



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 2

## Budget Estimates 2017-2018



Report 48

December 2017

2

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Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services

# **Budget Estimates 2017-2018**

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## Terms of reference

1. That upon tabling, the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2017 – 2018 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report.

2. That the initial hearings be scheduled as follows:

### Day One: Thursday 31 August 2017

PC 3	Early Childhood Education, Aboriginal Affairs, Assistant Minister for Education	1.45 pm – 3.45 pm
PC 3	Skills, Regional NSW, Small Business	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm
PC 4	Police, Emergency Services	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm

### Day Two: Friday 1 September 2017

PC 5	Primary Industries, Regional Water, Trade and Industry	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
PC 6	Environment, Heritage, Local Government	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
PC 5	Transport and Infrastructure	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
PC 6	Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

### Day Three: Monday 4 September 2017

PC 1	Finance, Services and Property	9.00 am – 12.00 pm
PC 1	The Legislature	12.15 pm – 1.15 pm
PC 1	Innovation and Better Regulation	1.45 pm – 3.45 pm
PC 3	Tourism and Major Events, Assistant Minister for Skills	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm

### Day Four: Tuesday 5 September 2017

PC 2	Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	9.00 am – 12.00 pm
PC 4	Corrections, Counter Terrorism, Veterans Affairs	9.00 am – 12.00 pm
PC 2	Mental Health, Women, Ageing	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
PC 3	Education	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm

### Day Five: Wednesday 6 September 2017

PC 1	Treasury, Industrial Relations	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
PC 5	Western Sydney, WestConnex, Sport	9.00 am – 11.00 am
PC 5	Lands and Forestry, Racing	11.15 am – 1.15 pm
PC 2	Health, Medical Research	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
PC 5	Roads, Maritime and Freight	2.00 pm – .00 pm

### Day Six: Thursday 7 September 2017

PC 1	Premier	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
PC 2	Disability Services, Multiculturalism	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

**Day Seven: Friday 8 September 2017**

PC 6	Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
PC 4	Attorney General	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

3. That supplementary hearings be scheduled during the week of 3 to 6 October 2017.
4. That each scheduled day for the initial round of hearings will begin not earlier than 9.00 am and conclude by 6.00 pm.
5. That the committees must hear evidence in public.
6. That the committees may ask for explanations from ministers, or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
7. That ministers may not make an opening statement before the committee commences questions.
8. That the committees are to present a final report to the House by 15 December 2017.
9. That members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm, within two days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, following the hearing.
10. That answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions be published, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after these answers have been circulated to committee members.

These terms of reference were referred to the committee by the House: *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 June 2017, pp 1756-1757.

## Committee details

### Committee members

The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Paul Green MLC	Christian Democratic Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Scot MacDonald MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Dr Peter Phelps MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC	The Nationals	
Ms Dawn Walker MLC	The Greens	

### Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

The Hon Mark Pearson MLC	Animal Justice Party
The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC	Australian Labor Party
Mr David Shoebridge MLC	The Greens
The Hon Wes Fang MLC	The Nationals
Dr Mehreen Faruqi MLC	The Greens
The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Walt Secord MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon David Clarke MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Trevor Khan MLC	The Nationals

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## Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018. This annual inquiry into the Budget Estimates ensures parliamentary oversight of the Budget, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Legislative Council.

The inquiry consisted of four hearings to examine the following portfolios:

- Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Mental Health, Women, Ageing
- Health, Medical Research
- Disability Services, Multiculturalism.

Supplementary hearings were also held for the Disability Services and Health portfolios.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC  
**Chair**



# Chapter 1 Introduction

## Referral of the 2017-2018 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On 21 June 2017, the Legislative Council resolved that ‘the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2017-2018 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report’.<sup>1</sup> The resolution (hereafter referred to as the Budget Estimates resolution) requires each committee to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the House by 15 December 2017.<sup>2</sup>
- 1.2 The Budget Estimates resolution further stipulated that the initial hearings be held from 31 August to 8 September 2017 and the initial round of supplementary hearings be scheduled during the week of 3-6 October 2017.<sup>3</sup>

## Hearings

- 1.3 The committee held four public hearings as follows:
- Tuesday 5 September 2017 – Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
  - Tuesday 5 September 2017 – Mental Health, Women, Ageing
  - Wednesday 6 September 2017 – Health, Medical Research
  - Thursday 7 September 2017 – Disability Services, Multiculturalism.
- 1.4 The committee also held supplementary hearings on Thursday 26 October 2017 for the Disability Services portfolio, and on Tuesday 31 October 2017 for the Health portfolio.

## Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions

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

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<sup>1</sup> *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 June 2017, pp 1756-1757.

<sup>2</sup> *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 June 2017, pp 1756-1757.

<sup>3</sup> *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 21 June 2017, pp 1756-1757.



## Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

### Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolios of Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault was held on Tuesday 5 September 2017. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Actions following the death of a child in the care of Life Without Barriers
- Use of temporary hotel accommodation for children in out of home care
- Women's refuge numbers
- Supports and behaviour modification programs for domestic violence perpetrators
- Sale of social housing stock.

### Mental Health, Women, Ageing

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolios of Mental Health, Women, Ageing was held on Tuesday 5 September 2017. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Staffing at Lismore Base and Cumberland mental health facilities
- Closing the gender pay gap
- Support for those experiencing mental health impacts arising from the same sex marriage plebiscite
- Suicide prevention
- Attracting and retaining older workers in the workplace
- Impact of recent Fair Work Commission decision regarding penalty rates on female workers.

### Health, Medical Research

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolios of Health, Medical Research was held on Wednesday 6 September 2017. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Paediatric services in New South Wales
- Initiatives to decrease flu outbreaks

- Avian flu mutations in the poultry industry
- Investigations into the cladding used in hospital construction
- Availability of ambulance services in regional areas of New South Wales.

**2.4** A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Health was held on Tuesday 31 October 2017. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Cladding in public hospitals
- Influenza vaccinations
- The status of orthopaedic services at South Eastern Regional Hospital (Bega)
- Downgrade of Nepean Hospital trauma rating
- E-cigarettes and the legality of cafes with indoor vaping facilities
- Super station evaluations for NSW paramedics
- Crib breaks for paramedics and whether they are compulsory

## **Disability Services, Multiculturalism**

**2.5** A hearing examining the portfolios of Disability Services, Multiculturalism was held on Thursday 7 September 2017. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Secondary employment approvals for senior staff of the Department of Family and Community Services
- NSW Government agency compliance with obligations under the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014* to complete Disability Inclusion Action Plans
- Funding for disability advocacy, information and representation services following the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Access to public housing, social housing and group homes for people with disability
- Rates of reportable incidents in government and non-government facilities for people with disability
- Education opportunities for students with disability and school inclusion.

**2.6** A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Disability Services was held on Thursday 26 October 2017. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Cessation of employment of a senior executive of the Department of Family and Community Services
- Role of the NSW Government in delivering disability services following the roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Funding of advocacy services for people with disability

- Inclusion of children with disability in schools
- Productivity Commission projections on National Disability Insurance Scheme participation in New South Wales.





## Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

### Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault – Tuesday 5 September 2017

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Pru Goward MP	Minister for Family and Community Services, Minister for Social Housing, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
Ms Deidre Mulkerin	Deputy Secretary, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Paul Vevers	Deputy Secretary, Southern & Western Cluster, Department of Family and Community Services
Ms Simone Walker	Acting Deputy Secretary, Northern Cluster, Department of Family and Community Services
Ms Anne Skewes	Deputy Secretary, Land and Housing Corporation, Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Shane Hamilton	Chief Executive, Aboriginal Housing Office, Department of Family and Community Services

### Mental Health, Women, Ageing – Tuesday 5 September 2017

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Tanya Davies MP	Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Women and Minister for Ageing
Ms Susan Pearce	Acting Secretary, Ministry of Health
Mr John Roach PSM	Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Secretary, Financial Services and Asset Management, Ministry of Health
Dr Murray Wright	Chief Psychiatrist, Ministry of Health
Dr Nigel Lyons	Deputy Secretary, Strategy and Resources, Ministry of Health
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services

Ms Deidre Mulkerin	Deputy Secretary, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
Ms Helen Rogers	Executive Director, Participation and Inclusion, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
Ms Melinda Norton	Director, Women NSW, Department of Family and Community Services

### **Health, Medical Research – Wednesday 6 September 2017**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position and Organisation</b>
The Hon Brad Hazzard MP	Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research
Ms Susan Pearce	Acting Secretary, Ministry of Health
Ms Leanne O'Shannessy	Acting Deputy Secretary, People, Culture and Governance, Ministry of Health
Dr Kerry Chant PSM	Chief Health Officer and Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health, Ministry of Health
Mr Samuel Sangster	Chief Executive, Health Infrastructure, Ministry of Health
Professor David Currow	Chief Executive Officer and Chief Cancer Officer, NSW Cancer Institute
Ms Sue Dawson	Commissioner, Health Care Complaints Commission

### **Disability Services, Multiculturalism – Thursday 7 September 2017**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position and Organisation</b>
The Hon Ray Williams MP	Minister for Multiculturalism and Minister for Disability Services
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Jim Longley	Deputy Secretary, Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Chris Leach	Deputy Secretary, Disability Operations, Department of Family and Community Services
Ms Helen Rogers	Executive Director, Participation and Inclusion, Department of Family and Community Services

Ms Anne Campbell	Executive Director, Service Delivery Programs, Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Hakan Harman	Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
Mr Ross Hawkey	Director Corporate, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Information Officer, Multicultural NSW

### **Disability Services – Thursday 26 October 2017 (supplementary hearing)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position and Organisation</b>
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Chris Leach	Deputy Secretary, Disability Operations, Department of Family and Community Services
Mr Paul O'Reilly	Executive Director, Inclusion and Early Intervention, Department of Family and Community Services
Ms Samantha Taylor	Executive Director, NDIS Implementation, Department of Family and Community Services

### **Health – Tuesday 31 October 2017 (supplementary hearing)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position and Organisation</b>
The Hon Brad Hazzard MP	Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research
Mr John Roach PSM	Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Secretary, Financial Services and Asset Management, Ministry of Health
Mr Samuel Sangster	Chief Executive, Health Infrastructure, Ministry of Health

## Appendix 2 Minutes

### Minutes no. 36

Wednesday 9 August 2017

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, 10.45 am

#### 1. Members present

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*

Mr MacDonald

Dr Phelps

Mrs Taylor (from 10.47 am)

Ms Walker

Mr Wong (substituting for Mrs Houssos)

#### 2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

##### **Received:**

- 11 July 2017 – Email from Ms Lee Dixon, Office of the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health and Medical Research, providing the list of witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 26 July 2017 – Email from Mr Gavin Melvin, Office of the Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing, providing the list of witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 27 July 2017 – Email from Mr Justin Fazzolari, Office of the Hon Ray Williams MP, Minister for Disability Services, Multiculturalism, providing the list of witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 28 July 2017 – Email from Mr Dean Shachar, Office of the Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, providing the list of witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 9 August 2017 – Email from Mr Gavin Melvin, Office of the Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing, to secretariat, advising that Ms Susan Pearce, Acting Secretary, Department of Health is unavailable to attending the Budget Estimates hearing with Minister Davies.

##### **Sent:**

- 10 July 2017 – Letter from Ms Beverly Duffy, Clerk Assistant - Committees to the Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and Community Services, Social Housing Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates and requesting witness details
- 10 July 2017 – Letter from Ms Beverly Duffy, Clerk Assistant - Committees to the Hon Hazzard MP, Minister for Health and Medical Research, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates and requesting witness details
- 10 July 2017 – Letter from Ms Beverly Duffy, Clerk Assistant - Committees to the Hon Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates and requesting witness details
- 10 July 2017 – Letter from Ms Beverly Duffy, Clerk Assistant - Committees to the Hon Ray Williams MP, Minister for Disability Services, Multiculturalism, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates and requesting witness details.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Wong: That the committee write to Minister Davies' office indicating that the committee would like to hear from Ms Pearce at the Budget Estimates hearing for Mental Health, and requesting that she be available for the hearing.

### 3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted that the Budget Estimates timetable for 2017-2018 was agreed to by the House, with the following Portfolio Committee No. 2 hearings:

Date	Time	Portfolio	Room
Tuesday 5 September	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Goward)	Jubilee
	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Mental Health, Women, Ageing (Davies)	Jubilee
Wednesday 6 September	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm	Health, Medical Research (Hazzard)	Jubilee
Thursday 7 September	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Disability Services, Multiculturalism (Williams)	Macquarie

#### 3.1 Government questions

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That with government members not asking questions:

- The portfolios of Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault be examined from 9.00 – 11.00 am
- The portfolios of Mental Health, Women, Ageing be examined from 2.00 – 4.00 pm
- The portfolios of Health, Medical Research be examined from 2.00 – 4.40 pm
- The portfolios of Disability Services, Multiculturalism be examined from 2.00 – 4.00 pm.

#### 3.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that, under the resolution establishing the Portfolio Committees, the sequence of questions alternates between opposition, crossbench and government members, with equal time allocated to each, unless the committee decides otherwise.

#### 3.3 Procedure for examining more than one portfolio

The committee noted its intention to examine portfolios concurrently.

#### 3.4 Additional witness requests

The committee noted each minister's list of proposed witnesses, as per the table below, and that members have until 12.00 pm Thursday 10 August 2017 to provide any additional witness requests.

Minister	Portfolio	Witness	Position and Department
Goward	Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
		Ms Deidre Mulkerin	Deputy Secretary, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
		Mr Paul Vevers	Deputy Secretary, Southern & Western Cluster, Department of Family and Community Services

		Ms Simone Walker	A/Deputy Secretary, Northern Cluster, Department of Family and Community Services
		Ms Anne Skewes	Deputy Secretary, Land and Housing Corporation, Department of Family and Community Services
		Mr Shane Hamilton	Chief Executive, Aboriginal Housing Office, Department of Family and Community Services
Davies	Mental Health	Ms Susan Pearce	Acting Secretary, Department of Health
		Mr John Roach PSM	Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Secretary, Financial Services and Asset Management, Department of Health
		Dr Murray Wright	Chief Psychiatrist, Department of Health
		Dr Nigel Lyons	Deputy Secretary, Strategy and Resources, Department of Health
	Women and Ageing	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
		Ms Deidre Mulkerin	Deputy Secretary, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
		Ms Helen Rogers	Executive Director, Participation and Inclusion, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
		Ms Melinda Norton	Director, Women NSW, Department of Family and Community Services
Hazzard	Health, Medical Research	Mr Samuel Sangster	Chief Executive, Health Infrastructure, NSW Health
		Ms Susan Pearce	Acting Secretary, NSW Health
		Dr Kerry Chant	Chief Health Officer and Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health, NSW Health
		Ms Leanne O'Shannessy	Acting Deputy Secretary, People, Culture and Governance, NSW Health
Williams	Disability Services	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
		Mr Jim Longley	Deputy Secretary, Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Family and Community Services
		Mr Chris Leach	Deputy Secretary, Disability Operations, Department of Family and Community Services
		Ms Helen Rogers	Executive Director, Participation and Inclusion, Department of Family and Community Services
		Ms Anne Campbell	Executive Director, Service Delivery Programs, Department of Family and Community Services

	Multiculturalism	Mr Hakan Harman	Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
		Mr Ross Hawkey	Director Corporate, CFO/CIO, Multicultural NSW

#### 4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 10.54 am, *sine die*.

Sharon Ohnesorge  
Clerk to the Committee

#### Minutes no. 37

Tuesday 5 September 2017  
Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services  
Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 8.45 am

#### 1. Members present

Mr Donnelly, Chair  
Mr Green, Deputy Chair  
Mr Fang (substituting for Mr MacDonald)  
Dr Faruqi (substituting for Ms Walker) (until 10.25 am)  
Mrs Houssos  
Dr Phelps  
Mrs Taylor  
Mr Pearson (participating) (from 8.58 am until 10.33 am)  
Ms Sharpe (participating)  
Mr Shoebridge (participating) (from 10.30 am)

#### 2. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Phelps: That draft minutes no. 36 be confirmed.

#### 3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

##### **Received:**

- 14 August 2017 – Email from Mr Gavin Melvin, Office of the Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing, advising that Ms Natasha De Silva will not be attending Budget Estimates
- 15 August 2017 – Letter from the Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and Community Services, Social Housing and the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, advising that Mr John Hubby, Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services, Department of Family and Community Services, will not be available to attend Budget Estimates
- 17 August 2017 – Email from Mr Gavin Melvin, Office of the Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing, advising that Ms Susan Pearce, Acting Secretary, Department of Health is available to attend Budget Estimates
- 18 August 2017 – Email from Ms Lee Dixon, Office of the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health, Medical Research, advising that the additional requested witnesses are available to attend to Budget Estimates.

**Sent:**

- 9 August 2017 – Email from the secretariat to Mr Gavin Melvin, Office of the Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing, requesting that Ms Susan Pearce, Acting Secretary, Department of Health attend the Budget Estimates hearing
- 14 August 2017 – Email from the secretariat to Mr Gavin Melvin, Office of the Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing, requesting additional witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 14 August 2017 – Email from the secretariat to Mr Dean Shachar, Office of the Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and Community Services, Social Housing and the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, requesting additional witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 14 August 2017 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Lee Dixon, Office of the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health and Medical Research, requesting additional witnesses for Budget Estimates.

**4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018****4.1 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2017-2018 – Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

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

Minister Goward MP was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
- Ms Deidre Mulkerin, Deputy Secretary, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
- Mr Paul Vevers, Deputy Secretary, Southern and Western Cluster, Department of Family and Community Services
- Ms Simone Walker, Acting Deputy Secretary, Northern Cluster, Department of Family and Community Services
- Ms Anne Skewes, Deputy Secretary, Land and Housing Corporation, Department of Family and Community Services
- Mr Shane Hamilton, Chief Executive, Aboriginal Housing Office, Department of Family and Community Services.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 11.01 am

The public and media withdrew.

**4.2 Supplementary hearings**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.



## 5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 11.02 am, until 1.45 pm, Tuesday 5 September 2017, Jubilee Room (*Mental Health, Women, Ageing*).

Merrin Thompson  
Clerk to the Committee

## Minutes no. 38

Tuesday 5 September 2017  
Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health and Community Services  
Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.45 pm

### 1. Members present

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*  
Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*  
Mr Fang (substituting for Mr MacDonald)  
Mrs Houssos  
Dr Phelps  
Mrs Taylor  
Ms Walker  
Dr Faruqi (participating) (from 2.50 pm until 3.52 pm)  
Ms Sharpe (participating) (until 3.40 pm)

### 2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018

#### 2.1 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2017-2018 – Mental Health, Women, Ageing

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

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

The chair reminded Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter and Ms Deidre Mulkerin that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing.

Minister Davies MP was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Susan Pearce, Acting Secretary, Department of Health
- Mr John Roach PSM, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Secretary, Financial Services and Asset Management, Department of Health
- Dr Murray Wright, Chief Psychiatrist, Department of Health
- Dr Nigel Lyons, Deputy Secretary, Strategy and Resources, Department of Health
- Ms Helen Rogers, Executive Director, Participation and Inclusion, Commissioning, Department of Family and Community Services
- Ms Melinda Norton, Director, Women NSW, Department of Family and Community Services.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Mental Health, Women, Ageing open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.00 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

## 2.2 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Mental Health, Women, Ageing.

## 3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.00 pm, until 1.45 pm, Wednesday 6 September 2017, Jubilee (*Health, Medical Research*).

Jenelle Moore

**Clerk to the Committee**

## Minutes no. 39

Wednesday 6 September 2017

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.46 pm

### 1. Members present

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Fang (substituting for Mr MacDonald)

Mrs Houssos

Mrs Maclaren-Jones (substituting for Dr Phelps)

Mrs Taylor

Ms Walker (until 3.14 pm)

Mr Pearson (participating) (until 3.27 pm)

Mr Secord (participating)

### 2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018

#### 2.1 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2017-2018 – Health and Medical Research

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

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

The chair also reminded Ms Susan Pearce that she did not need to be sworn, as she had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing.

Minister Hazzard MP was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Leanne O'Shannessy, Acting Deputy Secretary, People, Culture and Governance, NSW Health
- Dr Kerry Chant, Chief Health Officer and Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health, NSW Health
- Mr Samuel Sangster, Chief Executive, Health Infrastructure, NSW Health
- Professor David Currow, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Cancer Officer, NSW Cancer Institute

- Ms Sue Dawson, Commissioner, Health Care Complaints Commission.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Health and Medical Research open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.41 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

### 2.2 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Health and Medical Research.

### 2.3 Redaction of child's name from transcript

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That any information provided by Mr Secord that could identify the child who died after being in Hornsby Hospital, including the names of the child's parents, be redacted from the transcript.

## 3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.46 pm, until 1.45 pm, Thursday 7 September 2017, Macquarie Room (*Disability Services, Multiculturalism*).

Susan Want

**Clerk to the Committee**

## Minutes no. 40

Thursday 7 September 2017

Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health and Community Services

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.55 pm

### 1. Members present

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Fang (substituting for Mr MacDonald)

Mrs Houssos (until 3.46 pm)

Dr Phelps

Mrs Taylor

Ms Walker (until 2.41 pm)

Dr Faruqi (participating) (from 2.58 pm until 3.26 pm)

Mr Mookhey (participating) (until 3.01 pm)

Mr Moselmane (participating)

Ms Voltz (participating) (until 2.10 pm)

### 2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018

#### 2.1 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2017-2018 – Disability Services, Multiculturalism

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

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

The chair also reminded Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter and Ms Helen Rogers that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing.

Minister Williams MP was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Jim Longley, Deputy Secretary, Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Family and Community Services
- Mr Chris Leach, Deputy Secretary, Disability Operations, Department of Family and Community Services
- Ms Anne Campbell, Executive Director, Service Delivery Programs, Department of Family and Community Services
- Mr Hakan Harman, Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
- Mr Ross Hawkey, Director Corporate, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Information Officer, Multicultural NSW.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Disability Services, Multiculturalism open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.00 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

## **2.2 Supplementary hearings**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Disability Services, Multiculturalism.

## **2.3 Redaction of transcript for Health, Medical Research**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the reference to the residential suburb of a patient's family on page 9 of the transcript of the committee's hearing in relation to the Health, Medical Research portfolios on 6 September 2017 be redacted, to protect the family's privacy.

## **3. Adjournment**

The committee adjourned at 4.04 pm, *sine die*.

Jenelle Moore  
Clerk to the Committee

**Minutes no. 42**

Thursday 12 October 2017

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00 pm.

**1. Members present**

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*

Mrs Houssos

Mr Macdonald

Dr Phelps

Ms Taylor

Ms Walker

**2. Previous minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Phelps: That draft minutes no. 41 be confirmed.

**3. Correspondence**

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

***Received:***

- 29 September 2017 – Letter from Hon Pru Goward MP, Minister for Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to the Chair, attaching answers to questions on notice, answers to supplementary questions and transcript corrections
- 29 September 2017 – Letter from Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing to the Chair, attaching answers to questions on notice, answers to supplementary questions and transcript corrections
- 29 September 2017 – Letter from Hon Tanya Davies MP, Minister for Mental Health, Women, Ageing to the Chair, clarifying evidence provided to the committee during Budget Estimates
- 3 October 2017 – Letter from Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health, Medical Research to the Chair, attaching answers to questions on notice and answers to supplementary questions
- 3 October 2017 – Letter from Hon Ray Williams MP, Minister for Disability Services, Multiculturalism to the Chair, attaching answers to questions on notice, answers to supplementary questions and transcript corrections.

***Sent:***

- 8 September 2017 – Email from secretariat to Mr Gavin Melvin, Minister Davies' office, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 8 September 2017 – Email from secretariat to Mr Dean Shachar, Minister Goward's office, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 11 September 2017 – Email from secretariat to Ms Lee Dixon, Minister Hazzard's office, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 12 September 2017 – Email from secretariat to Mr Justin Fazzolari, Minister Hazzard's office, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions.

#### 4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018

##### 4.1 Supplementary hearings

Mrs Houssos moved: That the committee hold further hearings to consider matters relating to the following portfolios, on a date to be determined by the Chair in consultation with members:

- Health, with Mr Samuel Sangster and another representative from the Ministry of Health at the Deputy Secretary level or above, invited to attend as witnesses for 45 minutes if government members decide to ask questions, or otherwise 30 minutes
- Disability Services, with Mr Jim Longley, Mr Chris Leach and Ms Helen Rogers invited to attend as witnesses for 1.5 hours if government members decide to ask questions, or otherwise 1 hour.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Donnelly, Mr Green, Mrs Houssos, Ms Walker.

Noes: Mr MacDonald, Dr Phelps, Mrs Taylor.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Green: That the committee hold no further hearings to consider matters relating to the following portfolios:

- Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Mental Health, Women, Ageing
- Medical Research
- Multiculturalism.

#### 5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 2.17 pm, until Friday 13 October 2017, 12.30 pm, McKell Room (road tolling report deliberative).

Sharon Ohnesorge  
**Clerk to the Committee**

#### Minutes no. 43

Thursday 26 October 2017

Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health and Community Services

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.55 pm

##### 1. Members present

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*

Mr Clarke (substituting for Mr MacDonald)

Mr Mookhey (substituting for Mrs Houssos)

Dr Phelps

Mrs Taylor

##### 2. Apologies

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*

##### 3. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Phelps: That draft minutes no. 42 be confirmed.

#### 4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

##### *Sent:*

- 18 October 2017 – Letter from Clerk Assistant – Committees to the Hon Ray Williams MP, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Multiculturalism, advising of the committee’s decision to hold a supplementary hearing for the Disability Services portfolio and inviting witnesses to attend
- 18 October 2017 – Letter from Clerk Assistant – Committees to the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research, advising of the committee’s decision to hold a supplementary hearing for the Health portfolio and inviting witnesses to attend
- 23 October 2017 – Letter from Chair to the Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research, reiterating the committee’s request to have witnesses attend the supplementary hearing for the Health portfolio

##### *Received:*

- 16 October 2017 – Email from Ms Carolyn Littlefair, Director, Ministerial and Communication Services, Department of Family and Community Services, advising of staffing changes affecting the witnesses requested to attend the supplementary hearing for the Health portfolio
- 20 October 2017 – Letter from Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research to the Chair, advising that he would prefer the requested witnesses not to attend the supplementary hearing, and providing an update on the NSW Government Cladding Taskforce
- 20 October 2017 – Letter from the Hon Ray Williams MP, Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Multiculturalism to Clerk Assistant – Committees, confirming witness attendance at the supplementary hearing for the Disability Services portfolio
- 24 October 2017 – Letter from Ms Lee Dixon, Deputy Chief of Staff, Minister Hazzard’s office to secretariat, advising that the Minister wishes to attend the supplementary hearing with the public servants, and proposing that the hearing date be rescheduled.

#### 5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018

##### 5.1 Government questions

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Taylor: That with government members not asking questions, the portfolio of Disability Services be examined from 2.00 – 3.00 pm.

##### 5.2 Sequence of questions

The committee noted that under the resolution establishing the Portfolio Committees, the sequence of questions alternates between opposition, crossbench and government members, with equal time allocated to each, unless the committee decides otherwise.

##### 5.3 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2017-2018 – Disability Services

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters.

The chair also reminded Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter and Mr Chris Leach that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Paul O’Reilly, Executive Director, Service Delivery Programs, Department of Family and Community Services
- Ms Samantha Taylor, Executive Director, NDIS Implementation, Department of Family and Community Services

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Disability Services open for examination.

The departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.07 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

## 6. **Adjournment**

The committee adjourned at 3.07 pm, until Tuesday 31 October 2017, 9.55 am, Macquarie Room (supplementary Budget Estimates hearing for Health portfolio).

Sharon Ohnesorge

**Committee Clerk**

## **Minutes no. 44**

Tuesday 31 October 2017

Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health and Community Services

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.55 am

### 1. **Members present**

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair* from 10.17 am

Mr Clarke (substituting for Mr MacDonald)

Mrs Houssos

Mr Khan (substituting for Mrs Taylor)

Dr Phelps

Ms Walker

Mr Secord (participating)

### 2. **Draft minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Phelps: That draft minutes no. 43 be confirmed.

### 3. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018**

#### 3.1 **Government questions**

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Phelps: That with government members not asking questions, the portfolio of Health be examined from 10.00 – 10.30 am.

#### 3.2 **Sequence of questions**

The committee noted that under the resolution establishing the Portfolio Committees, the sequence of questions alternates between opposition, crossbench and government members, with equal time allocated to each, unless the committee decides otherwise.

#### 3.3 **Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2017-2018 – Health**

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

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

Minister Hazzard MP was admitted.

The chair also reminded Mr Samuel Sangster and Mr John Roach that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Health open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.



The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 10.34 am.

The public and media withdrew.

#### 4. **Adjournment**

The committee adjourned at 10.35 am, *sine die*.

Beverly Duffy  
Committee Clerk

#### **Draft minutes no. 45**

Thursday 7 December 2017

Portfolio Committee No. 2 - Health and Community Services  
Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.31 pm

#### 1. **Members present**

Mr Donnelly, *Chair*  
Mrs Houssos  
Dr Phelps  
Mrs Taylor

#### 2. **Apologies**

Mr Green, *Deputy Chair*  
Ms Walker  
Mr MacDonald

#### 3. **Draft minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Phelps: That draft minutes no. 44 be confirmed.

#### 4. **Correspondence**

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

##### ***Sent:***

- 30 October 2017 – Email from secretariat to Mr Taylor Gramoski, Minister Williams' office, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 3 November 2017 – Email from secretariat to Ms Lee Dixon, Minister Hazzard's office, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions.

##### ***Received:***

- 20 November 2017 – Letter from Hon Ray Williams MP, Minister for Disability Services, Multiculturalism to the Chair, attaching answers to questions on notice, answers to supplementary questions and transcript corrections
- 23 November 2017 – Letter from Hon Brad Hazzard MP, Minister for Health, Medical Research to the Chair, attaching answers to questions on notice and answers to supplementary questions.

**5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2017-2018**

**5.1 Consideration of Chair's draft report**

The Chair submitted his draft report entitled *Budget Estimates 2017-2018* which, having been previously circulated, was taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Dr Phelps: That:

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

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

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

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

That the report be tabled on Thursday 14 December 2017.

**6. Adjournment**

The committee adjourned at 2.34 pm, *sine die*.

Sharon Ohnesorge  
**Committee Clerk**



