

NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



HOUSE IN REVIEW

Volume 56/48

*Sitting period
21 to 23 November 2017*

The *House in Review* provides regular updates of the activities of the New South Wales Legislative Council. Clicking on a hyperlink will take you to the relevant webpage. For further information refer to the NSW Parliament website www.parliament.nsw.gov.au or contact the Procedure Office on (02) 9230 2431. To be placed on the email distribution list of the *House in Review*, please contact us on council@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Overview

The House concluded its 2018 sitting year by agreeing to six government bills. Of these bills five were considered in committee of the whole, 107 amendments were moved, and three were amended. Three private members' bills were also introduced this week, and one further private member's bill was sent to a select committee for inquiry and report.

In important news for next year, the House appointed two new committees on a trial basis for 2018: the Selection of Bills Committee and the Regulation Committee. The committees were appointed on the recommendations of the Select Committee on the Legislative Council Committee System, which reported in November 2016.

Also this week the newest member of the House, the Hon Natalie Ward, gave her first speech to the House.

The last item of business before the House was the customary motion that the House extend its thanks to the members and staff of the Parliament and wish seasonal felicitations to all.

The House will next sit on 13 February 2018.

The final edition of *House in Review* for 2017 will be issued next week, featuring a review of key events and statistical trends for the year.

New Selection of Bills Committee and the Regulation Committee

On 28 November 2016, the Select Committee on the Legislative Council committee system handed down a significant report, available [here](#), in which it made a number of important recommendations for the long term work of the Legislative Council, including recommendations 2 and 3 as follows:

2. That the Legislative Council establish a Selection of Bills Committee, on a trial basis, to consider all bills introduced into the Council or received from the Assembly.
3. That the Legislative Council establish a Regulation Committee, on a trial basis, to consider policy and other issues relating to delegated legislation.

On the final sitting day of the year, 23 November 2017, the House adopted two resolutions adopting the proposed new committees, to be trialled during the remainder of the 56th Parliament during 2018. The resolution also required that a review of the trial be undertaken by the last sitting day in November 2018.

Variation to sessional orders

On 23 November 2017, the House adopted two new sessional orders, as recommended by the Procedure Committee. The first sessional order varied standing order 186 to provide a standard procedure for the extension of debate on any item subject to an overall time limit. The second sessional order varied standing order 68 to introduce a mechanism for dealing with any failure by the Government to provide a response to a petition within the required 35 day deadline.

Government business

Note: Government business includes Government bills introduced or carried by ministers in the Council.

[Terrorism \(High Risk Offenders\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill enables the Supreme Court to make orders for the supervision or detention of certain offenders after they serve their sentences of imprisonment if it is satisfied that they pose an unacceptable risk of committing serious terrorism offences if not kept under supervision or in detention. The court must be satisfied to a high degree of probability that the offender poses an unacceptable risk of committing a serious terrorism offence. The scheme applies to someone aged 18 years or older who is serving or being supervised or detained after serving imprisonment for a New South Wales indictable offence.

In his second reading speech, the Parliamentary Secretary (Mr Clarke) indicated that while it is regrettable that the Government has to introduce the measures in the bill, they are important reforms to protect the community from offenders who have reached the end of their prison sentence and pose an unacceptable risk of committing a future serious terrorism offence.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill, but argued that most terrorist offenders are already subject to existing post-sentence detention and supervision arrangements. While the Opposition acknowledged that there are gaps in the present arrangements, it argued that they are not as significant as government rhetoric was suggesting.

The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill, arguing that while such legislation is regrettable, the Government and Parliament has little choice but to respond to the threat of terrorism.

The Greens strongly opposed the bill, opposing in principle the proposition that offenders can be kept in jail for “future crimes” that they have not committed, based on evidence that is not available to the defendant. The Greens argued that the scheme is offensive to the criminal justice system and to society’s concept of liberty.

In reply, the Parliamentary Secretary argued that preventative detention legislation has been operating in several Australian jurisdictions for well over a decade and has been approved in principle by the High Court. A decision to impose an extended supervision order or continuing detention order can only be made by the highest court in the State, the Supreme Court.

The second reading of the bill was agreed to on division (5:30), the Greens voting against the bill and all other parties voting for the bill. The bill was read a third time and returned to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

[Natural Resources Access Regulator Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill constitutes the Natural Resources Access Regulator as a statutory corporation with responsibility for the enforcement of natural resources management legislation, such as the *Water Management Act 2000*. A three-person governing Board will act for the Regulator with the Chief Regulatory Officer responsible for its day to day management. The Minister may give general directions to the Regulator if the Minister is

satisfied that it is in the public interest to do so. The bill provides for the transfer of compliance and enforcement staff of Water NSW to the public service agency to support the Regulator.

At the conclusion of the second reading debate last sitting week, the Government adjourned proceedings to allow consideration of amendments to the bill that had been circulated by the Opposition and the Greens. By the time debate resumed on Tuesday evening, the Government had circulated its own amendments to the bill.

On the resumption of the debate, the Opposition proposal to have the bill referred to a select committee for inquiry and report was negatived (Division 14:18) and the second reading of the bill agreed to on the voices.

In committee, the Greens moved a package of amendments that sought to have the Environment Protection Authority assume the functions of the new Natural Resources Access Regulator. The proposal did not draw any support and was negatived (Division 5:28).

The Government then moved its amendments to the bill to outline better the objectives of the Regulator which the Minister argued gave the Regulator a clear mandate to deliver a transparent and effective compliance and enforcement framework for water in New South Wales. The Greens, with the support of the Opposition, sought to amend the Government's amendments to have powers conferred on the Regulator through amendment of the Water Management Act rather than through regulation. The Greens amendments were negatived and the Government amendments as presented were agreed to.

The Opposition and the Greens between them subsequently moved a number of sets of amendments relating to the functions of the Regulator, requirements for appointment to the Board of the Regulator, the creation of a public register of offences, the reporting requirements of the Regulator, the establishment of a parliamentary joint committee to oversight the Regulator, and the establishment of a separate staff agency. However, none of the amendments were supported by either the Government or the CDP and they were all negatived either on the voices or on division.

As this was a Council bill that had been amended, the question on the third reading of the bill was held over until the next day to allow the preparation of a second print of the bill. The question on the third reading was put during formalities on Wednesday morning and was agreed to (Division 17:15). The bill was forwarded to the Assembly for concurrence. Later on Wednesday night the Assembly returned the bill without amendment.

[Building Products \(Safety\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill enables the Commissioner for Fair Trading to prohibit the use of a building products in a building if satisfied on reasonable grounds that the use is unsafe, to identify buildings in which prohibited products have been used, and to enable councils or relevant enforcement authorities to order that the safety risk posed by the use of the prohibited product be eliminated or minimised. The bill also makes it an offence for a person to cause a prohibited product to be used in a building or to represent a prohibited product as suitable for use.

The development of the bill was expedited in response to the Grenfell Tower fire in London, where it is thought that external cladding attached to the building may have accelerated the spread of fire in the building.

In his second reading speech, the Parliamentary Secretary (Mr Farlow) argued that the bill provides a new and improved legislative framework for the regulation of building products which will close the legislative gaps that exist as a result of the incomplete coverage of the Australian Consumer Law and other legislation relating to building products used in commercial, residential and industrial sites.

The Opposition argued that the Government has known about the emerging problem of unsafe building products since 2014 but that its response to date had been inadequate. It argued that the bill failed to provide the comprehensive framework required for responding to building safety issues, noting that the bill had lost many of the provisions in the initial draft that had been subject to consultation. The Opposition foreshadowed that it would move a range of amendments to strengthen the bill, many of which would in effect seek to reinstate sections that had been in the draft bill.

The Greens did not oppose the bill but agreed with the Opposition that the bill fell short of what was required to address the current risks related to unsafe building products, particularly what it argued was the bill's focus on the end of the supply chain. The Greens did commend the Government for commencing an audit to identify high risk buildings, but also argued that the increasing role of private certifiers under the Government's tenure had increased the risk of unsafe buildings. The Greens indicated they would support significant amendment of the bill.

The Christian Democratic Party indicated that they were aware of concerns from industry stakeholders regarding the level of detail in the bill compared to the initial draft consultation bill, but indicated that they would support the bill and monitor its performance to assess if further amendment was required down the track. The CDP also indicated that they had received assurances from the Government that the bill represented stage one of the legislative response, with further stages to come. The CDP foreshadowed two amendments to ensure that the occupants of a building are notified if they have unsafe building products in their building.

The second reading was agreed to.

In the committee stage, the Opposition moved a suite of amendments that sought to fundamentally broaden the scope of the bill and to insert increased detail on and definition of the products and actions that fall under, and are required by, the bill. The amendments were supported by The Greens and the Animal Justice Party but were defeated on division (13:16), with the Government and the CDP opposing the amendments.

CDP amendments requiring occupiers of buildings to be notified if there are unsafe building products in their building were supported by all parties, including the Opposition, which had circulated identical amendments.

The Greens moved amendments to require that bans on the use of building products are published on the website of at least one news media organisation and to ensure that homeowners who receive notification of the need for rectification work due to the presence of prohibited building products had recourse to claims under the home warranty insurance scheme. The amendments were defeated on division (13:16).

The bill was agreed to with the CDP amendments, read a third time and returned to the Assembly. The Assembly agreed to the Council's amendments.

[Local Government Amendment \(Regional Joint Organisations\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill seeks to amend the *Local Government Act 1993* to provide for the constitution of joint organisations of councils (joint organisations). Joint organisations are an initiative to provide a governance structure and forum for regional councils, the Government and other partners to work together on economic and social development. Joint organisations will have a board consisting of the mayors of each of the member councils, and other prescribed representatives, who will be responsible for developing a charter to guide its operation. The Chairperson of the board must be a mayor of a member council and will serve on a two year basis.

Debate resumed from 18 October 2017 (see previous House in Review).

The Opposition did not oppose the bill but questioned why the Government had taken so long to introduce legislation to provide for joint organisations. The Opposition also argued that the bill was vague and did not clearly specify how joint organisations would operate in practice, and suggested that joint organisations should also be available in metropolitan areas. The Greens did not oppose the bill but criticised the Government for not concurrently introducing the bill with the relevant regulations so as to provide councils greater certainty regarding how joint organisations will operate. The Greens also argued that by not making joint organisations available to metropolitan councils the Government was demonstrating its continuing commitment to forced council amalgamations. The Christian Democratic Party supported the bill on the basis that it would provide regional councils a mechanism to promote social and economic development.

The second reading was agreed to.

In committee, the Opposition unsuccessfully moved an amendment to provide that the bill will apply to the whole State not just regional New South Wales (Division 16:19). A Greens amendment to provide that a member council is not required to make a financial contribution to a joint organisation was also negated (Division 16:19), as was a Greens amendment to prohibit the Minister from removing a voting representative from a joint organisation board. However a Christian Democratic Party amendment to provide that in the event of a Chair leaving a joint organisation the term of the replacement Chair is the remaining period of the term of office was agreed to. In addition, Green and CDP amendments to provide that a council administrator assuming the role of mayor may not be chairperson of a joint organisation board, but that a council administrator assuming the role of a mayor is eligible for election to the position of chairperson of the joint organisation board were also agreed to on the voices.

Similar to the Natural Resources Access Regulator Bill 2017, the question on the third reading of the bill was held over until the next day to allow the preparation of a second print of the bill. The question on the third reading was put during formalities on Wednesday morning and was agreed to on the voices. The bill was forwarded to the Assembly for concurrence. Later on Wednesday night the Assembly returned the bill without amendment.

[Electoral Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill repeals and replaces the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912* to modernise and improve the conduct of elections in New South Wales by better accounting for modern electoral practice and technological advances. The bill follows a review of the Act undertaken by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters. The committee found that, while the Act provides appropriate principles for the conduct of parliamentary elections, the legislative framework for elections requires modernisation.

Debate resumed from 15 November 2017 (see previous House in Review).

The Parliamentary Secretary (Mr Franklin) resumed his second reading speech, noting that the bill had been developed in close consultation with the Electoral Commissioner and the NSW Electoral Commission. The Parliamentary Secretary stated that the bill streamlines the legislative framework for New South Wales elections, clarifies provisions relating to technology assisted voting and adopts a centralised model for counting postal votes.

The Opposition did not oppose the bill and commended the Government for taking on board Opposition concerns regarding the 2015 report of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters. The Greens supported the bill and also noted that its development had been a largely collaborative process. However, the Greens indicated that they would be seeking to amend the bill to provide that 16 and 17 year olds are eligible to vote on a voluntary basis and also to allow prisoners to vote, unless they are serving a life sentence.

The second reading was agreed to.

In committee, the Greens amendments pertaining to 16 and 17 year old voter eligibility and prisoner voting rights were negated on division (15:18 and 6:28).

The third reading of the bill was agreed to and the bill was returned to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

[State Revenue Legislation Amendment \(Surcharge\) Bill 2017](#)

House of origin: Legislative Assembly

The bill amends the *Duties Act 1997*, the *Land Tax Act 1956* and the *Land Tax Management Act 1956* in two ways. First, it allows Australian corporations with foreign ownership to claim a refund on the surcharges applicable to the sale of newly constructed homes. Second, it exempts small businesses from the duties imposed when a small business takes out an insurance policy.

Debate resumed from 15 November 2017 (see previous House in Review).

While the Opposition and The Greens supported the small business stamp duty exemptions provided by the bill, they opposed exemptions to foreign investor surcharges on stamp duty and land tax for Australian corporations with foreign ownership. The Opposition argued that the funds collected from surcharges to foreign investors had originally been touted for investment in health and education, and that the \$34 million forecast reduction in surcharges generated as a result of the exemptions could be used to pay for new schools or hospital upgrades. The Opposition foreshadowed that it would seek to amend the bill in committee of the whole to address these concerns. The Greens similarly argued that the funds generated would be better directed to community services, schools and public transport, and that the exemptions for developers were unlikely to correlate to increased new housing stock or improved housing affordability. The second reading was agreed to on the voices.

In committee of the whole, the Opposition and Greens sought to vote against the schedules that related to the foreign investor exemptions, however the motion that the schedules remain as read was agreed to and the bill was reported without amendment.

The third reading was agreed to on the voices and the bill returned to the Assembly without amendment.

Private members' business

Note: Private members' business is business introduced by members of the House other than Government ministers. There are two types of private members' business: private members' bills and private members' motions.

Bills

[Smoke-free Environment Amendment \(E-Cigarettes\) Bill 2017](#) (Mr Secord, Australian Labor Party)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill seeks to amend the *Smoke Free Environment Act 2000* to regulate the use of e-cigarettes in public places. The bill follows legislation in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and the Australian Capital Territory, jurisdictions that all classify e-cigarettes within the same class as tobacco cigarettes.

In his second reading speech, Mr Secord stated while the sale of e-cigarettes containing nicotine is illegal, the sale of flavoured e-cigarettes is increasing. Mr Secord argued the community view is that e-cigarettes are harmful and should be subject to the same strict rules and regulations as tobacco.

Debate was adjourned for five calendar days.

Combat Sports Amendment (Referee's Duty to Stop Contest) Bill 2017 (Ms Voltz, Australian Labor Party)

House of origin: Legislative Council

The bill seeks to amend the *Combat Sports Act 2013* to require a referee to stop a combat sport contest if directed to do so by the trainer of a combatant because the combatant is exhausted or injured to such an extent as to be unable to defend himself or herself or to continue the contest. The maximum penalty for not stopping the contest is 500 penalty units or 12 months imprisonment, or both.

In her second reading speech, Ms Voltz stated that the bill adopts the recommendations made by the Deputy State Coroner following the death of a boxer during a contest in September 2015. Ms Voltz noted that during the contest in which the boxer died there was confusion regarding whose call it was to end the fight despite the fighter's family, trainer and judges all believing that he was unable to continue. To address this uncertainty, Ms Voltz argued that the right of trainers to end contests should be enshrined in legislation.

Debate was adjourned for five calendar days.

State Senate Bill 2015 (Revd Mr Nile, Christian Democratic Party)

The bill authorises the use of the term State Senate as a reference to the Legislative Council and the use of the term State Senator as a reference to a member of the Legislative Council.

Debate on the bill resumed from 12 October 2017 (see earlier House in Review). Mr Green from the Christian Democratic Party continued his speech in support of the bill, before moving that the bill be referred to a select committee for inquiry and report. Revd Mr Nile spoke in reply and reiterated his earlier comments in support of the bill.

The motion to refer the bill to a select committee was agreed to.

Environmental Planning and Assessment (Waste Incinerator Facilities – Residential Exclusion Zones) Bill 2017 (Mr Buckingham, The Greens)

House of Origin: Legislative Council.

The bill prohibits development of a waste incinerator within 15 kilometres of a residential zone. The prohibition does not apply to the thermal treatment of clinical or related waste or waste that has been declared to be exempt waste fuel.

In his second reading speech, Mr Buckingham said he was introducing the bill on behalf of the people of Western Sydney, as the immediate purpose of the bill was to prevent the proposed Eastern Creek waste incinerator and the burning of plastic and industrial waste within 800 metres of homes and schools. Mr Buckingham said the bill prioritised health over profits and questioned why the proposal was still progressing through the planning system despite concerns being raised by the Environment Protection Authority, NSW Health and the local council and residents.

Mr Buckingham quoted correspondence he had received from residents of Western Sydney voicing their concerns regarding the proposed incinerator at Eastern Creek and called on the Government, particularly those who represent Western Sydney electorates, to support the bill.

Debate was adjourned for five calendar days.

Motions

Service of Hon Duncan Gay (Mr Colless, The Nationals)

The Honourable Duncan Gay resigned as a member of the Legislative Council on 31 August 2017, bringing to an end almost 30 years of service to the Council after his election to the House in March 1988.

On Thursday 23 November 2017, Mr Colless moved that the House take note of the extended and honourable service to the House and the Parliament provided by the Honourable Duncan Gay, and thank Mr Gay, his wife and children for his contribution to the Parliament and the people of New South Wales.

Members from all sides of the House spoke to the motion, acknowledging Mr Gay's remarkable longevity as a member of the House. Members of The Nationals thanked Mr Gay for his leadership of the Party as well as his support for newly elected members. They also acknowledged his authority both in opposition and as a Minister and Leader of the Government in the House. Members of the Opposition acknowledged Mr Gay as a formidable opponent, while members of the cross bench thanked Mr Gay for his integrity and honesty in his dealings with them. Members referred to some of Mr Gay's achievements as Minister for Roads, his passionate advocacy of communities in rural New South Wales throughout his career, and his introduction of procedural reforms in the House.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Motions taken as formal business

The following items of private members' business were agreed to as formal business without amendment or debate:

1. 60th anniversary of the Armenian Apostolic Church in Australia (Mr Clarke).
2. 77th anniversary of the National Day of Greece (Mr Clarke).
3. "They risked their lives – Poles who saved Jews during the Holocaust" exhibition (Mr Clarke).
4. The Armidale School (Mr MacDonald).
5. National Remembrance Day commemoration for police officers (Mr Clarke).
6. 40th Annual Lebanon Carnival (Mr Clarke).
7. 2017 Remembrance Day Commemoration at Jewish War Memorial (Mr Clarke).
8. Queen's Birthday Investiture Ceremony (Mr Clarke).
9. Hunter breast care nurses (Mr MacDonald).
10. Hunter Manufacturing Awards (Mr MacDonald).
11. Disability Services Australia Employee Achievements Awards 2017 (Mr Amato).
12. St Vincent De Paul Society CEO sleepouts (Mr Amato).
13. Grow Your Own Lunch Box Challenge (Mr Franklin).
14. Byron Bay Film Festival (Mr Franklin).
15. Bolshevik Revolution (Dr Phelps).
16. Philippine Christmas Festival of Sydney 2017 (Mr Clarke).
17. Federation of Polish Associations annual ball (Mr Clarke).
18. Knights of Rizal theatrical presentation (Mr Clarke).
19. Art exhibition of Polish-Australian painter Vitek Skonieczny (Mr Clarke).
20. Visit of the President of the Republic of Croatia (Mr Clarke).
21. Transgender Day of Remembrance (Dr Faruqi).
22. Australian Friends of Magen David Adom (Mr Clarke).
23. NSW Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia excellence awards (Mr Franklin).

24. Local swimming pools (Mr Green).
25. Visit of Pope Tawadros II (Mr Clarke).
26. Holroyd Combined Churches 40th community dinner (Mr Green).
27. Bernie Banton Foundation (Mrs Houssos).
28. Young refugees and the “Suitcase Stories” (Dr Faruqi).
29. Opening of the Lismore Regional Gallery (Mr Franklin).
30. International Justice Mission and modern slavery (Mr Green).
31. Local Area Command Award Ceremony for Fairfield Police (Mr Clarke).
32. 120th Bangalow Show (Mr Franklin).
33. Local Area Command Award Ceremony for Blacktown, Mount Druitt and Quakers Hill Police (Mr Clarke).
34. National Adoption Awareness Week (Mr Green).
35. 77th anniversary of the Greek National Day (Mr Clarke).
36. Mr Jurek Krajewski and Mrs Jadwiga Solka-Krajewski (Mr Clarke).
37. Netball NSW Annual Awards 2017 (Mr MacDonald).
38. Project Futures and human trafficking (Mr Green).
39. South Asian Australian Association Diwali Mela event (Mr Clarke).
40. 75th Anniversary of the Rescue and Bomb Disposal Unit of the NSW Police Force (Mr MacDonald).
41. Sayat Nova Minstrel and Folkloric Ensemble of Armenia concert (Mr Clarke).
42. Vietnam Sydney Radio celebratory dinner (Mr Clarke).
43. Australian Hellenic Educators Association design competition (Mr Clarke).
44. Confluence – The Festival of India in Australia 2017 (Mr Clarke).
45. Republic of Korea National Foundation Day (Mr Farlow).
46. Institute of Chartered Accountants of India conference in Australia (Mr Farlow).
47. 4th Australia-Korea Politics and Business Forum (Mr Farlow).
48. Airds-Bradbury Men’s Shed (Mr Farlow).
49. Australian Light Horse charge at Beersheba (Mr Farlow).
50. War Widows’ Guild of Australia NSW Walk and Picnic (Mr Farlow).
51. Polish Independence Day (Mr Clarke).
52. Review of the “Newcastle Solution” (Mr Field).
53. Musical Virtuoso Dr Mohamed (Magdi) El Hossiny (Mr Clarke).
54. Mullumbimby Music Festival 2017 (Mr Franklin).
55. Aasha Australia Foundation forum on ageing (Mr Clarke).
56. Autism awareness and the “Do you see me?” photo exhibition (Mr Mallard).

57. Lebanese Forces Australia dinner (Mr Clarke).
58. HMAS Sydney II (Mr Farlow).
59. Lebanese Independence Movement Australia gala dinner 2017 (Mr Clarke).
60. HunterNet Future Leaders Awards (Mr MacDonald).
61. Real Futures Foundation awards ceremony (Mr MacDonald).
62. Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia excellence awards (Mr MacDonald).
63. Mr Donald Mackay (Mr MacDonald).

Committee activities

Committee membership

Joint Committee on the Office of the Valuer-General: Ms Ward to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr Pearce.

Legislation Review Committee: Mrs Maclaren-Jones to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr Pearce.

Committee on the Ombudsman, the Law Enforcement Conduction Commission and the Crime Commission: Mr Fang to replace Mr Martin.

Committee on the Health Care Complaints Commission: Mr Evans to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms Hodgkinson.

Committee references

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Legal Affairs: The Chair informed the House that on 23 November 2017, the committee resolved to inquire into the Parklea Correctional Centre.

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment: The House referred an inquiry into the music and arts economy to the committee on 23 November 2017

Select Committee on the State Senate Bill 2015: The House established a select committee to inquire into and report on the State Senate Bill 2015.

Committee reports tabled

Legislation Review Committee: ‘Legislation Review Digest No. 47/56’, dated 21 November 2017.

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters: ‘Inquiry into preference counting in local government elections in NSW’, dated November 2017.

Extension of reporting date

Procedure Committee: The reporting date for the inquiry into e-petitions has been extended to the last sitting day in June 2018.

Committee reports debated

Portfolio Committee No. 3: The House continued the take note debate on Report No. 37 entitled ‘Education of students with a disability or special needs in New South Wales’, dated September 2017.

Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption: The House continued the take note debate on Report No. 3/56 entitled ‘Review of the 2014-15 and 2015-16 annual reports of the ICAC Inspector’, dated September 2017.

Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety (Staysafe): The House continued the take note debate on Report No. 3/56 entitled ‘Driver education, training and road safety’, dated September 2017.

Committee on the Health Care Complaints Commission: The House continued the take note debate on Report No. 2/56 entitled ‘Review of the Health Care Complaints Commission Annual Report 2015/16’, dated October 2017.

Government response

Select Committee on Off-Protocol Prescribing of Chemotherapy in New South Wales: Response received to the report entitled ‘Off-protocol prescribing of chemotherapy in New South Wales’, received out of session and authorised to be printed on 20 November 2017.

Inquiry activities

Select Committee on Electricity Supply, Demand and Prices in New South Wales

The committee has received more than 230 submissions to date and held two public hearings in Sydney. The committee anticipates holding further hearings in early 2018.

Standing Committee on State Development

Inquiry into regional development and a global Sydney

The committee published a discussion paper on 14 November 2017 and invites further submissions on the questions raised. The closing date for submissions is 12 February 2018.

Defence industry in New South Wales

The committee published a discussion paper on 14 November 2017 and invites further submissions on the questions raised. The closing date for submissions is 12 February 2018.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice

Statutory review of the State Insurance and Care Governance Act 2015

The committee has received 16 submissions and held a public hearing on 7 November 2017. The final report will be tabled on 15 December 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 1 – Premier and Finance

Inquiry into Alcoholic Beverages Advertising Prohibition Bill 2015

The committee has received 39 submissions to date. Hearings will be held on 1 and 5 December 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services

The provisions of drug rehabilitation services in regional, rural and remote New South Wales

The closing date for submissions is 8 December 2017. The committee anticipates commencing hearings in March and April 2018.

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Legal Affairs

Inquiry into museums and galleries

The committee will table an interim report by 22 December 2017. The final report will be tabled by 1 March 2018.

Emergency services agencies

The committee has received more than 180 submissions to date and held three public hearings. The committee will conduct its next public hearings in 2018.

Fire and emergency services levy

The closing date for submissions is 26 November 2017.

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Industry and Transport

Inquiry into water augmentation for rural and regional New South Wales

The committee has received 118 submissions and held 11 hearings in Sydney and regional areas. The committee is due to report in March 2018.

Inquiry into the Windsor Bridge replacement project

The closing date for submissions is 28 January 2018.

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Planning and Environment

Inquiry into energy from waste technology

The committee will conduct a hearing on 24 November and anticipates reporting next year.

Privileges Committee

Inquiry into procedural fairness for inquiry participants

The committee has published a discussion paper and received six submissions.

Reports tabled

Auditor General:

1. Central Agencies 2017, November 2017.
2. Report on agency compliance with NSW Government travel policies, November 2017

Ombudsman: Oversight of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 Annual Report 2016-17, November 2017.

Adjournment debate

Tuesday 21 November 2017

Member for Port Stephens (Ms Cusack); Sydney Jewish Museum 25th Anniversary (Mr Secord); Christian Democratic Party (Mr Green); Home ownership (Mr Amato); Sporting infrastructure (Ms Voltz); Parliamentary Christian ethics (Revd Mr Nile); Murder of Donald McKay 40th anniversary (Mr MacDonald).

Wednesday 22 November 2017

Health and hospital system (Mr Secord); Wild Kowmung River (Mr Field); Graffiti Removal Day (Mrs Maclaren-Jones); School cleaners (Mr Primrose); Poland Independence Day (Mr Clarke).

Thursday 23 November 2017

Shooting of Mervyn Flanagan (Mr Graham); White Ribbon Day (Mr Martin); Rural Police Local Area Commands Amalgamations (Mr Brown); Future Utopia (Mr Buckingham); Project O Cooma (Mrs Taylor); Tribute to Stavros Kyrimis (Mrs Houssos).

Feedback on *House in Review*

We welcome any comments you might have on this publication.

We are particularly keen to know which parts of the *House in Review* you find most useful and whether you have any suggestions for improvement. Please email your comments to

stephen.frappell@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

All responses will be kept strictly confidential.



David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments