



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 6

Budget Estimates 2018-2019



Report 9

November 2018

6

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Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment

Budget Estimates 2018-2019

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Chair: Hon. Paul Green, MLC.

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Terms of reference

1. That upon tabling, the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2018-2019 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 30 August 2018

PC 4	Police, Emergency Services	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
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Day Two: Friday 31 August 2018

PC 5	Primary Industries, Regional Water, Trade and Industry	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
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PC 6	Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
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PC 5	Transport and Infrastructure	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
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PC 6	Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
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Day Three: Monday 3 September 2018

PC 1	Finance, Services and Property	9.00 am – 12.00 pm
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PC 5	Lands and Forestry, Racing	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
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PC 1	Treasury, Industrial Relations	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
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Day Four: Tuesday 4 September 2018

PC 3	Early Childhood Education, Aboriginal Affairs, Assistant Minister for Education	9.00 am – 11.00 am
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PC 4	Counter Terrorism, Corrections, Veterans Affairs	9.00 am – 12.00 pm
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PC 3	Regional New South Wales, Skills, Small Business	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
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PC 4	Attorney General	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
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Day Five: Wednesday 5 September 2018

PC 2	Multiculturalism, Disability Services	9.00 am – 12.00 pm
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PC 2	Family and Community Services, Social Housing, Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
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PC 3	Tourism and Major Events, Assistant Minister for Skills	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
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Day Six: Thursday 6 September 2018

PC 2	Mental Health, Women, Ageing	9.00 am – 12.00 pm
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PC 1	Innovation and Better Regulation	9.00 am – 11.00 am
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PC 1	The Legislature	12.00 pm – 1.00 pm
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PC 2	Health, Medical Research	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
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PC 1	Premier	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
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Day Seven: Friday 7 September 2018

PC 3	Education	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
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PC 5	Roads, Maritime and Freight	9.00 am – 1.00 pm
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PC 6	Environment, Local Government, Heritage	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm
PC 5	Western Sydney, WestConnex, Sport	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

3. That supplementary hearings be scheduled during the week of 8 to 12 October 2018.
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 14 December 2018.
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, 20 June 2018, pp 2758-2759.

Committee members

The Hon Paul Green MLC	Christian Democratic Party	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Mr Jeremy Buckingham MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Taylor Martin MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Ernest Wong MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

The Hon Lou Amato MLC	Liberal Party
Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens
Mr Justin Field MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Ben Franklin MLC	The Nationals
The Hon John Graham MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Mark Pearson MLC	Animal Justice Party
The Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Australian Labor Party
Mr David Shoebridge MLC	The Greens
The Hon Adam Searle MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Walt Secord MLC	Australian Labor Party

Website	www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates
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Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2018-2019. 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 three hearings to examine the following portfolios:

- Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State
- Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts
- Environment, Heritage, Local Government.

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 blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Green', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

The Hon Paul Green MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2018-2019 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On 20 June 2018, the Legislative Council resolved that ‘the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2018-2019 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report’.¹ 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 14 December 2018.²
- 1.2 The Budget Estimates resolution further stipulated that the initial hearings be held from 30 August to 7 September 2018 and the initial round of supplementary hearings be scheduled during the week of 8 to 12 October 2018.³

Hearings

- 1.3 The committee held three public hearings as follows:
- Friday 31 August 2018 – Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State
 - Friday 31 August 2018 – Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts
 - Friday 7 September 2018 – Environment, Heritage, Local Government.

Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions

- 1.4 Transcripts of the hearings, questions taken on notice, supplementary questions and answers to these questions are available on the Budget Estimates web page at: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budget-estimates>.

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 June 2018, pp 2758-2759.

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 June 2018, pp 2758-2759.

³ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 June 2018, pp 2758-2759.

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolios of Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State was held on Friday 31 August 2018. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Sydney population growth and housing targets
- Implementation of Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code
- Operation of local planning panels (LPPs)
- Development at Penrith Lakes
- Narrabri Gas Project
- Landcom projects and corporate issues
- Development application for Sydney Football Stadium
- Voluntary planning agreements.

Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolios of Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts was held on Friday 31 August 2018. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Staffing in the Department of Planning and Environment
- Australian energy policy
- Energy pricing and renewable energy projects
- Revenue collected by and operation of the Climate Change Fund
- The Australian Museum's Streamwatch program
- Fundraising event at the Powerhouse Museum
- Plans for the relocation of the Powerhouse Museum
- Sydney's water supply
- Mining policy, licences and governance.

Environment, Heritage, Local Government

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolios of Environment, Heritage, Local Government was held on Friday 7 September 2018. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of these portfolios:

- Protection of threatened species
- Community consultation on Coastal Zone Management Plans
- Legal costs relating to council amalgamation
- IPART Reports on compliance and red tape and the rating system of local governments
- Protection of the Windsor bridge
- Privatisation of Gap Park at Watsons Bay
- Funding for hazard reduction burns
- Prosecutions of illegal land clearing
- Assistance for drought affected local councils
- Taronga Zoo's campaign against single-use plastic bags
- Status of certain listing applications for the State Heritage Register.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State – Friday 31 August 2018

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Anthony Roberts MP	Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing and Special Minister of State
Dr Liz Develin	Acting Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment
Mr Simon Officer	Chief Financial and Operating Officer, Department of Planning and Environment
Mr Marcus Ray	Deputy Secretary, Planning Services, Department of Planning and Environment
Mr Brendan Nelson	Deputy Secretary, Growth, Design and Programs, Department of Planning and Environment
Ms Alison Frame	Deputy Secretary, Policy, Department of Planning and Environment
Ms Sarah Hill	Chief Executive Officer, Greater Sydney Commission
Mr John Brogden	Chief Executive Officer, Landcom

Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts – Friday 31 August 2018

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Don Harwin MLC	Minister for Resources, Minister for Energy and Utilities and Minister for the Arts
Dr Liz Develin	Acting Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment
Ms Katherine Hole	Acting Deputy Secretary, Energy, Water, Regulation and Portfolio Strategy, Department of Planning and Environment
Mr Michael Wright	Acting Deputy Secretary, Resources and Geoscience, Department of Planning and Environment
Mr Kevin Young	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Water
Dr Jim Bentley	Managing Director, Hunter Water

Mr David Harris	Chief Executive Officer, Water NSW
Ms Lee Shearer	Deputy Secretary, Resource Regulator, Department of Planning and Environment
Ms Alex O'Mara	Deputy Secretary, Arts, Screen and Culture, Department of Planning and Environment

Environment, Heritage, Local Government – Friday 7 September 2018

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Gabrielle Upton MP	Minister for the Environment, Minister for Local Government and Minister for Heritage
Mr Anthony Lean	Chief Executive, Office of Environment and Heritage
Ms Anissa Levy	Chair and Chief Executive Officer, NSW Environment Protection Authority
Mr Mark Gifford	Chief Environmental Regulator, NSW Environment Protection Authority
Mr Tim Hurst	Chief Executive, Office of Local Government, Department of Planning and Environment
Ms Pauline McKenzie	Executive Director, Heritage, Office of Environment and Heritage

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 65

Tuesday 14 August 2018

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment
Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney at 1.36 pm

1. Members present

Mr Green, *Chair*

Mr Mallard, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Martin

Mr Mason-Cox

Ms Sharpe

2. Apologies

Mr Buckingham

Mr Wong

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 17 July 2018 – Email from Ms Belinda Yeung, Office of the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for Environment, Heritage, Local Government, providing the list of witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 24 July 2018 – Email from Mr Sam Tedeschi, Office of the Hon Don Harwin MLC, Minister for Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts, providing the list of witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 25 July 2018 – Email from Mr Callum Fountain, Office of the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State, providing the list of witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 3 August 2018 – Email from Mr Callum Fountain, Office of the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State, providing an additional witness for Budget Estimates
- 3 August 2018 – Email from Mr Sam Tedeschi, Office of the Hon Don Harwin MLC, Minister for Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts, advising of a change in witness for Budget Estimates.

Sent:

- 10 July 2018 – Letter from Ms Teresa McMichael, A/Clerk Assistant – Committees to the Hon Don Harwin MLC, Minister for Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates
- 10 July 2018 – Letter from Ms Teresa McMichael, A/Clerk Assistant – Committees to the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates
- 10 July 2018 – Letter from Ms Teresa McMichael, A/Clerk Assistant – Committees to the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for Environment, Heritage, Local Government, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2018-2019 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted that the Budget Estimates timetable for 2018-2019 was agreed to by the House, with the following Portfolio Committee No. 6 hearings:

Date	Time	Portfolio	Room
Friday 31 August	9.00 am – 1.00 pm	Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State (Roberts)	Jubilee
	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts (Harwin)	Jubilee
Friday 7 September	2.00 pm – 6.00 pm	Environment, Local Government, Heritage (Upton)	Macquarie

4.1 Government questions

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That with government members not asking questions:

- The portfolios of Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State be examined from 9.00 am – 11.40am
- The portfolios of Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts be examined from 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
- The portfolios of Environment, Local Government, Heritage be examined from 2.00 pm – 4.40 pm.

4.2 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.

4.3 Procedure for examining more than one portfolio

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe : That the portfolios be examined concurrently.

4.4 Additional witness requests

The committee noted each minister's list of witnesses, as per the table below, and that members have until 1.30 pm Wednesday 15 August 2018 to provide any additional witnesses.

Resolved on the motion of Ms Sharpe: That the following witness be invited to attend the Environment, Heritage, Local Government hearing:

- Ms Pauline McKenzie, Executive Director, Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.

Minister	Portfolio	Witness	Position and Department
Roberts	Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State	Mr Brendan Nelson	Deputy Secretary, Growth, Design & Programs, Department of Planning
		Mr Marcus Ray	Deputy Secretary, Planning Services, Department of Planning
		Ms Alison Frame	Deputy Secretary, Policy, Department of Planning
		Dr Liz Develin	Acting Secretary, Department of Planning
		Mr Simon Officer	Chief Financial and Operating Officer, Department of Planning and Environment
Harwin	Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts	Dr Liz Develin	Acting Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment
	Arts	Ms Alex O'Mara	Deputy Secretary, Arts, Screen and Culture
	Energy and Utilities	Ms Katherine Hole	Acting Deputy Secretary, Energy, Water and Portfolio Strategy

		Mr Jim Bentley	Managing Director, Hunter Water
		Mr David Harris	Chief Executive Officer, Water NSW
		Mr Kevin Young	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Water
	Resources	Mr Michael Wright	Acting Deputy Secretary, Division of Resources and Geoscience
		Ms Lee Shearer	Deputy Secretary, Resources Regulator
Upton	Environment, Heritage, Local Government	Mr Tim Hurst	Chief Executive, Office of Local Government
		Ms Anissa Levy	Chair & Chief Executive Officer, Environment Protection Authority
		Mr Mark Gifford	Chief Environmental Regulator, Environment Protection Authority
		Mr Anthony Lean	Chief Executive Officer, Office of Environment and Heritage

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 1.38pm, *sine die*.

Rebecca Main

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 68

Friday 31 August 2018

Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Planning and Environment

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 8.45 am

1. Members present

Mr Green, *Chair*

Mr Mallard, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Graham (substituting for Ms Sharpe)

Mr Martin

Mr Mason-Cox

Mr Primrose (substituting for Mr Wong)

Mr Shoebridge (substituting for Mr Buckingham from 9.01 am)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mallard: That draft minutes no. 65 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 14 August 2018 – Email from Mr Callum Fountain, Office of the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State, to secretariat, proposing an additional witness

- 20 August 2018 – Email from Mr Callum Fountain, Office of the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State, to secretariat, confirming an additional witness for Budget Estimates
- 22 August 2018 – Email from Mr Kevin Wilde, Office of the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for Environment, Heritage, Local Government, to secretariat, confirming additional witness for Budget Estimates.

Sent

- 17 August 2018 – Email from secretariat, to Mr Sam Tedeschi, Office of the Hon Don Harwin MLC, Minister for Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts, advising that the committee has not requested any additional witnesses for Budget Estimates
- 17 August 2018 – Email from secretariat, to Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for Environment, Local Government, Heritage, advising of the committee's request for a further additional witness for Budget Estimates
- 17 August 2018 – Email from secretariat, to Mr Callum Fountain and Mr Robert Vellar, Office of the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State, advising of the committee's request for a further additional witness for Budget Estimates.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2018-2019

4.1 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2018-2019 – Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State 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 Roberts MP was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Brendan Nelson, Deputy Secretary, Growth, Design & Programs, Department of Planning
- Mr Marcus Ray, Deputy Secretary, Planning Services, Department of Planning
- Ms Alison Frame, Deputy Secretary, Policy, Department of Planning
- Dr Liz Develin, Acting Secretary, Department of Planning
- Mr Simon Officer, Chief Financial and Operating Officer, Department of Planning
- Ms Sarah Hill, Chief Executive Officer, Greater Sydney Commission
- Mr John Brogden, Chief Executive Officer, Landcom.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Minister Roberts tendered the following document:

- Map, Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code, Temporary deferral in the Sydney Metropolitan area.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 11:40 am.

The public and media withdrew.

4.2 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State hearing held on Friday 31 August 2018:

- Map, Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code, Temporary deferral in the Sydney Metropolitan area, tendered by Minister Roberts.

4.3 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Primrose: That the committee hold a further meeting to deliberate on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State on a date to be determined following receipt of answers to questions on notice.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 11:41 am, until 1.45 pm, Friday 31 August 2018, Jubilee Room (*Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts*).

Stephanie Galbraith
Committee Clerk

Minutes No. 69

Friday 31 August 2018

Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Planning and Environment

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2:00 pm

1. Members present

Mr Green, *Chair*

Mr Mallard, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Buckingham (until 3:52)

Mr Field (participating from 2:20 pm)

Mr Franklin (substituting for Mr Mason-Cox)

Mr Martin

Mr Searle (substituting for Ms Sharpe)

Mr Secord (participating until 3:30 pm)

Mr Wong

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2018-2019

2.1 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2018-2019 – Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts

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 noted that Dr Liz Develin had been sworn at an earlier Budget Estimates hearing of the committee.

Minister Harwin MLC was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Dr Jim Bentley, Managing Director, Hunter Water
- Mr David Harris, Chief Executive Officer, Water NSW
- Mr Kevin Young, Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Water
- Ms Alex O'Mara, Deputy Secretary, Arts, Screen and Culture
- Ms Katharine Hole, Acting Deputy Secretary, Energy, Water and Portfolio Strategy
- Ms Lee Shearer, Deputy Secretary, Resource Regulator
- Mr Michael Wright, Acting Deputy Secretary, Division of Resources and Geoscience

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Searle tendered the following documents:

- Letter from the Hon Adam Searle MLC to Ms Lee Shearer, Resources Regulator, Department of Planning and Environment regarding Ridgелands Resources, dated 8 June 2018
- Email from the Hon Adam Searle MLC to Ms Lee Shearer, Resources Regulator, Department of Planning and Environment requesting an answer to earlier correspondence, dated 19 June 2018
- Email from the Hon Adam Searle MLC to Ms Lee Shearer, Resources Regulator, Department of Planning and Environment requesting an answer to earlier correspondence, dated 22 June 2018
- Email from Ms Louise Higgins, Department of Planning and Environment to the Hon Adam Searle MLC forwarding links to various documents regarding Ridgелands Resources, dated 6 July 2018
- Email regarding Ridgелands Exploration Project, dated 4 August 2018.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4:00 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

2.2 Supplementary hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mallard: That the committee hold a further meeting to deliberate on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts on a date to be determined following receipt of answers to questions on notice.

2.3 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee:

- (a) accept and publish the following documents tendered during the **Resources, Energy and Utilities, the Arts** hearing held on **Friday 31 August 2018**:
 - Letter from the Hon Adam Searle MLC to Ms Lee Shearer, Resources Regulator, Department of Planning and Environment regarding Ridgелands Resources, dated 8 June 2018
 - Email from the Hon Adam Searle MLC to Ms Lee Shearer, Resources Regulator, Department of Planning and Environment requesting an answer to earlier correspondence, dated 19 June 2018
 - Email from the Hon Adam Searle MLC to Ms Lee Shearer, Resources Regulator, Department of Planning and Environment requesting an answer to earlier correspondence, dated 22 June 2018
 - Email from Ms Louise Higgins, Department of Planning and Environment to the Hon Adam Searle MLC forwarding links to various documents regarding Ridgелands Resources, dated 6 July 2018.
- (b) postpone consideration of an email regarding Ridgелands Exploration Project, dated 4 August 2018 until the committee's next meeting.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4:00 pm, until 1.45 pm, Friday 7 September 2018, Macquarie Room (*Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts*).

Jenelle Moore
Committee Clerk

Minutes No. 70

Friday 7 September 2018

Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Planning and Environment

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.50 pm

1. Members present

Mr Green, *Chair*

Mr Mallard, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato (substituting for Mr Martin)

Ms Faehrmann (substituting for Mr Buckingham from 1.56 pm until 2.38 pm and from 3.16 pm)

Mr Mason-Cox

Mr Pearson (participating until 3.21 pm)

Mr Primrose (substituting for Mr Wong until 3.08 pm)

Ms Sharpe

Mr Shoebridge (participating from 2.23 pm until 4.00 pm)

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2018-2019**2.1 Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts hearing – Tendered document**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Primrose: That the committee accept and publish the email correspondence tendered by the Hon Adam Searle MLC, during the Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts hearing held on Friday 31 August 2018, with names and contact details of less senior employees removed.

2.2 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Primrose: That the committee hold a further meeting to deliberate on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolios of Environment, Local Government, Heritage on a date to be determined following receipt of answers to questions on notice.

2.3 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2018-2019 – Environment, Local Government, Heritage

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 Upton MP was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Tim Hurst, Chief Executive, Office of Local Government
- Ms Anissa Levy, Chair & Chief Executive Officer, Environment Protection Authority
- Mr Mark Gifford, Chief Environmental Regulator, NSW Environment Protection Authority
- Mr Anthony Lean, Chief Executive Officer, Office of Environment and Heritage
- Ms Pauline McKenzie, Executive Director, Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.

The chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Environment, Local Government, Heritage open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Ms Sharpe tendered five images of endangered species.

The evidence concluded and the Minister and departmental witnesses withdrew.

The public and media withdrew.

2.4 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Sharpe: That the committee accept and publish five images of endangered species tendered by Ms Sharpe during the Environment, Local Government, Heritage hearing held on Friday 7 September 2018.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.39 pm, *sine die*.

Shu-Fang Wei
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 74

Wednesday 17 October 2018

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment

Members' Lounge, Parliament House at 10.46 am

1. Members present

Mr Mallard, *Deputy Chair*
Mr Martin
Mr Mason-Cox
Ms Sharpe
Mr Wong (from 10.47 am)

2. Apologies

Mr Buckingham
Mr Green

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 26 September 2018 – Letter from Hon Don Harwin MLC, Minister for Resources, Utilities and Energy, the Arts, to the secretariat, attaching answers to questions on notice, answers to supplementary questions and transcript corrections
- 25 September 2018 – Letter from Dr Liz Develin, Acting Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment to the secretariat, providing corrections to the transcript
- 26 September 2018 – Letter from Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State to the secretariat, attaching answers to questions on notice, answers to supplementary questions and transcript corrections
- 3 October 2018 – Letter from Hon Gabrielle Upton MP, Minister for Environment, Heritage, Local Government to the Chair, attaching answers to questions on notice and transcript corrections.

Sent:

- 5 September 2018 – Email from secretariat to Mr Robert Vellar, Minister Roberts' 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

- 5 September 2018 – Email from secretariat to Mr Sam Tedeschi, Minister Harwin’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
- 6 September 2018 – Email from secretariat to Mr Kevin Wilde, Minister Upton’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 2018-2019

4.1 Supplementary hearings

Mr Martin moved: That the committee hold no further hearings to consider matters relating to the following portfolios:

- Environment, Heritage, Local Government
- Resources, Energy and Utilities, Arts
- Planning, Housing, Special Minister of State

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Mallard, Mr Mason-Cox, Mr Martin.

Noes: Ms Sharpe, Mr Wong.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 10.48 am.

Rebecca Main
Committee Clerk

Draft minutes No. 77

Wednesday 14 November 2018

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment
Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney, at 10.48 am

1. Members present

Mr Green, *Chair*
Mr Mallard, *Deputy Chair*
Mr Martin
Ms Sharpe

2. Apologies

Mr Buckingham
Mr Mason-Cox
Mr Wong

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2018-2019

3.1 Consideration of Chair's draft report – Budget Estimates 2018-2019

Resolved on the motion of Ms Sharpe: That:

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

The transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, 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, tabled documents, 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 15 November 2018.

4. Inquiry into the circumstances of the appearance of Mr Peterson at the Crown Lands inquiry

The committee considered further options for progressing the inquiry.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 10.50 am, *sine die*.

Rebecca Main
Committee Clerk

