislative Council Committees	x
Chapter 1	Standing Committee on Procedure	1
	Committee Membership	1
Chapter 2	Standing Committee on Privileges	3
	How to contact the Committee	3
	Privileges Committee at a glance	4
	Committee Membership	4
	Current references	4
	Statistical Summary	5
	Members' attendance record	5
	Inquiries	6
	Citizens Right of Reply	6
	Terms of Reference	6
	Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC	8
	Terms of reference	8
	Statistical Summary	8
	Outcomes/comments	9
	Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC No. 2	10
	Terms of reference	10
	Statistical Summary	10
	Outcomes/comments	10
	Terms of reference	12
Chapter 3	Standing Committee on Law and Justice	13
	How to contact the Committee	13
	Law and Justice Committee at a glance	14
	Committee membership 53 rd Parliament	14
	Current references	14
	Statistical summary	15
	Members' attendance during 53 rd Parliament - from 1 July 2003 until 30 June 2004	15
	Inquiries completed prior to 2003-2004 – status of Government responses	16
	Inquiry into the Home Building Amendment (Insurance) Act 2002	16
	Inquiry into the Criminal Procedure Amendment (Pre-Trial Disclosure) Act 2001 – Stage One	16

	Inquiry into child sexual assault prosecutions	16
	Inquiry into regulating the use of the Coat of Arms	17
	Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and Motor Accidents Council – Fourth Review	17
	2003-2004 Inquiries	18
	Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and Motor Accidents Council – Fifth Review	18
	Terms of reference	18
	Statistical summary	18
	Outcomes/comments	18
	Inquiry into the Criminal Procedure Amendment (Pre-Trial Disclosure) Act 2001 – Stage Two	19
	Terms of reference	19
	Statistical summary	19
	Inquiry into back-end home detention	20
	Terms of reference	20
	Statistical summary	20
	Inquiry into community based sentencing options	21
	Terms of reference	21
	Workers Compensation Injury Management Pilot Projects Evaluation	22
	Terms of reference	22
	Previous committee reports	23
Chapter 4	Standing Committee on Social Issues	25
	How to contact the Committee	25
	Social Issues Committee at a glance	26
	Committee membership 53 rd Parliament	26
	References	26
	Members' attendance record	27
	Inquiries completed prior to 2003-2004 – status of Government responses	28
	Residential and support services for people with disability	28
	2003-2004 Inquiries	29
	Early intervention into learning difficulties	29
	Terms of Reference	29
	Outcomes/comments	30
	Inquiry into community housing	31
	Terms of Reference	31
	Outcomes/comments	32

	Child Protection Services	33
	Terms of Reference	33
	Outcomes/comments	34
	Inquiry into the <i>Inebriates Act 1912</i>	35
	Terms of Reference	35
	Statistical Summary	36
	Outcomes/comments	36
	Inquiry into Issues Relating to Redfern/Waterloo	37
	Terms of Reference	37
	Statistical Summary	37
	Outcomes/comments	37
	Previous committee reports	38
Chapter 5	Standing Committee on State Development	40
	How to contact the Committee	40
	State Development Committee at a glance	41
	Committee Membership	41
	Current references	41
	Statistical Summary	41
	Members' attendance record	42
	Inquiries completed prior to 2003-2004 – status of Government responses	43
	Use and management of pesticides in New South Wales	43
	2003-2004 Inquiries	44
	Science and its commercialisation in New South Wales	44
	Terms of Reference	44
	Outcomes/Comments	44
	Government Response	45
	Port infrastructure in New South Wales	46
	Terms of reference	46
	Outcomes/Comments	46
	Previous committee reports	48
Chapter 6	General Purpose Standing Committees	50
	How to contact the Committees	50
	Statistical summary for General Purpose Standing Committee Nos 1 to 5	51
	Members' attendance records	51

General Purpose Standing Committee No 1 at a glance	52
Committee membership	52
Current references	52
Statistical summary	52
Members' attendance records	53
Inquiries	54
Budget Estimates 2003-2004	54
Members for the duration of this inquiry	54
Terms of reference	54
Outcomes/comments	55
Serious injury and death in the workplace	56
Members for the duration of this inquiry	56
Terms of reference	56
Outcomes/comments	57
Workers compensation fraud	59
Members for the duration of this inquiry	59
Terms of reference	59
2004 Mini Budget	60
Members for the duration of this inquiry	60
Terms of reference	60
Outcomes/comments	61
Budget Estimates 2004-2005	62
Members for the duration of this inquiry	62
Terms of reference	62
General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 at a glance	64
Committee Membership	64
Current references	64
Statistical summary	64
Members' attendance records	65
Inquiries	66
Budget Estimates 2003-2004	66
Members for the duration of this inquiry	66
Terms of reference	66
Outcomes/comments	67
Complaints handling within NSW Health	68
Members for the duration of this inquiry	68
Terms of reference	68
Outcomes/comments	69
Budget Estimates 2004-2005	70

Members for the duration of this inquiry	70
Terms of reference	70
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 at a glance	71
Committee Membership	71
Current references	71
Statistical summary	71
Members' attendance records	72
Inquiries	73
Budget Estimates 2003-2004	73
Members for the duration of this inquiry	73
Terms of reference	73
Outcomes/comments	74
Budget Estimates 2004-2005	75
Members for the duration of this inquiry	75
Terms of reference	75
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4 at a glance	76
Committee Membership	76
Current references	76
Statistical summary	76
Members' attendance records	77
Inquiries	78
Budget Estimates 2003-2004	78
Members for the duration of this inquiry	78
Terms of reference	78
Outcomes/comments	79
Aspects of Transport Safety and Reliability Bill	80
Members for the duration of this inquiry	80
Terms of reference	80
Outcomes/comments	81
Management of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority	82
Members for the duration of this inquiry	82
Terms of reference	82
Closure of the Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Service	84
Members for the duration of this inquiry	84
Terms of reference	84
Budget Estimates 2004-2005	86
Members for the duration of this inquiry	86
Terms of reference	86
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 at a glance	87

	Committee Membership	87
	Current references	87
	Statistical summary	87
	Members' attendance records	88
	Inquiries	89
	Budget Estimates 2003-2004	89
	Members for the duration of this inquiry	89
	Terms of reference	89
	Outcomes/comments	90
	Local Government Amalgamations in New South Wales	91
	Members for the duration of this inquiry	91
	Terms of reference	91
	Outcomes/comments	92
	Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture	93
	Members for the duration of this inquiry	93
	Terms of reference	93
	Hunter Economic Zone and the Tomalpin Woodlands	95
	Members for the duration of this inquiry	95
	Terms of reference	95
	Budget Estimates 2004-2005	97
	Members for the duration of this inquiry	97
	Terms of reference	97
Appendix 1	Committee Attendance	98
Appendix 2	Committee travel and expenditure	99
	Standing Committee on Social Issues	99
	Standing Committee on State Development	99
	General Purpose Standing Committee No 4	100
	General Purpose Standing Committee No 5	101
Appendix 3	Joint Committees	102

Statistical summary – Legislative Council Committees

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003 ¹	2003-2004
Inquiries	37	42	47	35	36
Reports tabled	25	20	27	33	20
Recommendations	208	228	202	454	202
Meetings	230	161	199	100	196
Public consultation					
Number of submissions received	1,995	2,042	1,281	409	1169
Number of hearings	120	73	101	36	93
Location - Parliament House	108	70	94	36	78
- other metropolitan	1	1	2	-	5
- regional NSW	11	3	5	-	10
Total duration (hours)	398.5	325	373.5	155.25	331
Number of witnesses	774	492	643	200	794
Participants in other forms of consultations					
Seminars	-	-	-	30	-
Briefings	133	72	47	79	14
Community consultations	251	274	-	81	-
Site visits	202	263	111	15	122
Public Forums	28	-	51	-	70
Total participants	3,165	3,117	2,529	813	2,169

¹ Committees in 2002-2003 ceased operation when the House rose in December 2002 for the March 2003 State Election. Figures reproduced therefore represent six months activity

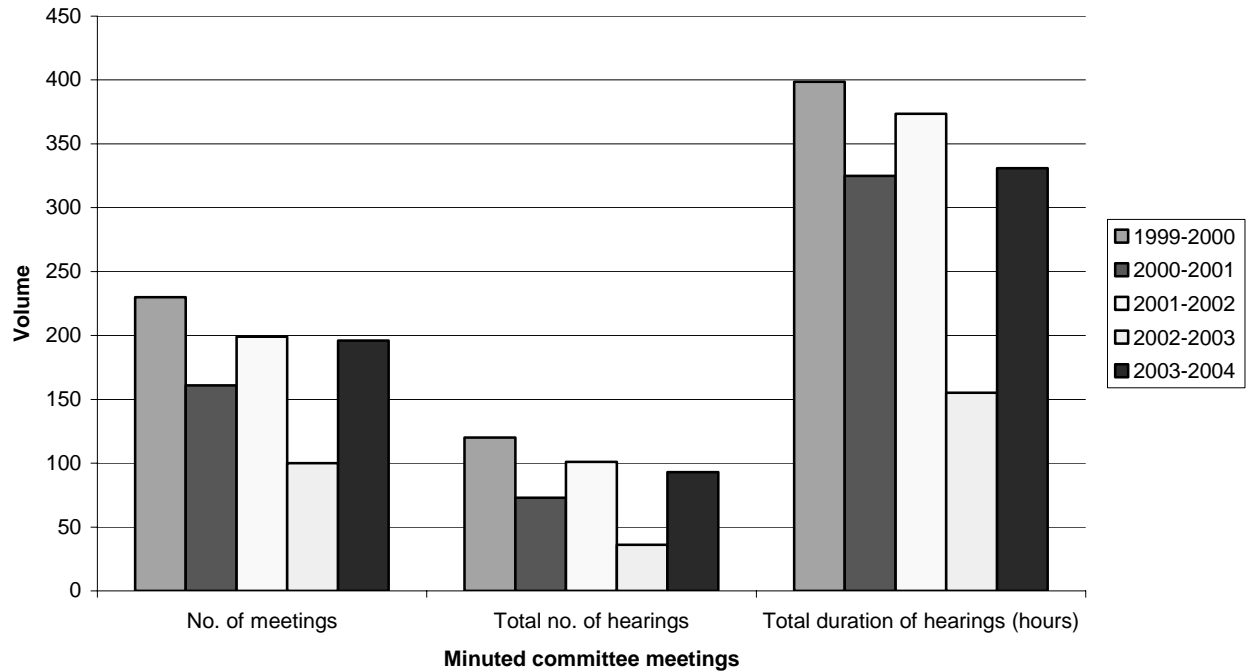
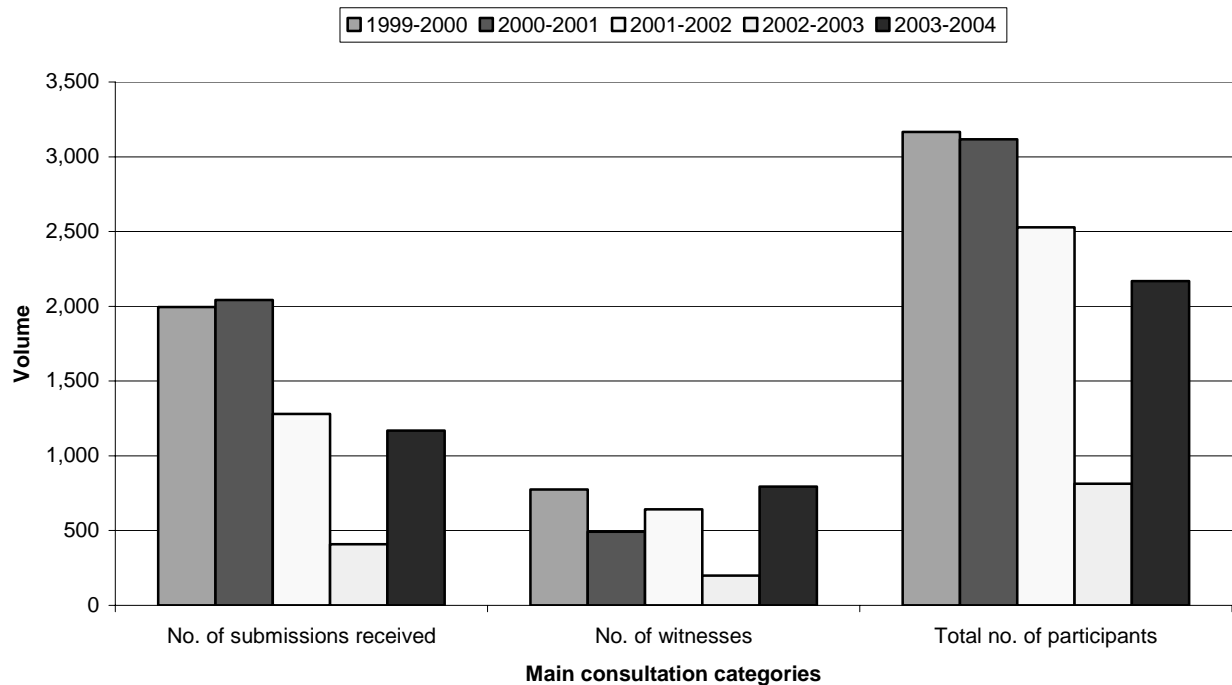
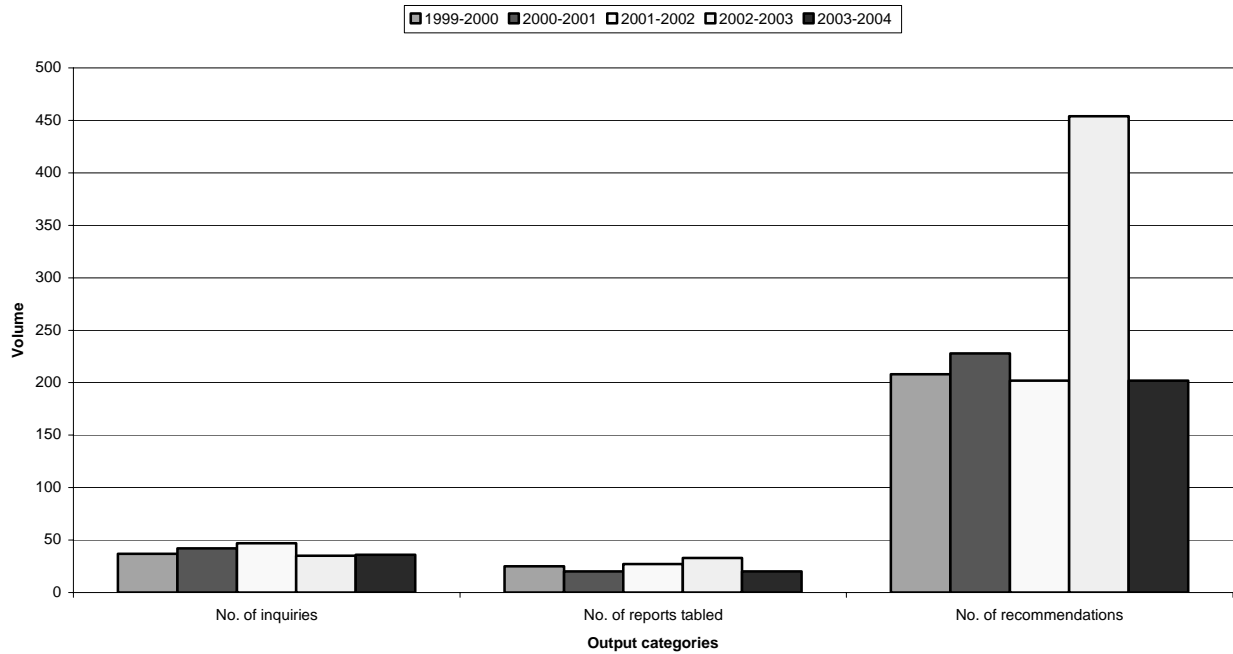
Figure 1.1 Meetings and hearings – all Legislative Council committees 1999-2000 to 2003-2004**Figure 1.2 Public consultation – all Legislative Council committees 1999-2000 to 2003-2004**

Figure 1.3 Output – all Legislative Council committees 1999-2000 to 2003-2004



Chapter 1 Standing Committee on Procedure

Committee Membership

Hon Dr Meredith Burgmann Australian Labor Party (Chairperson) *President*

Hon John Della Bosca MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Michael Egan Australian Labor Party

Hon Michael Gallacher MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Duncan Gay MLC The Nationals

Hon Don Harwin MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Tony Kelly MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Ian MacDonald Australian Labor Party

Revd the Hon Gordon Moyes Christian Democratic Party²

Revd the Hon Fred Nile Christian Democratic Party

Hon Peter Primrose Australian Labor Party

Hon Dr Peter Wong Unity Party

- 1.1** The Procedure Committee was appointed on 1 June 2004 to replace the former Standing Orders Committee. Under new Standing Order 205, the Procedure Committee may:
- consider on its own initiative any amendments to the standing orders,
 - propose to the House changes in practice and procedures of the House, and
 - consider any matter relating to the procedures referred to it by the House or the President
- 1.2** The Committee met twice during 2003-2004. At the first meeting (as the Standing Orders Committee), the Committee concluded its consideration of the proposed new standing orders, commenced in 2002. Following the tabling of the Committee's report entitled *Proposed New Standing Rules and Orders*, new standing rules and orders were "trially" as sessional orders, from 14 October 2003, so that their operation could be reviewed before they would be formally adopted and approved by the Governor. This represented the first major overhaul of the rules of procedure for the House and its committees since 1895. The new standing rules and orders are expressed in modern language, are gender neutral and more comprehensive than the former rules and incorporate all current practices and procedures.
- 1.3** In April 2004 the Procedure Committee met to consider the operation of the new standing rules and orders. The Procedure Committee tabled a report entitled *Proposed New Standing Rules and Orders – Second Report*, as a result of which a small number of amendments were made to the new standing rules, and orders before they were adopted by the House.

² Member from 14 September 2004: Legislative Council, New South Wales, *Minutes of Proceedings*, No 68, 53rd Parliament, item 16

- 1.4** The new standing rules and orders of the Legislative Council were adopted by the House on 5 May 2004 and approved by the Governor, in accordance with the provisions of section 15 (2) of the *Constitution Act 1902*, on 31 May 2004.

Chapter 2 Standing Committee on Privileges

How to contact the Committee

Members of the Standing Committee on Privileges can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

Standing Committee on Privileges

Legislative Council

Parliament House, Macquarie Street

Sydney New South Wales 2000

Internet www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcprivilege

Email privilege@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Telephone 02 9230 2024

Facsimile 02 9230 2761

Privileges Committee at a glance

Committee Membership

Hon Peter Primrose Australian Labor Party (Chair)

Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC Liberal Party of Australia (Deputy Chair)

Hon Tony Catanzariti Australian Labor Party

Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC The Nationals

Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC Christian Democratic Party

- 2.1** The Privileges Committee was first established in 1988. Between 1995 and 2003 the Committee was known as the Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics. The Committee performs a specialised role and has the following functions: to consider matters relating to parliamentary privilege referred to it by the House or the President; to consider citizen's rights of reply to statements made about them in the House; and to undertake functions relating to members' ethical standards under Part 7A of the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988*. The Deputy Clerk is the Clerk to the Committee.
- 2.2** During the year the committee tabled five reports, three of which concerned citizen's right of reply matters. The remaining two reports concerned an incident which occurred in December 2003 in which a search warrant was executed in the office of a member of the House by officers of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC). The Committee's first report on the matter considered the impact of parliamentary privilege on the powers of external bodies such as the ICAC to seize members' documents, and recommended a particular procedure by which the issues of parliamentary privilege arising in that case could be determined by the House. The second report dealt with a dispute which had arisen as to the status of a small number of the relevant documents, and recommended that the House uphold the member's claim of the privilege in relation to the documents. The relevant recommendations were adopted by the House.

Current references

- 2.3**
1. Citizens Right of Reply
(Resolution of the House, 13 November 1997)
 2. Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC
(Resolution of the House, 15 October 2003)
 3. Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC No. 2
(Resolution of the House, 25 February 2004)

4. Functions in connection with members' code of conduct and ethical standards
(*section 72C of the ICAC Act 1988, as amended by the Independent Commission Against Corruption Amendment (Ethics Committee) Act 2003*)

Statistical Summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	4	5
Reports tabled	6 ³	5
Recommendations/resolutions	13	9
Meetings	9	12
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	5	5
Number of hearings	1	1
	2002-2003	2003-2004
Location - Sydney	1	1
Total duration of hearings	3 hrs 15 mins	5 hrs 38 mins
Number of witnesses	2	5
Total participants	7	5

Members' attendance record

Members	Meetings attended	Meetings held
Hon Peter Primrose MLC	12	12
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC	9	12
Hon Amanda Fazio MLC	11	12
Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC	12	12
Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC	11	12
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC	10	12
Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC	12	12

³ Three of the reports related to citizen's right of reply submissions, pursuant to the resolution of the House of 13 November 1997 establishing the citizen's right of reply procedure.

Inquiries

Citizens Right of Reply

Terms of Reference

- 2.4
1. Any person who has been referred to in the house by name, or in such a way as to be readily identified, may make a submission in writing to the President, on any one or more of the following grounds, claiming:
 - (a) that they have been adversely affected:
 - (i) in reputation;
 - (ii) in respect of dealings or association with others;
 - (b) that they have been injured in occupation, trade, and requesting that they should be able to include an appropriate response in the parliamentary record.
 2. (1) Where a person makes a submission to the President, the President must, as soon as practicable, consider the submission and decide whether:
 - (a) to refer the submission to the Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privileges and Ethics (referred to as “the Committee”) for the inquiry and report; or
 - (b) it is inappropriate to be considered by the Committee on the grounds that the subject matter of the submission is trivial, frivolous, vexatious or offensive in character.(2) The President must inform the person in writing of the decision.
 3. Where a submission is referred to the Committee, the Committee may decide not to consider a submission referred to it if, in the opinion of the Committee, the subject matter of the submission is not sufficiently serious or is frivolous, vexatious or offensive in character. The Committee must report its decision to the House.
 4. (1) Where the Committee decides to consider a submission, the Committee may confer with, but not take evidence from any person, including:
 - (a) the person who made the submission; and
 - (b) any Member who referred to the person in the House.(2) In considering any submission, the Committee;
 - (a) must meet in private;
 - (b) must not consider or judge the truth of any statements made in the House or in the submission;
 - (c) must not make public:
 - (i) any minutes of proceedings;
 - (ii) any evidence; or

- (iii) any submissions, either in whole or in part, except in its report to the House.
5. In reporting to the House on a submission, the Committee may recommend:
- (a) that no further action be taken by the House or by the Committee in relation to the submission; or
 - (b) that a response by the person who made the submission, in a form the words agreed to by the person and the Committee and specified in the report of the Committee, be published in the Minutes of the Proceedings or incorporated in Hansard, and must not make any other recommendation.
6. Any response by a person who made a submission and which is included in a report to the House:
- (a) must be succinct and strictly relevant to the questions in issues;
 - (b) must not contain anything offensive in character;
 - (c) must not contain any matter where publication would have the effect of:
 - (i) unreasonably adversely affecting or injuring a person, or unreasonably invading a person's privacy, in the manner referred to in paragraph 1; or
 - (ii) unreasonably adding to or aggravating any adverse effect, injury or invasion of privacy suffered by a person.
7. In this resolution, person includes an unincorporated association, a corporation and a body corporate.

2.5	Date and source of reference:	Resolution of the House, 13 November 1997, moved by the Hon Ron Dyer MLC for the Hon Michael Egan MLC.
2.6	Status of inquiry:	Procedure activated as required from time to time.
2.7	Reports tabled:	Report on person referred to in the Legislative Council (Dr J Goodman), tabled 2 December 2003
		Report on person referred to in the Legislative Council (Mr P Spry), tabled 26 February 2004
		Report on person referred to in the Legislative Council (Mr P Ferris), tabled 9 March 2004

Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC

Terms of reference

- 2.8** That the Standing Committee on Parliamentary Privilege and Ethics inquire into and report on the following matters:
- (a) whether any breaches of the immunities of the Legislative Council or contempts were involved in the execution of a search warrant by the Independent Commission Against Corruption on the Parliament House office of the Honourable Peter Breen on 3 October 2003,
 - (b) what procedures should be established, such as the appointment of an independent arbiter, to examine and determine whether any of the documents and things seized by the Independent Commission Against Corruption are immune from seizure under the warrant by virtue of parliamentary privilege,
 - (c) any other matters that the Committee considers relevant.
- 2.9** **Date and source of reference:** 12 October 2003, Legislative Council (moved by the Hon Peter Breen MLC)
- 2.10** **Status of inquiry:** Completed
- 2.11** **Report tabled:** Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC, tabled 3 December 2003

Statistical Summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	1
Recommendations/findings	5
Meetings	7
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	5
Number of hearings	1
Location – Sydney	1
Total duration of hearings	5 hrs 38 mins
Number of witnesses	5
Total participants	5

Outcomes/comments

- 2.12** On 4 December 2003, on the day after the report was tabled, the House substantially adopted the recommendations of the report concerning the procedure by which documents are determined as privileged. Subsequently the documents were examined and claims of privilege were made in relation to a number of them. The ICAC disputed the privilege status of some of these documents as provided for in the procedure adopted by the House.

Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC No. 2

Terms of reference

- 2.13**
1. That the documents from the Independent Commission Against Corruption and Mr Breen relating to the disputed claim of privilege on certain documents seized from the parliamentary office of Mr Breen, tabled by the President on 24 February 2004, be referred to the Privileges Committee for inquiry and report.
 2. That for the purposes of its inquiry the Committee have access to the privileged material in the custody of the Clerk.
 3. That the Committee recommend to the House which of the disputed material falls within the scope of proceedings in Parliament, according to the resolution of the House of 4 December 2003.
- 2.14** **Date and source of reference:** 25 February 2004, Legislative Council (moved by the Hon Michael Egan MLC)
- 2.15** **Status of inquiry:** Completed
- 2.16** **Report tabled:** Parliamentary privilege and seizure of documents by ICAC No. 2, tabled 31 March 2004

Statistical Summary

	2003 - 2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	1
Recommendations/resolutions	1
Meetings	4
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	3
Number of hearings	-
Location – Sydney	-
Total duration of hearings	-
Number of witnesses	-
Total participants	3

Outcomes/comments

- 2.17** Following the tabling of the Committee's report, the House passed a resolution adopting the Committee's findings and recommendation, and upholding the claim of privilege by the

member. The resolution expressly affirmed that the House is the appropriate forum for resolution of issues of parliamentary privilege, including issues concerning material seized by search warrant from the member's parliamentary office in this case.

2.18 Currently, the ICAC is continuing its investigation into the conduct of the member.

Review of members' code of conduct

Terms of reference

2.19 The designated committee is to review a code of conduct adopted by the Legislative Council at least once every 4 years. (Section 72C of the ICAC Act 1988).

2.20 **Date and source of reference:** (Section 72C of the ICAC Act 1988 as amended by the Independent Commission Against Corruption Amendment (Ethics Committee) Act 2003)

2.21 **Status of inquiry:** Ongoing

Chapter 3 Standing Committee on Law and Justice

How to contact the Committee

Members of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

Standing Committee on Law and Justice

Legislative Council

Parliament House, Macquarie Street

Sydney New South Wales 2000

Internet www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lawandjustice

Email lawandjustice@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Telephone 61-2-9230 3311

Facsimile 61-2-9230 3371

Law and Justice Committee at a glance

Committee membership 53rd Parliament

Hon Christine Robertson MLC Australian Labor Party (Chair)

Hon Greg Pearce MLC Liberal Party of Australia (Deputy Chair)

Hon Tony Burke MLC Australian Labor Party⁴

Hon David Clarke MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party

Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens

Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC, Australian Labor Party⁵

Current references

- 3.1**
1. Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and Motor Accidents Council – Fifth Review. (Reference from the House, 25 June 2003, pursuant to s 210 *Motor Accidents Compensation Act 1999*).
 2. Inquiry into Workers Compensation Injury Management Pilot Projects Evaluation (Statutory reference pursuant to Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998, Schedule 5A).
 3. Inquiry into the Criminal Procedure Amendment (Pre-trial Disclosure) Act 2001 – Stage Two (Reference from the Attorney General 30 July 2003).
 4. Inquiry into community based sentencing options (Reference from the Attorney General 2 April 2004).
 5. Inquiry into back-end home detention (Reference from the House, 2 June 2004).
 6. Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and Motor Accidents Council – Sixth Review (Reference from the House, 25 June 2003, pursuant to s 210 *Motor Accidents Compensation Act 1999*).

⁴ Resigned from Parliament 24 June 2004: Legislative Council, New South Wales, *Minutes of Proceedings, No 62*, 53rd Parliament, item 2

⁵ Member from 29 June 2004: Legislative Council, New South Wales, *Minutes of Proceedings, No 64*, 53rd Parliament, item 10

Statistical summary

	2002-2003	2003 - 2004
Inquiries	7	5
Reports tabled	5	1 ⁶
Recommendations	83	17
Meetings	16 ⁷	9 ⁸
Public consultation		
Submissions received	28	33
Hearings	9	2
Location of hearings – Parliament House	9	2
Total duration	24 hrs	8 hrs 15 mins ⁹
Number of witnesses	34	13
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Seminars	-	-
Round table meetings	-	-
Briefings	-	2
Total participants	62	46

Members' attendance during 53rd Parliament - from 1 July 2003 until 30 June 2004

	2003 - 2004
Ms Robertson (Chair)	11/11
Mr Pearce (Deputy Chair)	8/11
Mr Burke ¹⁰	9/11
Mr Clarke	8/11
Ms Fazio	9/11
Ms Rhiannon	8/11
Mr Roozendaal ¹¹	0/0

⁶ Report No 25

⁷ 52nd Parliament – 15 meetings; 53rd Parliament – 1 meeting

⁸ 9 Deliberatives (incorporating 2 hearings)

⁹ An additional 10 hours 10 minutes was contributed in deliberative meetings and briefings

¹⁰ Mr Burke resigned from Parliament on 24 June 2004. There were no meetings between the 24 and 30 June 2004

¹¹ Mr Roozendaal joined the Committee on 29 June 2004

Inquiries completed prior to 2003-2004 – status of Government responses

Inquiry into the Home Building Amendment (Insurance) Act 2002

Government response

- 3.2 Due 2 March 2003¹². Received 16 September 2003. The Government response is available on the website.

Outcomes/comments

- 3.3 The Committee's report provided a comprehensive examination of the impact of the *Home Building Amendment (Insurance) Act 2002* on home warranty insurance, builders and consumers and made 16 recommendations. The New South Wales Government announced a broad inquiry into the home warranty insurance scheme in May 2003 and the terms of reference for that inquiry included consideration of the Committee's report. The Committee has since encouraged the Minister to consider its recommendations in the context of any review or implementation of a new scheme that the Government proposes. The Committee has also written to the Minister to express its concerns about the experiences of small builders under the scheme. The Government response is available on the website.

Inquiry into the Criminal Procedure Amendment (Pre-Trial Disclosure) Act 2001 – Stage One

Government response

- 3.4 Due 24 March 2003. Not received (see outcomes).

Outcomes/comments

- 3.5 The Government accepted the Committee's single recommendation to refer the same or similar terms of reference back to the Committee in the next session of Parliament. The Attorney General re-referred the terms of reference on 30 February 2004.

Inquiry into child sexual assault prosecutions

Government response

- 3.6 Due 13 May 2003. Received 4 May 2004. The Government response is available on the website.

Outcomes/comments

- 3.7 The committee's report met with considerable support from stakeholders and community groups. The Committee's principal recommendation - the creation of a specialist Child Sexual Assault Court – was supported by the Government. On 18 November 2002, the Attorney

¹² NSW General Election held 22 March 2003. The House resumed 29 April 2003.

General announced that the Government would establish a Child Sexual Assault Court, and the Court began hearing cases at the beginning of 2003. The Government response is available on the website.

Inquiry into regulating the use of the Coat of Arms

Government response

- 3.8** Due 5 June 2003. Not received (see outcomes).

Outcomes/comments

- 3.9** The Committee's report was generally well received by those who participated in the inquiry. The Hon Peter Breen introduced his amended Bill, the State Arms, Symbols and Emblems Bill 2003, on 22 May 2003. The Bill passed both Houses and received assent on 2 March 2004. The Act takes up many of the Committee's recommendations.

Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and Motor Accidents Council – Fourth Review

Government response

- 3.10** Due 15 June 2003. Received 16 September 2003. The Government response is available on the website.

Outcomes/comments

- 3.11** Through this function the Committee has maintained an ongoing oversight relationship with the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council. The Government response is available on the website.

2003-2004 Inquiries

Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and Motor Accidents Council – Fifth Review

Terms of reference

3.12 Reference from the House, 25 June 2003, pursuant to section 210 *Motor Accidents Compensation Act 1999*.

3.13 **Status of inquiry** Complete

Reports tabled	Take note debate	Government response
<i>Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council, Fifth Report</i> Report No 25	Tabled in the Legislative Council on 1 April 2004	

Statistical summary

Public consultation	2002-2003	2003 - 2004
Number of submissions received	-	8
Number of hearings	1	1
Locations – Sydney	1	1
Total duration	1 hr 50 mins	3 hours
Number of witnesses	4	4
Total participants	4	12

Outcomes/comments

3.14 Through this function the Committee has maintained an ongoing oversight relationship with the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council.

Inquiry into the Criminal Procedure Amendment (Pre-Trial Disclosure) Act 2001 – Stage Two

Terms of reference

3.15 That the Committee inquire into and report on:

The provisions of the *Criminal Procedure Amendment (Pre-Trial Disclosure) Act 2001*, together with the system of pre-trial disclosure in New South Wales including:

- (a) the frequency and type of pre-trial disclosure orders made in the Supreme Court and District Court;
- (b) the rate of compliance with pre-trial disclosure requirements by:
 - (i) legally aided defendants,
 - (ii) privately funded defendants,
 - (iii) Police,
 - (iv) the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions;
- (c) the impact of pre-trial disclosure requirements on unrepresented defendants;
- (d) the effect of pre-trial disclosure requirements on court delays and waiting times in the Supreme Court, District Court and the Court of Criminal Appeal;
- (e) the effect of pre-trial disclosure requirements on the doctrine of the right to silence;
- (f) the effect of pre-trial disclosure requirements on the doctrine of the presumption of innocence;
- (g) the effect of pre-trial disclosure requirements on the doctrine of the burden of proof resting with the prosecution; and
- (h) any other matter arising out of or incidental to these terms of reference.

3.16 Date and source of reference Referred by the Attorney General, 30 February 2004.

3.17 Status of inquiry: Commenced. Drafting report.

Statistical summary

Public consultation	2003-2004
Number of submissions received	11
Number of hearings	1
Locations – Sydney	1
Total duration	5 hours 15 mins
Number of witnesses	9
Total participants	20

Inquiry into back-end home detention

Terms of reference

- 3.18** 1. That the Standing Committee on Law and Justice inquire into and report on whether it is appropriate and in the public interest to introduce a ‘back-end’ home detention scheme in New South Wales, including -
- a. the perceived benefits and disadvantages of back-end home detention,
 - b. the relationship between back-end home detention and existing external leave programs,
 - c. the impact of back-end home detention on the principle of truth-in-sentencing,
 - d. the appropriate authority to determine whether an offender may proceed to back-end home detention,
 - e. the criteria for eligibility for back-end home detention,
 - f. the experience of other jurisdictions in implementing back-end home detention schemes,
 - g. any other related matter.
2. That the Committee report by 7 December 2004.
- 3.19** **Date and source of reference:** Referred by resolution of the House, 2 June 2004.
- 3.20** **Status of inquiry:** Commenced. Hearings being organised.

Statistical summary

Public consultation	2003-2004
Number of submissions received	14
Number of hearings	-
Locations – Sydney	-
Total duration	-
Number of witnesses	-
Total participants	14

Inquiry into community based sentencing options

Terms of reference

- 3.21** 1. That the Standing Committee on Law and Justice inquire into and report on whether it is appropriate and in the public interest to tailor community based sentencing options for rural remote areas in NSW and for special need/disadvantaged populations, including -
- (a) The perceived benefits and disadvantages of community based sentencing options including Periodic Detention, Intensive Supervision Programs (Home Detention e.g. Drug Court), Community Supervision Orders.
 - (b) The relationship between different Intensive Supervision Programs – Home Detention and Periodic Detention (Stage 1 and 2).
 - (c) The impact of the availability of Intensive Supervision Programs upon rural and remote communities.
 - (d) The place of Periodic Detention within a spectrum of community based sentencing options utilising intensive supervision.
 - (e) The criteria for eligibility for community based sentencing options.
 - (f) The experience of other jurisdictions in implementing community based sentencing options.
 - (g) Any other related matter.
2. The Committee to report by July 2005
- 3.22** **Date and source of reference:** Referred by the Attorney General, 2 April 2004.
- 3.23** **Status of inquiry:** Not yet commenced.

Workers Compensation Injury Management Pilot Projects Evaluation

Terms of reference

- 3.24** The effectiveness of Schedule 5A of the *Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998* is to be evaluated by an independent person or body, chosen by the WorkCover Authority by private tender, and the results of the evaluation are to be referred to the Law and Justice Committee of the Legislative Council which is to review the results and report to Parliament.
- 3.25** **Date and source of reference:** Statutory reference, *Workplace Injury Management and Workers Compensation Act 1998*, Schedule 5A, Cl 1 (2).
- 3.26** **Status of inquiry:** Not yet commenced. The Committee is awaiting the results of the evaluation.

Previous committee reports

Report No.	Title	Date tabled
1	Crimes Amendment Mandatory Life Sentences Bill	November 1995
2	Motor Accidents Scheme, Compulsory Third Party Insurance	April 1996
3	Motor Accidents Scheme, Compulsory Third Party Insurance, Interim Report	December 1996
4	Workplace Safety, Proceedings of Public Seminar	February 1997
5	Motor Accidents Scheme, Legal Costs, Proceedings of Public Seminar	June 1997
6	Family Impact Commission Bill	November 1997
7	Motor Accidents Scheme, Compulsory Third Party Insurance, Second Interim Report	December 1997
8	Workplace Safety, Interim Report	December 1997
Issues Paper No. 1	Workplace Safety, Issues Paper	February 1998
9	Motor Accidents Scheme, Compulsory Third Party Insurance, Final Report	November 1998
10.1	Workplace Safety, Final Report, Volume 1	November 1998
10.2	Workplace Safety, Final Report, Volume 2, Appendices	November 1998
11	Crime Prevention through Social Support, Proceedings of Public Conference	December 1998
12.1	Crime Prevention through Social Support, Submissions received in 1998, Volume 1, Early Childhood Intervention	June 1999
12.2	Crime Prevention through Social Support, First Report	December 1999
13	Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council, First Report	June 2000
14	Crime Prevention through Social Support, Second Report	August 2000
15	Report on Inquiry into the <i>Crimes Amendment (Child Protection Excessive Punishment) Bill 2000</i>	October 2000
16	Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council, Second Report	February 2001
17	A NSW Bill of Rights	October 2001
18	Review of the <i>Crimes (Forensic Procedures) Act 2000</i>	February 2002
19	Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council, Third Report	February 2002
20	<i>Home Building Amendment (Insurance) Act 2002</i>	September 2002
21	<i>Criminal Procedure Amendment (Pre trial Disclosure) Act 2001</i> , First Report	September 2002
22	Report on Child Sexual Assault Prosecutions	November 2002
23	Report on the Proposed State Arms Bill	December 2002
24	Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council, Fourth Report	December 2002

Report No.	Title	Date tabled
25	Review of the exercise of the functions of the Motor Accidents Authority and the Motor Accidents Council, Fifth Report	April 2004

Chapter 4 Standing Committee on Social Issues

How to contact the Committee

Members of the Standing Committee on Social Issues can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

Standing Committee on Social Issues

Legislative Council

Parliament House, Macquarie Street

Sydney New South Wales 2000

Internet www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/socialissues

Email socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Telephone 61-2-9230 3078

Facsimile 61-2-9230 2981

Social Issues Committee at a glance

Committee membership 53rd Parliament¹³

Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party (Chair)
Hon Robyn Parker MLC Liberal Party (Deputy Chair)
Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC Australian Democrats
Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Greg Pearce MLC Liberal Party
Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party

References

- 4.1
1. Early Intervention into Learning Difficulties
(Ministerial reference from the Hon John Aquilina MP, Minister for Education and Training, dated 4 August 2000. Re-referred by the House, dated 24 June 2003)
 2. Community Housing
(Ministerial reference from the Hon Dr Andrew Refshauge MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Planning, Aboriginal Affairs and Housing, dated 27 September 2001. Re-referred by the House, dated 24 June 2003)
 3. Child Protection Services
(Reference from the House, dated 10 April 2002)
 4. *Inebriates Act 1912*
(Ministerial reference from the Hon Bob Debus, Attorney-General, dated 23 September 2003)
 5. Issues relating to Redfern/Waterloo
(Reference from the House, dated 26 February 2004)

¹³ The Leader of the Opposition nominated Mr Pearce in place of Ms Cusack on 10 March 2004.

Statistical summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	5	4
Reports tabled	4	2
Recommendations	137	69
Meetings	29 ¹⁴	36
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	239	138
Number of hearings	13	13
Location - Sydney	13	13
Total duration	60 hrs 10 mins	66 hrs 30 mins
Number of witnesses	55	86
Participants in other forms of consultations		
Briefings - Sydney	78	1
Briefings - Melbourne	-	11
Community consultations		
- Sydney	35	-
- Regional NSW	46	-
Seminar - Sydney	30	-
Site visits - Sydney	-	52
- Regional NSW	-	32
Total participants	483	320

Members' attendance record¹⁵

	Meetings attended
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC (Chair)	34/36
Hon Robyn Parker MLC (Deputy Chair)	32/36
Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC	33/36
Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	9/19
Hon Kaye Griffin MLC	34/36
Hon Greg Pearce MLC	16/17
Hon Ian West MLC	35/36

¹⁴ Includes 3 sub-committee meetings

¹⁵ The Leader of the Opposition nominated Mr Pearce in place of Ms Cusack on 10 March 2004.

Inquiries completed prior to 2003-2004 – status of Government responses

Residential and support services for people with disability

Government Response

4.2 Due 14 May 2003. Received 19 August 2003.

Outcomes/comments

- 4.3 The Committee's final report for this inquiry, *Making It Happen: Final Report on Disability Services* was tabled on 14 November 2002. Two interim reports, *The Group Homes Proposal* and *A Matter of Priority* were released in December 1999 and December 2000 respectively. The inquiry, which commenced in September 1999, received 316 written submissions and heard formal evidence from 135 witnesses. In addition, the Committee held community consultations in regional and rural New South Wales that were attended by a total of 555 people.
- 4.4 The inquiry has been associated with a period of substantial structural reform within disability services in New South Wales and the allocation of significant additional funding to the sector.
- 4.5 The Government's response to *Making It Happen: Final Report on Disability Services*, Report 28, was tabled in the Legislative Council on 19 August 2003 and is available on the website.

2003-2004 Inquiries

Early intervention into learning difficulties

Terms of Reference

4.6 That the Standing Committee on Social Issues inquire into and report on early intervention into learning difficulties during the early childhood years (ages 0-8), including the following:

- The appropriate role of parents, government departments, non-government agencies and educational organisations in the development, delivery and evaluation of early intervention programs.
- The adequacy of roles and responsibilities and interagency cooperation around early intervention programs for learning difficulties in NSW.
- The ways in which early intervention practice in NSW might be informed by practice in other States of Australia and overseas, including evidence of the impact of early intervention on child protection, juvenile justice and intensive education programs.
- Research into world's best practice in developing effective strategies to increase awareness and responsibility for assisting families in parenting skills, identifying learning difficulties and early intervention.
- Maximising the effectiveness of assessment and early identification in ensuring improved learning outcomes from schooling for children experiencing learning difficulties.
- Support available to families and communities to enable them to be better able to assist their children with learning difficulties.
- Any other relevant matters.

The primary emphasis of the Inquiry is on the evaluation and development of programs for children with learning difficulties who with appropriate early intervention would be able to achieve age appropriate outcomes throughout their schooling.

4.7 **Date and source of reference:** 4 August 2000, from the Hon John Aquilina MP, Minister for Education and Training.
Re-referred by the House on 24 June 2003.

4.8 **Status of inquiry:** Complete

Reports tabled	Take note debate	Government response
<i>Early Child Development: A Co-ordinated Approach. First Report on Early Intervention for Children with Learning Difficulties, Report 27.</i> (Tabled on 16 October 2002)	23 October 2002	

<p><i>Realising Potential: Final Report of the Inquiry into Early Intervention for Children with Learning Difficulties</i>, Report 30 (Tabled on 16 September 2003)</p>		<p>Tabled in the Legislative Council on 1 April 2004</p>
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4.9 Statistical Summary

The public hearings and consultations were completed in the previous financial year. The report and inquiry were discussed and considered at seven of the deliberative meetings held during the year.

Outcomes/comments

- 4.10** *Early Child Development: A Co-ordinated Approach: First Report on Early Intervention for Children with Learning Difficulties* was tabled on 16 October 2002. The inquiry was interrupted by prorogation. The inquiry was re-referred to the Committee on 24 June 2003.
- 4.11** The final report *Realising Potential: Final Report of the Inquiry into Early Intervention for Children with Learning Difficulties*, Report 30, was tabled in the Legislative Council on 16 September 2003. The report included 36 recommendations to the Government, on topics such as early childhood health services, childcare and preschool services, school entry, support for families, class sizes and therapy services.
- 4.12** The Government response, tabled in the Legislative Council on 1 April 2004, indicated that a number of recommendations were being implemented. The Government advised that the Office of Children and Young People would review the policy framework for the *Families First* strategy, and that review will include an examination of the Committee's recommendations.

Inquiry into community housing

Terms of Reference

- 4.13** 1. That the Standing Committee on Social Issues inquire into and report on government-funded community housing, and in particular:
- (a) The role of the government-funded community housing sector in providing accommodation within the social housing system,
 - (b) The effectiveness of the community housing sector in meeting the needs of its clients in a responsive and efficient manner,
 - (c) The relative effectiveness of large and small community housing providers in providing accommodation to their clients,
 - (d) The role and operation of community housing or related models in other jurisdictions so as to better inform future strategies and develop best practice within the sector in New South Wales,
 - (e) Appropriate models for community housing in rural, regional and metropolitan New South Wales,
 - (f) The effectiveness of links between community housing providers and government and non-government support services,
 - (g) The adequacy and effectiveness of training and support available to community housing providers,
 - (h) Current management and operational policies and practices, their efficacy and transparency,
 - (i) The adequacy of current reporting and regulatory frameworks in ensuring corporate governance and accountability,
 - (j) Any other matter arising out of or incidental to these terms of reference.
2. That the Inquiry consider community housing providers, excluding Aboriginal community housing providers.

4.14 Date and source of reference: 27 September 2001, the Hon Dr Andrew Refshauge MP. Re-referred by the House 24 June 2003.

4.15 Status of inquiry Completed

Reports tabled	Take note debate	Government Response
<i>Report on Community Housing</i> , Report 31, tabled by a resolution of the House in November 2003	10 March 2004	Tabled with the Clerk of the Parliaments on 28 May 2004

4.16 Statistical Summary

Public consultation ¹⁶	2002-2003	2003-2004
Number of submissions received	-	-
Number of hearings	1	-
Location - Sydney	1	-
Total hearing duration (excluding briefings, site visits and community consultations)	3 hrs 30 mins	-
Number of witnesses	4	-
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Site visits - Sydney	-	14
Site visits – Maclean, Yamba and Iluka	-	7
Total participants	4	21

Outcomes/comments

- 4.17** The *Report on Community Housing*, Report 31, was tabled by resolution of the House on 28 November 2003. The key themes of the recommendations centre around three main issues: strategic direction, sustainability and performance management.
- 4.18** The Government Response was tabled with the Clerk of the Parliaments on 28 May 2004. The response from the Government indicated broad acceptance of the Committee's recommended approach, including the development of an integrated strategic policy framework for community housing. The Committee's recommended strategies relating to regulation and performance management were also supported by the Government. The Government advised that many of the recommendations have been or are being implemented.

¹⁶ Please note submissions were received and hearings were held in previous reporting periods

Child Protection Services

Terms of Reference

- 4.19** 1. That the Standing Committee on Social Issues inquire into and report on the following aspects of the Department of Community Services:
- (a) the adequacy of systems to receive, investigate and assess reports of children and young people at risk of harm,
 - (b) the ability of systems to receive and respond to requests for assistance concerning children, young people and families,
 - (c) the availability of appropriate out of home care placements for children and young people,
 - (d) outcomes for children and young people in out of home care.
- In respect to matters (a)-(d) above, the Committee is to examine:
- (i) the training and morale of DOCS employees,
 - (ii) the adequacy of resources allocated for child and family services,
 - (iii) the role of research and consultation.
2. That the Committee table an interim report by 26 September 2002 and a final report by 5 December 2002¹⁷

4.20 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House dated 10 April 2002

4.21 Status of inquiry Completed

Reports tabled	Take note debate	Government Response
<i>Prevention: Interim Report on Child Protection Services, Report 26</i> (tabled on 16 October 2002)	23 October 2002	Due 16 April 2003 (The 52 nd Parliament expired on 28 February 2003)
<i>Care and Support: Final Report on Child Protection Services, Report 29, December 2002</i> (tabled on 10 December 2002)	-	Due 10 June 2003

¹⁷ Resolved on the motion of the Hon Michael Egan MLC that the reporting date for the Standing Committee on Social Issues Inquiry into Child Protection Services be extended to Tuesday 10 December 2002 (Legislative Council, 4 December 2002)

4.22 Statistical Summary

Public consultation ¹⁸	2002-2003	2003-2004
Number of submissions received	-	-
Number of hearings	9	-
Location - Sydney	9	-
Total hearing duration (excluding briefings, site visits and community consultations)	51 hrs 50 mins	-
Number of witnesses	49	-
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Community consultations		-
- Sydney	35	-
- Regional NSW	46	-
Briefings - Sydney	78	-
Total participants	208	-

Outcomes/comments

- 4.23** The Government response is not yet received. In correspondence to the Committee, the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Carmel Tebbutt MLC, advised that the Committee's report has been closely scrutinised by the Department of Community Services and the Minister's own office. In many cases, the Committee's recommendations have influenced the direction of the Department's reform process.¹⁹
- 4.24** Minister Tebbutt anticipates that a detailed formal response to the Committee's final report will be provided in the near future.

¹⁸ Please note submissions were received and hearings were held in previous reporting periods

¹⁹ Correspondence from the Minister for Community Services, the Hon Carmel Tebbutt MLC, to the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Issues, the Hon Jan Burnswoods MLC, dated 31 May 2004

Inquiry into the *Inebriates Act 1912*

Terms of Reference

4.25 That the Standing Committee on Social Issues inquire into and report on:

- (1) The *Inebriates Act 1912* and the provision of compulsory assessment and treatment under that Act;
- (2) The appropriateness and effectiveness of the Act in dealing with persons with severe alcohol and/or drug dependence who have not committed an offence and persons with such dependence who have committed offences;
- (3) The effectiveness of the Act in linking those persons to suitable treatment facilities and how those linkages might be improved if necessary;
- (4) Overseas and interstate models for compulsory treatment of persons with severe alcohol and/or drug dependence including in Sweden and Victoria;
- (5) Options for improving or replacing the Act with a focus on saving the lives of persons with severe alcohol and/or drug dependence and those close to them; and
- (6) Any other related matter.

4.26 **Date and source of reference:** Reference from the Hon Bob Debus MP, Attorney-General on 23 September 2003

4.27 **Status of inquiry:** Ongoing

Statistical Summary

Public consultation	2003-2004
Number of submissions received	53
Number of hearings	8
Location - Sydney	8
Total hearing duration (excluding briefings, site visits and community consultations)	30hrs 35mins
Number of witnesses	49
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Site visits – Moree, Orange	32
Briefings – Sydney	1
Briefings – Melbourne	13
Total participants	148

Outcomes/comments

- 4.28** The Inquiry was referred to the Committee following a recommendation of the NSW Summit on Alcohol Abuse 2003. The final report is being drafted. It is expected that the report will be tabled in September 2004

Inquiry into Issues Relating to Redfern/Waterloo

Terms of Reference

- 4.29** 1. That the Standing Committee on Social Issues inquire into and report on:
- (a) policing strategies and resources in the Redfern/Waterloo areas,
 - (b) other existing government programs in the Redfern/Waterloo areas, including local, state and federal programs,
 - (c) non-government services and service provision in the Redfern/Waterloo areas,
 - (d) strategies under the current New South Wales Government “Redfern/Waterloo Partnership Project”, and the effectiveness in meeting the needs of local indigenous and other members of the community,
 - (e) proposals for the future of the area known as “The Block”,
 - (f) any other matters arising from these terms of reference.
2. That the Committee table an interim report by 31 July 2004 and a final report by 30 November 2004.
- 4.30** **Date and source of reference:** Resolution of the House, dated 26 February 2004
- 4.31** **Status of inquiry** Ongoing

Statistical Summary

Public consultation	2003-2004
Number of submissions received	85
Number of hearings	5
Location - Sydney	5
Total hearing duration (excluding briefings, site visits and community consultations)	24hrs 10mins
Number of witnesses	38
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Site visits – Redfern 19 and 26 May 2004	26
Total participants	149

Outcomes/comments

- 4.32** As outlined in the terms of reference, the Committee is required to table an interim report by 31 July 2004, and a final report by 30 November 2004.

Previous committee reports

Report No.	Title	Date tabled
1	Accessing Adoption Information	October 1989
2	Drug Abuse Among Youth	December 1990
3	Medically Acquired HIV	October 1991
4	Juvenile Justice in New South Wales	May 1992
5	Births, Deaths and Marriages: An Open Register?	March 1993
6	Sexual Violence: The Hidden Crime Part 1	December 1993
7	Suicide in Rural New South Wales	November 1994
8	Youth Violence in New South Wales	September 1995
9	Sexual Violence: Addressing the Crime Part 2	April 1996
10	Children's Advocacy	September 1996
11	Caring for the Aged: An Interim Report of the Inquiry into Aged Care and Nursing Homes	June 1997
12	Children of Imprisoned Parents	July 1997
13	Clinical Trials and Guardianship: Maximising the Safeguards	August 1997
14	Caring for the Aged: Final Report of the Inquiry into Aged Care and Nursing Homes	September 1997
15	Working for Children: Communities Supporting Families. Inquiry into Parent Education and Support Programs	September 1998
16	Hepatitis C: The Neglected Epidemic. Inquiry into Hepatitis C in New South Wales	November 1998
17	Interim Report on Inquiry into Adoption Practices: Transcripts of Evidence from 27 August to 19 October 1998	November 1998
18	Enhancing Aboriginal Political Representation. Inquiry into Dedicated Seats in the New South Wales Parliament	November 1998
19	The Group Homes Proposal Inquiry into Residential and Support Services	December 1999
20	Domestic Relationships: Issues for Reform. Inquiry into De Facto Relationships Legislation	December 1999
21	Report on Adoption Practices Second Interim Report. Transcripts of Evidence 16 June 1999 – 25 October 1999	June 2000
22	Releasing the Past. Adoption Practices 1950-1998. Final Report	December 2000
23	A Matter of Priority. Report on Disability Services. Second Report	December 2000
24	Inquiry into Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Enforcement Amendment Bill 2001 Interim Report: Off-line Matters	March 2002
25	Safety Net? Inquiry into Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Enforcement Amendment Bill 2001: Final Report	June 2002
26	Prevention: Interim Report on Child Protection Services	October 2002
27	Early Child Development: A Co-ordinated Approach. First Report on Early Intervention for Children with Learning Difficulties	October 2002

Report No.	Title	Date tabled
28	Making It Happen. Final Report on Disability Services	November 2002
29	Care and Support: Final Report on Child Protection Services	December 2002
30	Realising Potential: Final Report of the Inquiry into Early Intervention for Children with Learning Difficulties	September 2003
31	Report on Community Housing	November 2003

Chapter 5 Standing Committee on State Development

How to contact the Committee

Members of the Standing Committee on State Development can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

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Legislative Council

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State Development Committee at a glance

Committee Membership

Hon Tony Burke, MLC Australian Labor Party (Chair) ²⁰
Hon Eric Roozendaal, MLC Australian Labor Party (Chair) ²¹
Hon Patricia Forsythe, MLC Liberal Party of Australia (Deputy Chair)
Hon Tony Catanzariti, MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Melinda Pavey, MLC The Nationals
Hon Christine Robertson, MLC Australian Labor Party
Mr Ian Cohen, MLC The Greens

Current references

- 5.1
1. Science and its commercialisation in New South Wales
(Ministerial reference from the Hon Frank Sartor MP, dated 3 July 2003)
 2. Port infrastructure in New South Wales
(Ministerial reference from the Hon Michael Costa MLC, dated 21 October 2003, amended by the Hon Michael Costa MLC, 28 October 2003)

Statistical Summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	5	2
Reports tabled	2	2
Recommendations	2	15
Meetings	5	30
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	2	159
Number of hearings	-	11
Total duration of hearings	3 hours	56 hours

²⁰ On 23 June 2004 the Hon Tony Burke resigned from the Legislative Council. See *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council*, 53rd Parliament, first session, 23 June 2004, item no 20

²¹ On 29 June 2004 the Hon Eric Roozendaal was appointed to the Committee. See *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council*, 53rd Parliament, first session, 29 June 2004, item no 10

Number of witnesses	-	95
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Site visits - NSW	-	34
- outside NSW	-	17
Forums	-	70
Total participants	2	375

Members' attendance record

Members	Meetings attended	Meetings held
Hon Tony Burke MLC	30	30
Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC	28	30
Hon Tony Catanzariti, MLC	25	30
Hon Christine Robertson, MLC	23	30
Hon Melinda Pavey, MLC	27	30
Mr Ian Cohen MLC	24	30
Hon Eric Roozendaal, MLC	0	0

Inquiries completed prior to 2003-2004 – status of Government responses

Use and management of pesticides in New South Wales

Outcomes/Comments

- 5.2** On 22 September 1999 the Committee tabled its report into the use and management of pesticides in New South Wales (Volumes One and Two) that included 48 recommendations. The inquiry and report were originally requested by the Minister for the Environment as a precursory analysis of the mechanism for the introduction of amendments to the *Pesticides Act 1978*. A substantial number of the Committee's recommendations were adopted in the revised Act (*Pesticides Act 1999*).
- 5.3** In correspondence received by the Committee on 22 November 1999 the Minister for the Environment specifically advised of his willingness to adopt recommendation number 46 of the Committee's report. As a consequence, the New South Wales Environment Protection Authority (EPA) will provide annual reviews to the Standing Committee concerning the progress and impact of implementing the *Pesticides Act 1999*.
- 5.4** Accordingly, on 19 February 2001, 2 May 2001, 24 April 2002 and 3 February 2003, the Committee received reports from the Minister detailing progress on the implementation of the Act.
- 5.5** In April 2004, the Minister for the Environment forwarded the fourth and final annual review to the Committee. This report includes details of effectiveness of the *Pesticides Act 1999* and the *Pesticides Amendment (Records) Regulation 2001*, the level and nature of education and enforcement activity undertaken, and information on the pesticides that are available for use in New South Wales. The Minister informed the Committee that a statutory review of the Pesticides Act 1999 will be conducted in December 2004.

2003-2004 Inquiries

Science and its commercialisation in New South Wales

Terms of Reference

5.6 That the Standing Committee on State Development inquire into and report on science and its commercialisation in New South Wales, and in particular review:

- existing scientific efforts and programs in NSW public sector organisations,
- the opportunities for commercialising the results of scientific research,
- the opportunities for NSW public sector administered programs in meeting policy objectives,
- the BioFirst program and the opportunities it provides for the commercialisation of research discoveries.

5.7 Date and source of reference: 3 July 2003, the Hon Frank Sartor, MP, Minister for Energy and Utilities, Minister for Science and Medical Research, Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer), Minister Assisting the Premier on the Arts

5.8 Status of inquiry: Completed

Reports tabled	Take note debate	Government Response
Science and its commercialisation in New South Wales Final Report (tabled 17 December 2003)	24 February 2004	Due 17 June 2004 Tabled 22 June 2004

Outcomes/Comments

5.9 The Committee received 60 submissions, heard evidence from 36 witnesses, and conducted site visits to various sites in Sydney, the Riverina district of NSW and Brisbane. A significant aspect of the Committee's information gathering was the Cooperative Research Centres Forum for more than 70 leading scientists, researchers, State and Commonwealth Government representatives, teachers and PhD students.

5.10 On 17 December 2003 the Committee tabled the Final Report of its Inquiry into Science and its Commercialisation in NSW. The Committee made 14 recommendations in relation to its terms of reference. The key recommendations included:

- broadening the Government's focus on science and innovation, including the focus of commercialisation

- establishment of an Office of the Chief Scientist
- establishment of a Ministry for Science and Medical Research
- increased focus on science in education
- a 'Science in Parliament' day
- further support for Cooperative Research Centres in NSW.

5.11 The report recognised the importance of commercialisation, but also that this must be matched with a commitment to basic research. The Committee also recognised the need for careful risk assessment whenever Government is supporting commercial opportunities.

Government Response

5.12 The Government's response was tabled on 22 June 2004. The Government accepted a number of the Committee's key recommendations including:

- the establishment of a Ministry for Science and Medical Research
- a review of the BioFirst Strategy
- transfer of the Innovation Council to the Ministry for Science and Medical Research (formerly administered by the Department of State and Regional Development)
- development of intellectual property management guidelines
- convening a government taskforce to determine the direction of science and technology in education in NSW
- the creation of a Cooperative Research Centre liaison position within the new Ministry

5.13 Since tabling their response, the Government has commenced organisation of the inaugural NSW Science in Parliament event, expected to be conducted over two days in October 2004.

5.14 A number of other key recommendations are still under consideration. The Committee will endeavour to monitor these and report on any developments in the next financial year.

Port infrastructure in New South Wales

Terms of reference

5.15 That the Standing Committee on State Development inquire into and report on port infrastructure in New South Wales and in particular:

- the NSW Government Ports Growth Plan, including any planned closure of shipping freight facilities in Sydney Harbour,
- the economic, social and environmental impact on the State, including on the proposed Port Botany upgrade,
- the employment implications for Sydney, the Hunter and the Illawarra regions,
- current and future infrastructure needs and social impacts including with respect to the adequacy of existing road and rail infrastructure, and
- the future of public land at Millers Point, Glebe Island and White Bay on which shipping freight operations are currently located.

5.16 Date and source of reference: 21 October 2003, the Hon Michael Costa MLC, Minister for Transport Services, amended 29 October 2003

5.17 Status of inquiry: Ongoing

Reports tabled	Take note debate	Government Response
Port infrastructure in New South Wales interim report (tabled 28 May 2004)	1 June 2004 23 June 2004	Due 26 November 2004

Outcomes/Comments

5.18 The Committee received 98 submissions from a range of individuals, industry groups and community organisations. The NSW Cabinet Office made a submission on behalf of the Government. To date the Committee has heard evidence from 61 witnesses. The Committee also conducted site visits to the four areas at the centre of the Government's Ports Growth Plan: Newcastle, Wollongong, Port Botany and Sydney Harbour.

5.19 The Committee tabled an interim report on 28 May 2004. The report dealt specifically with one particular aspect of the inquiry, the proposed expansion of the Port Botany container terminal owned by Sydney Ports Corporation.

5.20 Much of the interest in the inquiry focused on the proposed expansion of the Port Botany facility. The Committee's decision to table an interim report on the proposed expansion was motivated by its concern that alternative proposals to the Sydney Port Corporation's

Environmental Impact Study and Development Application before an Independent Commission of Inquiry for evaluation, may have less impact on the environment and be more commercially competitive.

- 5.21** The Committee considered that, as the Commission of Inquiry was due to commence its public hearing process on Monday 31 May 2004, it was obliged to alert the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources, the Hon Craig Knowles MP, that the current evaluation process available to the Commissioner may prevent all feasible models for expansion of Port Botany being appropriately evaluated. As a result, the Committee unanimously agreed to table an interim report on Friday 28 May 2004, which recommended the Minister ensure that any expansion of the Port Botany terminal facilities is only undertaken after the identification and rigorous evaluation of all viable alternatives, including the Sydney Ports Corporation proposal.
- 5.22** On 31 May 2004, the Hon Craig Knowles MP advised the Commissioner to expand the Commission of Inquiry's terms of reference to reflect the Committee's single recommendation in its interim report. The Commission of Inquiry issued a public notice on 31 May 2004 announcing that the public hearings for the Commission of Inquiry would be postponed to a later date in order to allow public submissions and evidence to respond to the new terms of reference.

Previous committee reports

Report no.	Title	Date tabled
Discussion Paper 1	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: A Survey	May 1989
1	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: Supply of Goods and Services	August 1989
2	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: Local Government Tendering & Contracting	October 1989
Discussion Paper 2	Coastal Development in New South Wales: Public Concerns & Government Processes	November 1989
Discussion Paper 3	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: Capital Works Tendering & Contracting: Management Options	June 1990
3	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: Capital Works Tendering & Contracting. Volume A	April 1991
4	Coastal Planning & Management in New South Wales: A Framework for the Future. Volume 1	September 1991
Supplement to 4	An Alternative Dispute Resolution Primer	September 1991
5	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: Capital Works Tendering & Contracting. Volume B	December 1991
6	Payroll Tax Concessions for Country Industries. Volume I	December 1991
7	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: Supply of Goods and Services: Follow Up Report	June 1992
8	Coastal Planning & Management in New South Wales: The Process for the Future. Volume II	October 1992
9	Public Sector Tendering & Contracting in New South Wales: Local Government Tendering & Contracting: Follow Up Report	April 1993
Discussion Paper 4	Regional Business Development in New South Wales: Trends, Policies and Issues.	August 1993
10	Regional Business Development in New South Wales: Achieving Sustainable Growth: Principles for Setting Policy. Volume I	May 1994
11	Regional Business Development in New South Wales: Achieving Sustainable Growth: Initiatives for Setting Policy. Volume II	November 1994
12	Rationales for Closing the Veterinary Laboratories At Armidale and Wagga Wagga and the Rydalmere Biological and Chemical Research Institute	August 1996
13	Factors Influencing the Relocation of Regional Headquarters of Australian and Overseas Corporations to New South Wales	October 1996
14	Interim Report on the Fisheries Management Amendment (Advisory Bodies) Act 1996	April 1997
15	Waste Minimisation and Management	April 1997

16	The Fisheries Management Amendment (Advisory Bodies) Act 1996	July 1997
Discussion Paper 5	Future Employment and Business Opportunities in the Hunter Region	October 1997
17	Fisheries Management and Resource Allocation in New South Wales	November 1997
18	Operations of the Sydney Market Authority (Dissolution) Bill from Commencement until 31 December 1997	March 1998
Discussion Paper 6	International Competitiveness of Agriculture in New South Wales	May 1998
19	Future Employment and Business Opportunities in the Hunter Region; and The Downsizing of the Rack Rite Investment Proposal	July 1998
20	Interim Report on the Provision and Operation of Rural and Regional Air Services in New South Wales	September 1998
21A	The Use and Management of Pesticides in New South Wales Vol 1	September 1999
21B	The Use and Management of Pesticides in New South Wales Vol 2: Transcripts of Evidence	September 1999
22	Inquiry into Road Maintenance and Competitive Road Maintenance Tendering	November 2000
23	Merger of Country Energy Distributors	May 2001
24	Genetically Modified Foods: Interim Report (Issues Paper)	October 2001
25	Redevelopment and Remediation of the Rhodes Peninsula	June 2002
26	European and United Kingdom perspectives on agriculture, genetically modified food and rural development	September 2002
27	Local government boundaries in Inner Sydney and the Eastern Suburbs	December 2002
28	Science and its Commercialisation in New South Wales Final Report	December 2003
29	Port Infrastructure in New South Wales Interim Report	May 2004

Chapter 6 General Purpose Standing Committees

How to contact the Committees

Members of the General Purpose Standing Committees can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

The Director

General Purpose Standing Committees

Legislative Council

Parliament House, Macquarie Street

Sydney New South Wales 2000

Internet

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www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2

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Telephone 61-2-9230 3544

Facsimile 61-2-9230 3416

Statistical summary for General Purpose Standing Committee Nos 1 to 5

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	13	20
Reports tabled	14	10
Recommendations	99	76
Meetings	31	109
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	116	834
Number of hearings	7	66
Location - Sydney	7	58
- other metropolitan areas	-	-
- regional NSW	-	8
Total duration	31 hrs 30 mins	194 hrs 31 mins
Number of witnesses	55	595
Participants in other forms of consultations		
Public forums	-	-
Site visits	2	19
Briefing	1	-
Signatories to petitions	-	4,460
Total participants	172	5,908

Members' attendance records

- 6.1 See Appendix 1. Unlike other Standing Committees, Members of General Purpose Standing Committees may be substituted according to the provisions of the resolution establishing the General Purpose Standing Committees.

General Purpose Standing Committee No 1 at a glance

Committee membership

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)
Hon Peter Primrose MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)
Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Robyn Parker MLC Liberal Party of Australia ²²
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens
Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC Australian Labor Party ²³
Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party ²⁴

Current references

- 6.2**
1. Budget Estimates 2003-2004
(Reference from the House, 03 July 2003)
 2. Serious injury and death in the workplace
(Reference from the House, 19 November 2003)
 3. Workers Compensation Fraud
(Self-referred, 1 December 2003)
 4. 2004 Mini Budget
(Reference from the House, 05 May 2004)
 5. Budget Estimates 2004-2005
(Reference from the House, 23 June 2004)

Statistical summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	3	5
Reports tabled	4	3
Recommendations	34	36
Conclusions	33	0
Meetings	6	27
Public consultation		

²² Ms Parker replaced Mr Harwin, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p925

²³ Mr Roozendaal replaced Mr Burke, resigned. *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p925

²⁴ Mr West replaced Ms Burnswoods, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p 925

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Number of submissions received	18	59
Number of hearings	1	14
Location - Sydney	1	14
Total duration	5 hrs	54 hrs 10 mins
Number of witnesses	7	116
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Public forums	-	-
Site visits	-	-
Briefings	1	-
Signatories to petitions	-	4,000
Total participants	26	4,175

Members' attendance records

Members	Meetings attended
BURKE, Tony	14
BURNSWOODS, Jan	22
CATANZARITI, Tony	1
CLARKE, David	15
CUSACK, Catherine *	18
FAZIO, Amanda	1
FORSYTHE, Patricia	2
GALLACHER, Michael	2
GARDINER, Jenny	1
GAY, Duncan	1
GRIFFIN, Kayee	12
HARWIN, Don	4
NILE, Fred *	27
PAVEY, Melinda	1
PEARCE, Greg	7
PRIMROSE, Peter *	21
RHIANNON, Lee *	26
RYAN, John	1
TSANG, Henry	5
WEST, Ian *	5

* *Substantive Members*

Inquiries

Budget Estimates 2003-2004

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)

Hon Peter Primrose MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)

Hon Tony Burke MLC Australian Labor Party

Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Don Harwin MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens

Terms of reference

- 6.3**
1. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2003-2004 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.
 2. That the Committees consider the Budget Estimates in accordance with the allocation of portfolios to the Committees.
 3. For the purposes of this inquiry any Member of the House may attend a meeting of a Committee in relation to the Budget Estimates and question witnesses, participate in the deliberations of the Committee at such meeting and make a dissenting statement relating to the Budget Estimates, but may not vote or be counted for the purpose of any quorum.
 4. The Committees must hear evidence on the Budget Estimates in public.
 5. Not more than 3 Committees are to hear evidence on the Budget Estimates simultaneously.
 6. When a Committee hears evidence on the Budget Estimates, the Chair is to call on items of expenditure in the order decided on and declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.
 7. The Committees may ask for explanations from Ministers in the House, or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
 8. The report of a Committee on the Budget Estimates may propose the further consideration of any items.

9. That a daily Hansard record of the hearings of a Committee on the Budget Estimates be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
10. The Committees have leave to sit during the sittings or any adjournment of the House.
11. That initial hearings of the Committees be according to a schedule prepared and circulated by the Leader of the Government.
12. The Committees may hold supplementary hearings as required.
13. The Committees present a final report to the House by Thursday 20 November 2003.

6.4 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 3 July 2003.

6.5 Status of inquiry: Completed

6.6 Report tabled: Budget Estimates 2003-2004, tabled 4 December 2003

6.7 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Public consultation	
Number of meetings	9
Number of hearings	7
Location - Sydney	7
Total duration	18 hrs 10 mins
Number of witnesses	43
Total participants	43

Outcomes/comments

6.8 The Committee examined the budget estimates and related documents for the following government portfolios:

- Premier, Arts and Citizenship
- Treasury and State Development
- Special Minister of State, Commerce and Industrial Relations
- Education and Training
- The Legislature

6.9 Budget estimates reports are published as a guide to transcripts of hearing. Answers received to questions on notice are put on the Committee's web page accessible via the Parliament's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.

6.10 The Committee's report was debated in the House on 3 December 2003, 25 February 2004 and 17 March 2004.

Serious injury and death in the workplace

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)
Hon Peter Primrose MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Clarke MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens

Terms of reference

- 6.11** 1. That General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1 inquire into and report on serious injury and death in the workplace, and in particular:
- (a) the operation of WorkCover's prosecution branch including the cases of:
 - (i) Anthony Hampson—Gosford High School, June 2001,
 - (ii) Dean McGoldrick—death while working for Advance Roofing, February 2000,
 - (b) the role and performance of WorkCover in liaising with victims and families,
 - (c) the method and monitoring of payment of penalties where an employer has been convicted of an offence relating to a serious accident or death,
 - (d) compliance by WorkCover with its statutory requirements relating to serious injury and death in the workplace,
 - (e) comparison of the operation of WorkCover in relation to the management of serious injury and death in the workplace in other jurisdictions in Australia.
2. That the Committee report by 6 May 2004.

6.12 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 19 November 2003.

6.13 Status of inquiry: Completed

Reports tabled	Government Response
Serious injury and death in the workplace (tabled 17 May 2004)	Due 17 November 2004

6.14 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	1
Recommendations	36
Meetings	13
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	59
Number of hearings	5
Location - Sydney	5
Total duration	32 hrs
Number of witnesses	57
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Petitions	4,000
Total participants	4,116

Outcomes/comments

- 6.15** The Committee's key recommendation in its report was for the introduction of new manslaughter laws under the *Crimes Act 1900* (NSW) to increase the responsibility of employers and corporations for ensuring the health and safety of their workers. The Committee also made a number of other recommendations in relation to the role and performance of WorkCover, the lead agency with responsibility for preventing and managing serious injuries and fatalities in the workplace in NSW. In particular, the Committee made a number of recommendations in relation to WorkCover's procedures for liaising with the victims and families of victims of workplace accidents.
- 6.16** The Government is due to respond to the Committee's report by 11 November 2004. However, in a press release on 17 May 2004, the day of the report's tabling, the Minister for Industrial Relations, the Hon John Della Bosca MLC, welcomed many of the recommendations of the Committee, and noted that the Government is already moving to implement many of them. In particular, the Committee notes that WorkCover is in the process of reforming its procedures for liaising with the victims and families of victims of workplace accidents.
- 6.17** In relation to the issue of industrial manslaughter, Mr Della Bosca released on 28 June 2004 the *Report into Workplace Death, Occupational Health and Safety Legislation and Other Matters in NSW*, prepared by a panel of experts in occupational health and safety and industrial law. In its report, the expert panel opposed the introduction of industrial manslaughter laws in the *Crimes Act 1900* (NSW), but supported the introduction of an additional offence specifically relating to workplace fatalities in the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000* (NSW).

- 6.18** The Minister has further advised that he intends to take a recommendation on the issue of industrial manslaughter to Cabinet later in 2004 following further consultation with unions and employers.

Workers compensation fraud

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)

Hon Peter Primrose MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)

Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Robyn Parker MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens

Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

6.19 That, in relation to the inquiry into the NSW Workers' Compensation Scheme undertaken in the previous Parliament, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1 inquire into and report on the implementation of its recommendations and conclusions and any developments in workers compensation in New South Wales since the Committee's final report in September 2002 and in particular:

- (a) the extent to which the McKinsey & Company's Scheme Design Review commissioned by WorkCover New South Wales addressed the Committee's evidence, conclusions and recommendations, and
- (b) the incidence of fraud in workers' compensation both in relation to fraudulent practices by employers and fraudulent and exaggerated claims by employees, including:
 - (i) the priority and resources given to fraud investigation by WorkCover New South Wales,
 - (ii) the methods of investigating and prosecuting fraud,
 - (iii) the methods used to combat fraud and their effectiveness,
 - (iv) the cost of fraud to the NSW workers' compensation scheme,
 - (v) methods used in other jurisdictions to combat fraud.

6.20 Date and source of reference: Self-referred, 1 December 2003.

6.21 Status of inquiry: Not yet commenced.

2004 Mini Budget

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)
Hon Tony Burke MLC Australian Labor Party
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Greg Pearce MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens
Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

- 6.22**
1. That the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1 inquire into and report on the 2004 Mini Budget.
 2. That the Committee:
 - (a) must hear evidence on the Mini Budget in public,
 - (b) may ask for explanations from the Treasurer or officers of the Treasury relating to the items of proposed expenditure outlined in the Mini Budget,
 - (c) have leave to sit during the sittings or any adjournment of the House.
 3. That the Committee report to the House by Thursday 3 June 2004.

6.23 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 5 May 2004.

6.24 Status of inquiry: Completed

Reports tabled	Government Response
2004 Mini Budget (tabled 03 June 2004)	n/a

6.25 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	1
Recommendations	-

	2003-2004
Meetings	4
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	-
Number of hearings	2
Location - Sydney	2
Total duration	4 hrs
Number of witnesses	16
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Public forums	-
Total participants	16

Outcomes/comments

- 6.26** This Committee undertook this inquiry into the 2004 Mini Budget, delivered by the NSW Treasurer, the Hon Michael Egan MLC on 6 April 2004, because it fell outside the normal estimates process for parliamentary review of Government Budgets.
- 6.27** During the inquiry, the Committee examined the 2004 Mini Budget, with particular reference to:
- The NSW Government's fiscal position and outlook
 - The development of the proposed tax changes and their impact
 - The effects of some of the proposed savings measures.
- 6.28** The Committee's report highlighted the issues of contention raised by the 2004 Mini Budget, but in line with the usual estimates process, made no specific finding or recommendations.

Budget Estimates 2004-2005

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)

Hon Peter Primrose MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)

Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Robyn Parker MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens

Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

- 6.29**
1. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2004-2005 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.
 2. That the Committees consider the Budget Estimates in accordance with the allocation of portfolios to the Committees.
 3. For the purposes of this inquiry any member of the House may attend a meeting of a committee in relation to the Budget Estimates and question witnesses, participate in the deliberations of the Committee at such meeting and make a dissenting statement relating to the Budget Estimates, but may not vote or be counted for the purpose of any quorum.
 4. The committees must hear evidence on the Budget Estimates in public.
 5. Not more than 2 committees are to hear evidence on the Budget Estimates simultaneously.
 6. When a committee hears evidence on the Budget Estimates, the Chair is to call on items of expenditure in the order decided on and declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.
 7. The committees may ask for explanations from Ministers in the House, or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
 8. The report of a committee on the Budget Estimates may propose the further consideration of any items.
 9. That a daily Hansard record of the hearings of a committee on the Budget Estimates be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.

10. That the Leader of the Government is to provide to each Committee, by 6 July 2004, a schedule outlining the attendance of relevant ministers to appear before each committee, for the Committee's consideration.
11. The committees may hold supplementary hearings as required.
12. The committees present a final report to the House by the last sitting day of the second sitting week in 2005.

6.30 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 23 June 2004.

6.31 Status of inquiry: Not yet commenced.

General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 at a glance

Committee Membership

Revd Hon Dr Gordon Moyes MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)
Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC Liberal Party of Australia (Deputy Chair)
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC Australian Democrats
Hon Melinda Pavey MLC The Nationals ²⁵
Hon Christine Robertson MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Current references

- 6.32**
1. Budget Estimates 2003-2004
(Reference from the House, 3 July 2003)
 2. Serious injury and death in the workplace
(Reference from the House, 19 November 2003)
 3. Workers Compensation Fraud
(Self-referred, 1 December 2003)
 4. 2004 Mini Budget
(Reference from the House, 5 May 2004)
 5. Budget Estimates 2004-2005
(Reference from the House, 23 June 2004)

Statistical summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	2	3
Reports tabled	2	2
Recommendations	5	19
Meetings	4	24
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	-	71
Number of hearings	1	15

²⁵ Mrs Pavey replaced Ms Parker, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p 925

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Location - Sydney	1	15
Total duration	3 hrs	39 hrs 20 mins
Number of witnesses	11	146
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Public forums	-	-
Site visits	-	-
Total participants	11	217

Members' attendance records

Members	Meetings attended
CATANZARITI, Tony *	8
CHESTERFIELD-EVANS, Arthur *	24
CLARKE, David	1
CUSACK, Catherine	2
FAZIO, Amanda	16
FORSYTHE, Patricia *	21
GALLACHER, Michael	1
GAY, Duncan	1
LYNN, Charlie	3
MOYES, Gordon *	24
PARKER, Robyn	21
PRIMROSE, Peter	19
ROBERTSON, Christine *	23
RYAN, John	5
TSANG, Henry *	7
WEST, Ian	1

* *Substantive Members*

Inquiries

Budget Estimates 2003-2004

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Dr Gordon Moyes MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)
Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC Liberal Party of Australia (Deputy Chair)
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC Australian Democrats
Hon Robyn Parker MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Christine Robertson MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

6.33 Refer to paragraph 6.3

6.34 **Date and source of reference:** Reference from the House, 3 July 2003.

6.35 **Status of inquiry:** Completed

6.36 **Report tabled:** Budget Estimates 2003-2004, tabled 4 December 2003

6.37 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Public consultation	
Number of meetings	7
Number of hearings	7
Location - Sydney	7
Total duration	18 hrs 40 mins
Number of witnesses	76
Total participants	76

Outcomes/comments

- 6.38** The Committee examined the budget estimates and related documents for the following government portfolios:
- Community Services, Ageing, Disability and Youth
 - Health
 - Tourism, Sport and Recreation and Women
 - Gaming and Racing.
- 6.39** Budget estimates reports are published as a guide to transcripts of hearing. Answers received to questions on notice are put on the Committee's web page accessible via the Parliament's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.
- 6.40** The Committee's report was debated in the House on 4 December 2003, 17 March 2004 and 31 March 2004.

Complaints handling within NSW Health

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Dr Gordon Moyes MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)
Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC Liberal Party of Australia (Deputy Chair)
Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC Australian Democrats
Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Robyn Parker MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Peter Primrose MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Christine Robertson MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

- 6.41** That General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 inquire into and report upon the complaints handling procedures within NSW Health, and in particular:
- the culture of learning and the willingness to share information about errors and the failure of systems, and
 - an assessment of whether the system encourages open and active discussion and improvement in clinical care.

6.42 **Date and source of reference:** Self-referred 15 December 2003.

6.43 **Status of inquiry** Completed

Reports tabled	Government Response
Complaints handling within NSW Health (tabled 24 June 2004)	Due 24 December 2004

6.44 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	1
Recommendations	19
Meetings	15
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	71
Number of hearings	8

	2003-2004
Location - Sydney	8
- other metropolitan areas	-
Total duration	20 hrs 40 mins
Number of witnesses	70
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Public forums	-
Total participants	141

Outcomes/comments

- 6.45** There was a high level of public and media interest in the inquiry, with a large range of high-profile stakeholders actively involved in the inquiry process.
- 6.46** Although the Government has until 24 December 2004 to respond to the report, Health Minister the Hon Morris Iemma MP has indicated support for the majority of the Committee's recommendations²⁶.
- 6.47** The Committee has resolved to review implementation of the recommendations in June 2005.

²⁶ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 25 June 2004

Budget Estimates 2004-2005

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Revd Hon Dr Gordon Moyes MLC Christian Democratic Party (Chair)

Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC Liberal Party of Australia (Deputy Chair)

Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC Australian Democrats

Hon Melinda Pavey MLC The Nationals

Hon Christine Robertson MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

6.48 Refer to paragraph 6.29

6.49 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 23 June 2004.

6.50 Status of inquiry Not yet commenced.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 at a glance

Committee Membership

Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party (Chair)
Hon Greg Pearce MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)
Hon Peter Breen MLC Independent
Hon Charlie Lynn MLC Liberal Party of Australia ²⁷
Hon Eddie Obeid MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon John Tingle MLC Shooters Party
Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party

Current references

- 6.51**
1. Budget Estimates 2003-2004
(Reference from the House, 03 July 2003)
 2. Budget Estimates 2004-2005
(Reference from the House, 23 June 2004)

Statistical summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	3	2
Reports tabled	3	1
Recommendations	23	-
Meetings	7	10
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	-	-
Number of hearings	2	6
Location - Sydney	2	6
Total duration	5 hrs	17 hrs 20 mins
Number of witnesses	5	39

²⁷ Mr Lynn replaced Mrs Pavey, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p 925.

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Public forums	-	-
Total participants	5	39

Members' attendance records

Members	Meetings attended
BREEN, Peter *	8
BURKE, Tony	1
BURNSWOODS, Jan	1
CATANZARITI, Tony	1
CLARKE, David	3
CUSACK, Catherine	3
FAZIO, Amanda *	10
GALLACHER, Michael	1
GRIFFIN, Kayee	1
OBEID, Eddie *	1
PAVEY, Melinda	6
PEARCE, Greg *	7
PRIMROSE, Peter	3
ROBERTSON, Christine	3
RYAN, John	4
TINGLE, John *	6
WEST, Ian *	8

* *Substantive Members*

Inquiries

Budget Estimates 2003-2004

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party (Chair)
Hon Greg Pearce MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)
Hon Peter Breen MLC Independent
Hon Eddie Obeid MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Melinda Pavey MLC The Nationals
Hon John Tingle MLC Shooters Party
Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

6.52 Refer to paragraph 6.3.

6.53 **Date and source of reference:** Reference from the House, 3 July 2003.

6.54 **Status of inquiry:** Completed

Reports tabled	Government Response
Budget Estimates 2003-2004 (tabled 4 December 2004)	

6.55 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Public consultation	
Number of meetings	10
Number of hearings	6
Location - Sydney	6
Total duration	17 hrs 21 mins
Number of witnesses	39
Total participants	39

Outcomes/comments

- 6.56** The Committee examined the budget estimates and related documents for the following government portfolios:
- Police
 - Juvenile Justice and Western Sydney
 - Justice
 - Attorney General
 - Fair Trading
- 6.57** Budget estimates reports are published as a guide to transcripts of hearing. Answers received to questions on notice are put on the Committee's web page accessible via the Parliament's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.
- 6.58** The Committee's report was debated on 4 December 2003 and 25 February 2004.
- 6.59** Following concerns raised by the Committee during the Estimates hearings, the Police Firearms Registry received a significant increase in funding of approximately \$2 million.²⁸

²⁸ Hon Greg Pearce MLC, Legislative Council, New South Wales, *Hansard*, 25 February 2004, p6507

Budget Estimates 2004-2005

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party (Chair)
Hon Greg Pearce MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)
Hon Peter Breen MLC Independent
Hon Charlie Lynn MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Eddie Obeid MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon John Tingle MLC Shooters Party
Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

- 6.60** Refer to paragraph 6.29.
- 6.61** **Date and source of reference:** Reference from the House, 23 June 2004.
- 6.62** **Status of inquiry:** Not yet commenced.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4 at a glance

Committee Membership

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC National Party of Australia (Chair)
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens (Deputy Chair)
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Clarke MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Oldfield MLC One Nation
Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC Australian Labor Party ²⁹

Current references

- 6.63**
1. Budget Estimates 2003-2004
(Reference from the House, 03 July 2003)
 2. Aspects of Transport Safety and Reliability Bill
(Reference from the House, 30 October 2003)
 3. Management of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
(Self-referred, 2 April 2004)
 4. Closure of the Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Service
(Self-referred, 11 May 2004)
 5. Budget Estimates 2004-2005
(Reference from the House, 23 June 2004)

Statistical summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	1	5
Reports tabled	1	2
Recommendations	-	-
Meetings	4	32
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	-	378
Number of hearings	1	16

²⁹ Mr Roozendaal replaced Mr Catanzariti, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p 925

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Location - Sydney	1	13
- regional NSW	-	3
Total duration	1 hr 30 mins	37 hrs 34 mins
Number of witnesses	2	131
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Petitions		460
Total participants in inquiries	2	969

Members' attendance records

Members	Meetings attended
BREEN, Peter	3
BURKE, Tony	4
BURNSWOODS, Jan *	27
CATANZARITI, Tony	10
CHESTERFIELD-EVANS, Arthur	1
CLARKE, David *	15
COHEN, Ian	1
CUSACK, Catherine	7
FAZIO, Amanda	4
FORSYTHE, Patricia	1
GALLACHER, Michael	5
GARDINER, Jenny *	32
GRIFFIN, Kayee *	28
HALE, Sylvia *	26
HARWIN, Don	1
OLDFIELD, David *	25
PARKER, Robyn	2
PEARCE, Greg	2
PRIMROSE, Peter	7
RHIANNON, Lee	6
ROBERTSON, Christine	1
TSANG, Henry	4
WEST, Ian	1

* *Substantive Members*

Inquiries

Budget Estimates 2003-2004

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC National Party of Australia (Chair)
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens (Deputy Chair)
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Clarke MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Oldfield MLC One Nation

Terms of reference

- 6.64** Refer to paragraph 6.3.
- 6.65** **Date and source of reference:** Reference from the House, 3 June 2003.
- 6.66** **Status of inquiry:** Completed
- 6.67** **Report tabled:** Budget Estimates 2003-2004, tabled 31 March 2004
- 6.68** **Statistical summary**

	2003-2004
Public consultation	
Number of meetings	15
Number of hearings	10
Location - Sydney	10
Total duration	10 hrs 47 mins
Number of witnesses	72
Total participants	72

Outcomes/comments

- 6.69** The Committee examined the budget estimates and related documents for the following government portfolios:
- Transport services and the Hunter
 - Energy and Utilities, Science and Medical Research
 - Roads and Housing
 - Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources.
- 6.70** Budget estimates reports are published as a guide to transcripts of hearing. Answers received to questions on notice are put on the Committee's web page accessible via the Parliament's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.
- 6.71** The Committee's report was debated on 31 March 2004, 12 May 2004 and 2 June 2004.
- 6.72** During a supplementary hearing on Sydney Water on 18 February 2004 concerns about the use of consultancies in Sydney Water was explored by the Committee. Following this, a call for papers for Internal Audit Bureau documents was made by the House on 25 February 2004. On the same day Sydney Water Corporation's Managing Director, Mr Greg Robinson was dismissed from Sydney Water.
- 6.73** The attendance by the manager of Sydney Ferries, Mr B Watson, was requested at a supplementary hearing on Friday 26 March 2004 at which the Committee sought to examine consultancy issues relating to Sydney Ferries. Mr Watson was formally removed from his position as General Manager and from the NSW Public Service on Thursday 25 March 2004.

Aspects of Transport Safety and Reliability Bill

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC The Nationals (Chair)
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Clarke MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Oldfield MLC One Nation NSW Political Party
Hon Peter Primrose MLC Australian Labor Party
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC The Greens

Terms of reference

- 6.74** 1. That, notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4 be empowered to take evidence from Mr Kent Donaldson, Executive Director of the Transport Safety and Rail Safety Regulator, and Mr Ron Christie, only in relation to the clauses of the Transport Legislation Amendment (Safety and Reliability) Bill.
2. That the Committee report by 10 November 2003.

6.75 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 30 October 2003

6.76 Status of inquiry: Completed

Report tabled	Government Response
Inquiry into aspects of the Transport Safety and Reliability Bill (tabled 10 November 2003)	n/a

6.77 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	1
Recommendations	0
Meetings	2
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	0
Number of hearings	1

	2003-2004
Location - Sydney	1
Total duration	4 hrs 2 mins
Number of witnesses	2
Total participants	2

Outcomes/comments

- 6.78** The inquiry was held to assist the Legislative Council in its consideration of the Transport Safety and Reliability Bill. The report was tabled out of session on 10 November, the day prior to the resumption of the House sitting. This Bill was passed by the Legislative Council on 11 November, with the report of General Purpose Standing Committee No 4 referred to by members during the debate on the Bill.

Management of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC National Party of Australia (Chair)
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens (Deputy Chair)
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Clarke MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Oldfield MLC One Nation

Terms of reference

- 6.79** That General Purpose Standing Committee No 4 inquire into and report on the management of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, and in particular:
- (a) the role of the Chairman, past and present Chief Executive Officers, the SHFA Board, and other executive officers in the management of land development issues under its control,
 - (b) lines of communication and accountability between the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority and relevant Councils, the Premier and any other Ministers or their staff and advisors,
 - (c) potential conflicts of interest in the Sydney Harbour Foreshore's commercial relationships,
 - (d) the process by which the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority acquired enhanced consent powers, and the role of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority as a consent authority for land that it administers,
 - (e) the role of the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority following the sacking of the City of Sydney and the South Sydney Councils, and the conduct of the Multidimensional Study of the Pyrmont Point site,
 - (f) the transparency of planning assessment methods and processes employed by the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority,
 - (g) any other relevant matters.
- 6.80** **Date and source of reference:** Self-referred, 2 April 2004
- 6.81** **Status of inquiry:** Ongoing

6.82 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	-
Recommendations	-
Meetings	1
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	116
Number of hearings	-
Location - Sydney	-
Total duration	-
Number of witnesses	-
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Petitions	460
Total participants	576

Closure of the Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Service

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC National Party of Australia (Chair)
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens (Deputy Chair)
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Catherine Cusack MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Oldfield MLC One Nation

Terms of reference

- 6.83** That General Purpose Standing Committee No 4 inquire into and report on:
- the decision by the State Government to replace the daily Casino to Murwillumbah XPT service with a coach service, including the accuracy of the Government's claims it will save \$5 million per year,
 - the economic and social impact on North Coast communities of the loss of the daily XPT service between Casino and Murwillumbah, in particular the impact of the loss of jobs within CountryLink and other State Government departments and agencies and the closure of local train stations and Travel Centres,
 - the future of the rail line between Casino and Murwillumbah, including, but not limited to, the present condition of the line, recent and future maintenance programs, options for and the financial impact of future development of the line and the possible extension of the line to the Queensland border,
 - any other matters arising from the Government's decision to terminate the rail services.

6.84 Date and source of reference: Self-referred, 11 May 2004

6.85 Status of inquiry: Current

6.86 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	-
Recommendations	-
Meetings	8

	2003-2004
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	262
Number of hearings	6
Location - Sydney	3
- regional NSW	3
Total duration	22h 45m
Number of witnesses	57
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Public forums	-
Total participants	319

Budget Estimates 2004-2005

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC National Party of Australia (Chair)
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens (Deputy Chair)
Ms Jan Burnswoods MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Clarke MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon David Oldfield MLC One Nation
Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC Australian Labor Party ³⁰

Terms of reference

- 6.87** Refer to paragraph 6.29.
- 6.88** **Date and source of reference:** Reference from the House, 23 June 2004.
- 6.89** **Status of inquiry:** Not yet commenced.

³⁰ Mr Roozendaal replaced Mr Catanzariti, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p 925

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 at a glance

Committee Membership

Mr Ian Cohen MLC The Greens (Chair)
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party ³¹
Hon Rick Colless MLC National Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens
Hon Don Harwin MLC Liberal Party of Australia ³²
Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Current references

- 6.90**
1. Budget Estimates 2003-2004
(Reference from the House, 3 July 2003)
 2. Local Government Amalgamations in New South Wales
(Self-referred, 1 September 2003)
 3. Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture
(Reference from the House, 5 May 2004)
 4. Hunter Economic Zone and the Tomalpin Woodlands
(Self-referred, 11 May 2004)
 5. Budget Estimates 2004-2005
(Reference from the House, 23 June 2004)

Statistical summary

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Inquiries	4	5
Reports tabled	4	2
Recommendations	37	21
Meetings	10	25
Public consultation		
Number of submissions received	98	326

³¹ Mr Catanzariti replaced Mr West, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p 925

³² Mr Harwin replaced Mr Lynn, *Minutes of Proceedings No. 64, item 10*, 29 June 2004, p 925

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Number of hearings	2	15
Location - Sydney	2	10
- regional NSW	-	5
Total duration	20 hrs	46 hrs
Number of witnesses	30	163
Participants in other forms of consultation		
Public forums	-	-
Site visits	1	-
Briefings	-	-
Total participants in inquiries	128	489

Members' attendance records

Members	Meetings attended
BURKE, Tony	1
CATANZARITI, Tony *	4
COHEN, Ian *	25
COLLESS, Rick *	21
FAZIO, Amanda	6
GAY, Duncan	3
GRIFFIN, Kayee *	19
HALE, Sylvia *	21
HARWIN, Don *	2
LYNN, Charlie	15
PARKER, Robyn	3
PAVEY, Melinda	2
PEARCE, Greg	2
PRIMROSE, Peter	1
ROBERTSON, Christine	2
TSANG, Henry *	14
WEST, Ian	23

* *Substantive Members*

Inquiries

Budget Estimates 2003-2004

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Mr Ian Cohen MLC The Greens (Chair)
Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)
Hon Rick Colless MLC National Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens
Hon Charlie Lynn MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

- 6.91 Refer to paragraph 6.3.
- 6.92 **Date and source of reference:** Reference from the House, 03 June 2003.
- 6.93 **Status of inquiry:** Completed
- 6.94 **Report tabled:** Budget Estimates 2003-2004, tabled 11 March 2004
- 6.95 **Statistical summary**

	2002-2003	2003-2004
Public consultation		
Number of meetings		11
Number of hearings		7
Location - Sydney		7
Total duration		11hours
Number of witnesses		33
Total participants		33

Outcomes/comments

- 6.96** The Committee examined the budget estimates and related documents for the following government portfolios:
- Rural Affairs, Local Government and Emergency Services
 - Environment
 - Agriculture and Fisheries
 - Regional Development, Illawarra and Small Business
 - Mineral Resources.
- 6.97** Budget estimates reports are published as a guide to transcripts of hearing. Answers received to questions on notice are put on the Committee's web page accessible via the Parliament's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.
- 6.98** The Committee's report was debated on 11 March 2004 and 12 May 2004.

Local Government Amalgamations in New South Wales

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Mr Ian Cohen MLC The Greens (Chair)
Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)
Hon Rick Colless MLC National Party of Australia
Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens
Hon Charlie Lynn MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

6.99 That General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 inquire into and report on the social, political and economic impact of amalgamations on local government in NSW, and in particular:

- (a) The adequacy of current funding arrangements for local government,
- (b) The effect of unfunded mandates on councils,
- (c) The local community's expectations of service provision by local government,
- (d) The optimum organisational structure to efficiently deliver better local government,
- (e) The criteria by which amalgamations, boundary changes or major reorganisation of council areas should be decided,
- (f) The methods by which any such changes should be implemented,
- (g) The role that state government should play in any changes,
- (h) The views of residents and ratepayers on amalgamation,
- (i) The financial implications of amalgamations for financial assistance grants,
- (j) Any other relevant issues.

6.100 Date and source of reference: Self-referred, 1 September 2003.

6.101 Status of inquiry: Completed

Reports tabled	Government Response
Local Government Amalgamations (tabled 16 December 2004)	Received 22 June 2004

6.102 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	1
Recommendations	21
Meetings	9
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	227
Number of hearings	6
Location - Sydney	3
- regional NSW	3
Total duration	
Number of witnesses	86
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Public forums	-
Total participants	313

Outcomes/comments

- 6.103** There was considerable public interest in this inquiry, especially in rural and regional areas where several amalgamations had been proposed.
- 6.104** The Government response to the inquiry recommendations indicated minimal support for the Committee's recommendations and several amalgamations have occurred since the release of the report.

Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Mr Ian Cohen MLC The Greens (Chair)

Hon Ian West MLC Australian Labor Party (Deputy Chair)

Hon Rick Colless MLC National Party of Australia

Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party

Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens

Hon Charlie Lynn MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

- 6.105** 1. That General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 inquire into and report on the closure of residential training at the Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture and in particular:
- (a) the process by which the decision was made to close the residential training,
 - (b) the community and industry consultation that preceded the announcement of the proposal,
 - (c) the impact on the Leeton and Yanco communities and district, and
 - (d) the reasons why Murrumbidgee and Tocal Colleges have not been transferred to the Department of Education and Training.
2. That the Committee report by Thursday 23 September 2004.

6.106 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 5 May 2004.

6.107 Status of inquiry: Current

6.108 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	-
Recommendations	-
Meetings	3
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	38
Number of hearings	2

	2003-2004
Location - Sydney	1
- regional NSW	1
Total duration	12h 30min
Number of witnesses	23
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Public forums	-
Total participants	61

Hunter Economic Zone and the Tomalpin Woodlands

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Mr Ian Cohen MLC The Greens (Chair)
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party
Hon Rick Colless MLC National Party of Australia
Hon Amanda Fazio MLC Australian Labor Party
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens
Hon Robyn Parker MLC Liberal Party of Australia
Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

6.109 That the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 inquire into and report on the environmental assessment process associated with the Tomalpin woodlands and the Hunter Economic Zone industrial development, and in particular:

- (a) the actions of the Director General and other senior officers of the NSW Premier's Department with particular reference to correspondence and interaction between the Premier's Department and the Parks Services Division of the Department of Environment and Conservation (formerly the National Parks and Wildlife Service) in the process; and
- (b) the role of the Parks Services Division of the Department of Environment and Conservation (formerly the National Parks and Wildlife Service) in the process.

6.110 Date and source of reference: Self-referred, 11 May 2004.

6.111 Status of inquiry Current

6.112 Statistical summary

	2003-2004
Inquiries	
Reports tabled	-
Recommendations	-
Meetings	7
Public consultation	
Number of submissions received	61
Number of hearings	2

	2003-2004
Location - Sydney	1
- regional NSW	1
Total duration	11h 30min
Number of witnesses	21
Participants in other forms of consultation	
Site visit	19
Total participants	101

Budget Estimates 2004-2005

Members for the duration of this inquiry

Mr Ian Cohen MLC The Greens (Chair)

Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC Australian Labor Party

Hon Rick Colless MLC National Party of Australia

Hon Kayee Griffin MLC Australian Labor Party

Ms Sylvia Hale MLC The Greens

Hon Don Harwin MLC Liberal Party of Australia

Hon Henry Tsang MLC Australian Labor Party

Terms of reference

6.113 Refer to paragraph 6.29.

6.114 Date and source of reference: Reference from the House, 23 June 2004.

6.115 Status of inquiry: Not yet commenced.

Appendix 1 Committee Attendance

Committee attendance during the 53rd Parliament until 30 June 2004

	Law & Justice	Social Issues	State Development	Privilege & Ethics	GPSC No. 1	GPSC No. 2	GPSC No. 3	GPSC No. 4	GPSC No. 5	TOTALS (LC)
GOVERNMENT MEMBERS	Burnswoods	34			22		1	27		84
	Burke	9	30		14		1	4	1	59
	Catazariu		25	28	1	8	1	10	4	77
	Fazio	9		25	1	16	10	4	6	71
	Griffin		34	24	12		1	28	19	118
	Obeid						1			1
	Primrose				30	21	19	7	1	81
	Robertson	11		23			23	1	1	62
	Roosendaal									-
	Tsang					5	7		4	14
OPPOSITION MEMBERS	West		35		5	1	8		23	72
	Clarke	8			1	1	3	15		28
	Collless								21	21
	Cusack		9		18	2	3	7		39
	Forsythe			28	2	21	1	1		75
	Gallacher				2	1	1	5		9
	Gardiner				27	1		32		60
	Gay				1	1			3	5
	Harwin				4			1	2	7
	Lynn					3			15	18
CROSS BENCH MEMBERS	Parker		32			21		2	3	58
	Pavey			27	1		6		2	36
	Pearce	8	16		7		7	2	2	42
	Ryan				1	5	4			10
	Breen						8	3		11
	Chesterfield-Evans		33			24		1		58
	Cohen			24				1	25	50
	Hale							26	21	47
	Jenkins									-
	Moyes						24			24
MEMBERS	Nile				12					39
	Oldfield							25		25
	Rhannon	8			26			6		40
	Tingle						6			6
	Wong									-

Appendix 2 Committee travel and expenditure

Standing Committee on Social Issues

Date	Minute No.	Destination	In Attendance	Inquiry	Activity	Hours	Output	Total Cost
21 Aug 2003	4	Macleay, Iluka, Yamba	Burnswoods, Parker, Chesterfield-Evans, Griffin, West	Community Housing	Site visit: Churches Community Housing, Grafton; North Coast Community Housing Association	12	Final report	\$5280.00
24 March 2004	21	Moree	Burnswoods, Chesterfield-Evans, Pearce, Griffin, West	Inebriates Act 1912	Site visit: Aboriginal Health Offices; Community Consultation	8	To be included in the final report of the inquiry	\$7973.30
25 March 2004	22	Orange	Burnswoods, Chesterfield-Evans, Pearce, Griffin, West	Inebriates Act 1912	Site visit: Bloomfield Hospital	8	To be included in the final report of the inquiry	
28 April 2004	25	Melbourne	Burnswoods, Parker, Chesterfield-Evans, Griffin, West	Inebriates Act 1912	Site visit: Victorian Parliament	5	To be included in the final report of the inquiry	\$5943.23

Standing Committee on State Development

Date	Minute No.	Destination	In Attendance	Inquiry	Activity	Hours	Output	Total Cost
22 – 23 September 2003	7, 8	Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Leeton	Burke, Forsythe, Catanzariti, Robertson, Pavey, Cohen 2 staff	Science and its commercialisation in NSW	Site visit: Charles Sturt University, CSIRO, Department of Agriculture, Rice CRC	14	Final report on science and its commercialisation in NSW	\$4,895.62
24 September 2004	9	Brisbane	Burke, Forsythe, Robertson, Pavey 1 staff	Science and its commercialisation in NSW	Consultation: Aust Institute for Commercialisation ; Qld Dept of Innovation & Information Economy; Qld Dept of State Development	5.5	Final report on science and its commercialisation in NSW	\$3,024.13
18 – 19 February	17, 18	Wollongong	Burke, Forsythe, Catanzariti,	Port infrastructure	Site visit: Port Kembla port	10	To be included in future report/s of	\$1,425.50

Date	Minute No.	Destination	In Attendance	Inquiry	Activity	Hours	Output	Total Cost
2004			Robertson, Pavey, Cohen 2 staff	in NSW	Public Hearing		the inquiry	
19 – 20 April 2004	20, 21	Newcastle	Burke, Forsythe, Catanzariti, Pavey, Cohen 2 staff	Port infrastructure in NSW	Site visit: Port of Newcastle; proposed MPT site Public Hearing and forum	10	To be included in future report/s of the inquiry	\$1,119.50
9 – 11 June 2004	28, 29, 30	Brisbane, Fremantle	Burke, Forsythe, Catanzariti (Brisbane only), Robertson, Pavey (Brisbane only), Cohen (Brisbane only) 1 staff	Port infrastructure in NSW	Site visit: ports of Brisbane and Fremantle	13	To be included in future report/s of the inquiry	\$4,868.70

General Purpose Standing Committee No 4

Date	Minute No.	Destination	In Attendance	Inquiry	Activity	Hours	Output	Total Cost
10 June 2004	28	Lismore	<u>Members</u> Gardiner, Breen, Burnswoods, Cusack, Griffin, Hale 3 staff	Inquiry into the closure of the Casino to Murwillum bah Rial Service	Site visit of Lismore train station and public hearing held at Lismore RSL Club	6.05	Transcript of evidence	\$6206.04
11 June 2004	29	Byron Bay	<u>Members</u> Gardiner, Breen, Burnswoods, Cusack, Griffin, Hale 3 staff	Inquiry into the closure of the Casino to Murwillum bah Rial Service	Site visit of Byron Bay train station and public hearing held at Byron Bay Community Centre	4.15		
	30	Murwillumbah	<u>Members</u> Gardiner, Breen, Burnswoods, Cusack, Griffin, Hale 3 staff	Inquiry into the closure of the Casino to Murwillum bah Rial Service	Site visit of Murwillumbah train station and public hearing held at Murwillumbah Services Memorial Club	2.55		

General Purpose Standing Committee No 5

Date	Minute No	Destination	In Attendance	Inquiry	Activity	Hours	Output	Total Cost
24 Oct 2003	9	Orange	<u>Members</u> Cohen, Colless, Griffin, Hale, Lynn, West 3 staff	Inquiry into the Local Government Amalgamati ons	Public hearing	6.17	Local Government Amalgamations Report and transcript of evidence	\$5208.40
4 Nov 2003	11	Tamworth	<u>Members</u> Cohen, Colless, Griffin, Hale, Lynn, Tsang, West 3 staff	Inquiry into the Local Government Amalgamati ons	Public hearing	6.40	Local Government Amalgamations Report and transcript of evidence	\$13724.70
5 Nov 2003	12	Wagga Wagga	<u>Members</u> Cohen, Colless, Griffin, Hale, Lynn, Tsang, West 3 staff	Inquiry into the Local Government Amalgamati ons	Public hearing	6	Local Government Amalgamations Report and transcript of evidence	
15 June 2004	15	Kurri Kurri	<u>Members</u> Cohen, Colless, Hale, Fazio, Parker, West 2 staff	Inquiry into the Hunter Economic Zone and Tomalpin Woodlands	Site visit: Hunter Economic zone, Pelaw Main and Bloomfield mine site	3.5	Transcript of evidence	\$2905.70
16 June 2004	16	Kurri Kurri	<u>Members</u> Cohen, Colless, Hale, Fazio, Parker, Tsang, West 3 staff	Inquiry into the Hunter Economic Zone and Tomalpin Woodlands	Public hearing	7.27	Transcript of evidence	
21 June 2004	25	Yanco	<u>Members</u> Cohen, Catanzariti, Colless, Hale, Lynn, West 3 staff	Inquiry into the Murrumbidg ee College of Agriculture	Public hearing	6	Transcript of evidence	\$5597.00

Appendix 3 Joint Committees

Name of Committee	LC Members on Committee	Reports tabled	Date tabled
Committee on Children and Young People	Ms Burnswoods Mr Antonio Catanzariti Ms Kayee Griffin Ms Sylvia Hale Ms Melinda Pavey	Review of the 2002-2003 Annual Report of the NSW Commission for Children and Young People	26/02/2004
Committee on the Independent Commission against Corruption	Ms Jenny Gardiner Mr Peter Primrose Revd Fred Nile	The Prevention and Investigation of Misconduct and Criminal Wrongdoing involving Public Officials	18/05/2004
Committee on the Health Care Complaints Commission	Ms Christine Robertson Mr David Clarke Dr Peter Wong	History and Roles of the Committee on the Health Care Complaints Commission 1994 – 2004	24/06/2004
		Discussion Paper on the Health Conciliation Registry	03/06/2004
		9 th Meeting on the Annual Report of the Health Care Complaints Commission	13/05/2004
		Report of the Inquiry into Procedures Followed During Investigations and Prosecutions Undertaken by the Health Care Complaints Commission	12/12/2003
		8 th Meeting on the Annual Report of the Health Care Complaints Commission	20/11/2003
Committee on the Office of the Ombudsman and the Police Integrity Commission	Mr Peter Breen Ms Jan Burnswoods Mr David Clarke	Seventh General Meeting with the Police Integrity Commission	4/12/2003
		Eleventh General Meeting with the NSW Ombudsman	4/12/2003
		Fifth General Meeting with the Inspector of the Police Integrity Commission	18/09/2003
		Report by the Inspector of the PIC/Annual Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2003	1/09/2003
Committee on the Office of the Valuer-General	Ms Kayee Griffin Mr Don Harwin		
Legislation Review Committee	Mr Don Harwin Mr Peter Primrose (Chair) Dr Peter Wong	Operations, Issues and Future Directions	24/06/2004
		Legislation Review Digest No 9 of 2004	21/06/2004
		Legislation Review Digest No.8 of 2004	31/05/2004
		Legislation Review Digest No.7 of 2004	11/05/2004
		Legislation Review Digest No.6 of 2004	03/05/2004
		Legislation Review Digest No.5 of 2004	29/03/2004

Name of Committee	LC Members on Committee	Reports tabled	Date tabled
		Legislation Review Digest No.4 of 2004 Legislation Review Digest No.3 of 2004 Legislation Review Digest No.2 of 2004 Legislation Review Digest No.1 of 2004 Legislation Review Digest No.7 of 2003 Legislation Review Digest No.6 of 2003 Legislation Review Digest No.5 of 2003 Legislation Review Digest No.4 of 2003 Legislation Review Digest No.3 of 2003 Legislation Review Digest No.2 of 2003 Legislation Review Digest No.1 of 2003	16/03/2004 08/03/2004 24/02/2004 16/02/2004 01/12/2003 18/11/2003 10/11/2003 27/10/2003 14/10/2003 16/09/2003 03/09/2003
Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety	Mr Richard Colless Mr John Tingle Mr Ian West	Vehicle-Based Measures to Better Monitor, Manage and Control Speed	10/12/2003