



**The Hon. Damien Tudehope MLC**  
Minister for Finance  
Minister for Employee Relations  
Vice-President of the Executive Council  
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

OFFICIAL

19 September 2022

Mr David Blunt  
Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Blunt

Please find attached the Government Response to the report of Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Budget Estimates 2021-2022.

Yours sincerely

**The Hon. Damien Tudehope MLC**  
Minister for Finance  
Minister for Employee Relations  
Vice-President of the Executive Council  
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

*Received at 5:30 pm  
Monday 19 September  
2022*

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**REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO.3 ON  
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2021-2022 (REPORT 3/46, JUNE 2022)**

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

On 22 June 2022, the Legislative Council Portfolio Committee No. 3 (the **Committee**) tabled its report (the **Report**) titled Budget Estimates 2021-2022.

The Report contains one recommendation to Government as follows:

1. That the NSW Government remind all of its public servants appearing before Parliamentary committees that:
  - a. they must at all times provide accurate and relevant information
  - b. they have an obligation to assist the committee in its inquiry and not deliberately impede obstruct or delay the committee in its work
  - c. telling the truth is an obligation from being sworn in as a witness, enforceable under the *Parliamentary Evidence Act*.

The Government **notes** the recommendation.

Premier's Memorandum *M2017-01 – Guidelines for Government Sector Employees dealing with the Legislative Council's Portfolio Committees* (the **Memorandum**) establishes guidelines for government sector employees when appearing before Legislative Council Portfolio Committees.

The Memorandum requires all Ministers to ensure that all government sector employees within their portfolios are made aware of the guidelines, and that they are made available for those who are to give written or oral evidence to a Committee.

The Memorandum further states:

*Officers are reminded of their obligation to provide accurate and complete evidence when participating in parliamentary inquiries. The offence of giving false evidence may lead to the imposition of penalties of up to five years imprisonment under section 13 of the Parliamentary Evidence Act. Care and attention should be taken in preparing and providing information.*

Public servants are also made aware of these obligations under the terms of the procedural fairness resolution adopted by the Legislative Council in 2018.