

General Purpose Standing Committee No.1

Budget Estimates 2004-2005

Ordered to be printed according to the Resolution of the House

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Chair: Gordon Moyes.

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How to contact the committee

Members of the General Purpose Standing Committee No.1 can be contacted through the Committee Secretariat. Written correspondence and enquiries should be directed to:

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Terms of Reference

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

(Minutes of proceedings No 61 pages 886-888, 23 June 2004)

Committee Membership

Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC	Christian Democratic Party	<i>Chair</i>
Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Hon Eric Roozendaal MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Ian West MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party	
Hon Robyn Parker MLC	Liberal Party	
Ms Lee Rhiannon MLC	The Greens	

Other Members who attended the hearings

Ms Jan Burnswoods	Australian Labor Party
Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC	Australian Labor Party
Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC	Australian Democrats
Hon Amanda Fazio MLC	Australian Labor Party
Hon Duncan Gay MLC	The Nationals
Hon Michael Gallacher MLC	Liberal Party
Hon Don Harwin MLC	Liberal Party
Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals
Hon Greg Pearce MLC	Liberal Party
Hon John Ryan MLC	Liberal Party
Hon Henry Tsang MLC	Australian Labor Party

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Chair's foreword

General Purpose Standing Committee No 1 has examined the Budget Estimates for 2004-2005 for the portfolio areas of:

Premier, Arts and Citizenship

Treasury and State Development

Special Minister of State, Commerce and Industrial Relations

Education and Training

The Legislature

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the Premier, President, Ministers and officers of the departments and organisations who appeared before it.

Revd the Hon Dr Gordon Moyes MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Examination of budget estimates

- 1.1 General Purpose Standing Committee No 1 examined the Budget Estimates and related documents for its portfolios at a series of public hearings held on the following dates:
- 13 September 2004 Premier, Arts and Citizenship
 - 13 September 2004 Treasury, and State Development
 - 15 September 2004 Education and Training, Aboriginal Affairs
 - 17 September 2004 Special Minister of State, Commerce, Industrial Relations, Central Coast
 - 17 September 2004 The Legislature
- 1.2 This report outlines the administrative details of the budget estimates hearing process and a brief summary of some of the key issues raised. The full transcript of evidence taken at these hearings can be found at the Committee's Web page accessible via the Parliament's home page at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates. Hard copies of the transcript can be obtained by contacting the General Purpose Standing Committee Secretariat on 02 9230 3544.
- 1.3 During these hearings, Ministers took a number of questions on notice. In addition the Committee lodged written questions on notice for all the portfolio areas by following the usual procedure of placing questions on the notice paper with the Clerks at the Table on days that the House sits.
- 1.4 The Committee is pleased to note that answers have been provided to all questions placed on notice. Copies of the questions and answers can be found at the Committee's Web page at the above address or by contacting the secretariat on the above number.

Portfolios

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

Chapter 2 Public hearings – by portfolio

The key topics discussed at the hearing are provided below. For further details on these, and other matters, see the Hansard record of the hearing, available on the Committee's web page accessible via the Parliament's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Premier, Arts and Citizenship

2.1 On 13 September 2004 the Committee conducted public hearings into the portfolios of the Premier, Arts and Citizenship.

Premier

2.2 Amongst the issues discussed, the rezoning of the Orange Grove Designer Outlets Centre was of particular focus. Other key issues discussed included:

- greenhouse gas emissions and the fossil fuel industry
- reappointment of Her Excellency the Governor of NSW
- displaced public servants and senior executive service officers
- government response to the Select Committee report on the transportation and storage of nuclear waste
- effects of long wall mining
- conservation and industry in the Pilliga
- ministerial office budgets

Treasury, State Development

2.3 On 13 September 2004 the Committee conducted public hearings into the portfolios of the Treasury and State Development.

Treasury

2.4 Key issues discussed during the public hearing included:

- Capital works funding and asset maintenance
- the budget deficit
- vendor duty and stamp duty
- club gaming machine tax
- the public sector pay case

- outstanding debt owed to the State Debt Recovery Office
- Frontier Economics consulting services to Treasury
- ministerial office expenditure and staffing

State Development

2.5 Key issues discussed during the public hearing centred on the employment of the Trade and Investment Co-ordinator in London. Other issues discussed included:

- Electricity industry reform
- Tokyo office of the Department of State and Regional Development
- the Country Embassy

Education and Training, Aboriginal Affairs

2.6 On 15 September 2004 the Committee conducted public hearings into the portfolios of Education and Training, and Aboriginal Affairs.

Education and Training

2.7 A number of matters were discussed during the hearing, including the closure of Beacon Hill High School and superannuation entitlements of staff. Other key issues discussed included:

- Aboriginal education systems
- Aboriginal students' retention rates
- Priority Schools Program, Priority Action Schools Program and the Priority Schools Help Program
- school cleaning and maintenance
- teachers' pay rise
- teacher numbers
- funding of school capital works
- computers and software in schools
- community colleges
- Electricity supply to schools

Aboriginal Affairs

2.8 A number of issues were discussed during the hearing, including the establishment and operations of Aboriginal Land Councils and the Aboriginal Land Fund. Other key issues discussed included:

- redevelopment of the Block
- Aboriginal Community Liaison Officers

Special Minister of State, Commerce, Industrial Relations and the Central Coast

2.9 On 17 September 2004 the Committee conducted public hearings into the portfolios of the Special Minister of State, Commerce, Industrial Relations and the Central Coast.

Special Minister of State

2.10 The key issues discussed concerned administration of public sector employee's superannuation and employment of Mr Buik.

Commerce

2.11 Amongst the issues discussed, school cleaning contracts and WorkCover were of particular focus. Other key issues discussed included:

- WorkCover budget forecast and scheme deficit
- Workers Compensation Scheme initiatives
- activities of Mr Wheeler
- WorkCover Tunnelling Inspectors and tunnelling code of practice
- ICAC investigation of certain WorkCover assessors
- catering and accommodation budget at WorkCover and staff attendance at conferences
- WorkCover inspectors' industrial award
- guidelines for recovery of WorkCover fines

Industrial Relations

2.12 Key issues discussed included:

- school cleaners' working conditions
- clothing outworkers

Central Coast

2.13 The main issue discussed in this portfolio was Central Coast gas exploration.

The Legislature

- 2.14** On 17 September 2004 the Committee conducted public hearings into the portfolio of the Legislature.
- 2.15** The main issues discussed concerned:
- the NSW Parliament art collection
 - broadband internet access
 - ‘family-friendly’ sitting hours
 - Members’ relief staff
 - press gallery office space
 - water consumption at Parliament
 - administrative requirements arising from Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal ruling on Members’ allowances

Appendix 1 Witnesses

1. Premier, Arts and Citizenship

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
13 September 2004	The Hon. R. J. Carr	Premier, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Citizenship
	Dr C. Gellatly	Director-General Premier's Department
	Mr R. Wilkins	Director General Cabinet Office

2. Treasury, State Development

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
13 September 2004	The Hon. J. J. Della Bosca	Special Minister of State, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Industrial Relations, Assistant Treasurer, and Minister for the Central Coast
	Ms J. Wolfe	Acting Director-General Department of Commerce
	Mr T. Collins	Deputy Director-General Office of Government Business Department of Commerce
	Ms P. Manser	Deputy Director-General Office of Industrial Relations Department of Commerce
	Mr J. Voss	Chief Financial Officer Department of Commerce
	Mr D. Bowen	General Manager Motor Accidents Authority
	Mr J. Blackwell	Chief Executive Officer WorkCover Authority
	Mr J. Watson	General Manager Occupational Health and Safety WorkCover Authority
	Mr G. Barnden	Director Drug and Alcohol Policy The Cabinet Office

3. Education and Training, Aboriginal Affairs

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
15 September 2004	The Hon. Andrew Refshauge	Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
	Mr Michael ChouEIFate	Chief of Staff Minister's Office
	Ms Jodie Broun	Director-General Department of Aboriginal Affairs
	Mr A. Cappie-Wood	Director-General Department of Education and Training
	Mr M. Bowles	Deputy Director-General Department of Education and Training
	Mr K. Dixon	General Manager, Finance Board of Studies Department of Education and Training

4. Special Minister of State, Commerce, Industrial Relations, Central Coast

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
Friday 17 September 2004	The Hon. J. J. Della Bosca	Special Minister of State, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Industrial Relations, Assistant Treasurer, and Minister for the Central Coast
	Ms J. Wolfe	Acting Director-General Department of Commerce
	Mr T. Collins	Deputy Director-General Office of Government Business Department of Commerce
	Ms P. Manser	Deputy Director-General Office of Industrial Relations Department of Commerce
	Mr J. Voss	Chief Financial Officer Department of Commerce
	Mr D. Bowen	General Manager Motor Accidents Authority
	Mr J. Blackwell	Chief Executive Officer WorkCover Authority
	Mr J. Watson	General Manager Occupational Health and Safety

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
	Mr G. Barnden	WorkCover Authority Director Drug and Alcohol Policy The Cabinet Office

5. The Legislature

Date	Name	Position and Organisation
17 September 2004	The Hon. Dr Meredith Burgmann,	President of the Legislative Council of New South Wales
	Mr J. Evans	Clerk of the Parliaments Parliament of New South Wales
	Mr G. McGill	Financial Controller Parliament of New South Wales
	Mr D. Draper	Manager, Food and Beverage Parliament of New South Wales
	Mr A. Shariat	Manager, Information Technology Services Parliament of New South Wales

Appendix 2 Minutes of proceedings

Minutes No 28

Monday 13 September 2004
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
At Parliament House at 5.15pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Mr Peter Primrose
Mr Eric Roozendaal
Ms Catherine Cusack (deliberative meeting until 5.30pm)
Ms Robyn Parker (deliberative meeting until 5.30pm)
Ms Lee Rhiannon
Ms Amanda Fazio (West)
Mr Greg Pearce (Cusack) (public hearing from 5.35pm)
Ms Melinda Pavey (Parker) (public hearing from 5.35pm)

2. Election of Chair

Following the resignation of Revd Nile from the Legislative Council on Monday 30 August 2004 and in accordance with Standing Order 211, the Committee was required to elect a Chair.

The Clerk called for nominations for Chair of the Committee.

Ms Fazio moved: that Mr Primrose be elected Chair of the Committee.
Ms Cusack moved: that Ms Parker be elected Chair of the Committee.

The Clerk informed the Committee that, there being two nominations, in accordance with the practice of the House a ballot must be held.

Ballot papers were distributed to Committee Members by the Clerk and Members lodged their votes.

The Clerk announced the result of the ballot as follows:

Mr Primrose —3 votes
Ms Parker —3 votes

There being an equality of votes, the Clerk informed the Committee that, in accordance with the practice of the House, a second ballot must be held.

Ballot papers were distributed to Committee Members by the Clerk and Members lodged their votes.

The Clerk announced the result of the ballot as follows:

Mr Primrose —3 votes
Ms Parker —3 votes

There again being an equality of votes, the Clerk informed the Committee Members that, in accordance with the practice of the House, she was required to withdraw by lot the name of one candidate, with the remaining candidate elected Chair.

The Clerk withdrew the name of Ms Parker. As a result Mr Primrose, as the remaining candidate, was declared Chair of General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1.

3. Election of Deputy Chair

Mr Primrose took the Chair, vacating the position of Deputy Chair. The Chair therefore called for nominations for Deputy Chair of the Committee.

Ms Fazio moved: That Mr Roozendaal be elected Deputy Chair of the Committee.

Ms Cusack moved: That Ms Parker be elected Deputy Chair of the Committee.

Ballot papers were distributed by the Clerk to Committee Members and Members lodged their votes.

The Clerk invited the Members who nominated each candidate to act as scrutineers.

The Clerk announced the result of the ballot as follows:

Ms Parker—3 votes

Mr Roozendaal —3 votes

There being an equality of votes, Mr Primrose used his casting vote as Chair to vote for Mr Roozendaal. As a result, Mr Roozendaal was declared elected Deputy Chair.

4. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Ms Fazio would be representing Mr West, Mr Pearce representing Ms Cusack and Ms Pavey representing Ms Parker for the purposes of this meeting.

5. Budget Estimates 2004-2005

The Chair made a statement to Members regarding the broadcasting of proceedings.

The Hon Bob Carr MP, Premier, Minister for Arts and Minister for Citizenship, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

The Premier's Department

Dr Col Gellatly, Director General

The Cabinet Office, Ministry for the Arts

Mr Roger Wilkins, Director General

Sustainable Energy Development Authority

Mr Roger Wilkins, Chief Executive Officer

Community Relations Commission

Mr Stepan Kerkyasharian, Chair and Chief Executive Officer

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Premier, Arts and Citizenship open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Mr Carr tendered the following documents:

- A folder of documents containing transcripts and newspaper clippings in relation to the Orange Grove Designer Outlets Centre
- Information on the Rural and Regional Miscellaneous Grants fund

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Premier, Arts and Citizenship concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

6. Deliberative meeting

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Fazio, that the Committee accept the documents tendered by the Premier.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Fazio, that under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the authority of Standing Order 223, the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish the documents accepted by the Committee during today's hearing.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 7.40pm until 7.45pm on Monday 13 September 2004.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 29

Monday 13 September 2004
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
At Parliament House at 8.00 pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Mr Peter Primrose (*Chair*)
Mr Eric Roozendaal (*Deputy Chair*)
Mr Tony Catanzariti (West)
Ms Catherine Cusack
Mr Duncan Gay (Parker)
Ms Lee Rhiannon

2. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Mr Gay would be representing Ms Parker and Mr Catanzariti would be representing Mr West for the purposes of this meeting

3. Budget Estimates 2004-2005

The Chair made a statement to Members regarding the broadcasting of proceedings.

The Hon Michael Egan MLC, Treasurer, Minister for State Development and Vice-President of the Executive Council, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

NSW Treasury

Mr Mark Ronsisvalle, Acting Secretary, NSW Treasury
Mr Peter Achterstraat, Executive Director, Office of State Revenue
Mr Brian Robertson, Director, State Debt Recovery Office

Department of State and Regional Development

Mr Loftus Harris, Director General, Department of State and Regional Development.

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Treasury and State Development open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Leave granted for Mr Egan to table a document entitled "Attachment 1: Nominal wage increases from July 1996."

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Treasury and State Development concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

Resolved, on motion of Ms Cusack: That the document tabled by Mr Egan be accepted.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Roozendaal: That, under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and under the authority of Standing Order 224, the Committee authorises the Clerk of the Committee to publish documents tendered at today's public hearing.

4. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 10.02 pm until 7.45pm on Wednesday 15 September 2004.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 30

Wednesday 15 September 2004
 General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
 At Parliament House at 7.45 pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Mr Peter Primrose (*Chair*)
 Mr Henry Tsang (Roozendaal)
 Ms Jan Burnswoods
 Ms Catherine Cusack
 Ms Robyn Parker
 Ms Lee Rhiannon
 Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans (Moyes)

2. Welcome to New Member

The Chair noted the nomination of Revd Dr Gordon Moyes as a replacement for Revd Fred Nile. Due to Dr Moyes' absence, his formal welcome was postponed until next meeting.

3. Substitute arrangements

The Chair noted that he (as Government Whip) had advised that Mr Tsang would be representing Mr Roozendaal and Ms Burnswoods would be representing Mr West for the purposes of this meeting.

The Chair further noted that he had been advised by Ms Rhiannon that Dr Chesterfield-Evans would be representing Revd Moyes for the purposes of this meeting.

4. Correspondence

The Chair tabled the following statement and requested that it be recorded in the minutes:

I have been advised that following the ballot for Chair of this committee last Monday, enquiries have been made about how to overturn the result.

Procedurally, I believe that such a precedent would be greatly to the detriment of the operation of Legislative Council committees.

As the former Deputy Chair, I had made it clear last week to the Clerks that my preference was that I should take the position as acting-Chair of GPSC Number One until such time as the House had appointed a replacement for the Hon. Rev. Fred Nile.

The Clerks advised that this was not possible under the Standing Orders, and consequently a ballot had to be held.

The House has now endorsed the Hon. Rev. Gordon Moyes as the replacement member of this committee.

Therefore, I propose to implement my original intention and to stand down prior to our next meeting, at which time an election for Chair will be conducted.

5. Summons

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Tsang, that, under section 4 of the *Parliamentary Evidence Act 1901*, the Chair issue a summons to the Financial Controller, Legislature of New South Wales, to ensure his attendance at the Budget Estimates Hearing scheduled for 4.30pm, Friday 17 September 2004.

6. Budget Estimates 2004-2005

The public and media were admitted.

The Hon Dr Andrew Refshauge MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Training, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Ministerial Office

Michael Choucifate, Chief of Staff

Department of Education and Training

Andrew Cappie-Wood, Director-General

Martin Bowles, Deputy Director-General

Ken Dixon, General Manager, Finance

Department of Aboriginal Affairs

Jodie Broun, Director-General

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Education and Training, and Aboriginal Affairs open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Education and Training, and Aboriginal Affairs concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 10.05pm until 11.15am on Friday 17 September 2004.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 31

Friday 17 September 2004
 General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
 At Parliament House at 11.15am, Jubilee Room

1. Members Present

Mr Peter Primrose
 Mr Eric Roozendaal (*Deputy Chair*)
 Mr Ian West
 Mr Michael Gallacher (Ms Catherine Cusack)
 Ms Robyn Parker
 Ms Lee Rhiannon
 Revd Dr Gordon Moyes

2. Election of Chair

The Committee, having been informed by Mr Primrose that he had resigned from the office of Chair of the Committee, the Deputy Chair took the Chair.

There being a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Deputy Chair called for nominations for Chair of the Committee.

Mr Gallacher moved: that Revd Moyes be elected Chair of the Committee.
 Mr Primrose moved: that Ms Rhiannon be elected Chair of the Committee.
 Mr Roozendaal moved: that Mr West be elected Chair of the Committee

Ms Rhiannon declined the nomination.

The Deputy Chair informed the Committee that, there being two nominations, in accordance with the practice of the House for the election of President, a ballot will be held.

Ballot papers were distributed by the Clerk to the Committee and members lodged their votes.

The Deputy Chair announced the result of the ballot as follows:

Revd Moyes — 4 votes
 Mr West — 3 votes

Revd Moyes was declared Chair of General Purpose Standing Committee 1.

Revd Moyes took the Chair.

3. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Mr Gallacher would be representing Ms Cusack for the purposes of this meeting.

4. Correspondence

The Chair tabled the following items of correspondence:

Received

- Letter from the Hon Della Bosca MLC advising of witnesses attending
- Letter from the Hon Della Bosca MLC requesting he be advised of the order of inquiries among his portfolio responsibilities

5. Budget Estimates 2004-2005

The Hon John Della Bosca MLC, Special Minister of State, Minister for Commerce, Minister for Industrial Relations, and the Minister for the Central Coast, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Department of Commerce

Ms Jane Wolfe, Acting Director General

Mr Tony Collins, Deputy Director General, Office of Government Business
Ms Pat Manser, Deputy Director General, Office of Industrial Relations
Mr John Voss, Chief Financial Officer

Motor Accidents Authority

Mr David Bowen, General Manager

WorkCover Authority

Mr John Blackwell, Chief Executive Officer
Mr John Watson, General Manager, Occupational Health and Safety

Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy

Mr Geoff Barnden, Director

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area(s) of Special Minister of State, Commerce, Industrial Relations, and the Central Coast open for examination.

The Minister and his advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio areas of Special Minister of State, Commerce, Industrial Relations, and the Central Coast concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Gallacher that the Committee meet after the return of answers received to questions taken on notice during the hearing today, to deliberate on future committee activity on the portfolio areas under consideration.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1.35 pm until 4.15pm on Friday 17 September 2004.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No 32

Friday 17 September 2004
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
At Parliament House at 4.30pm, Room 814/815

1. Members Present

Revd Dr Gordon Moyes (*Chair*)
Mr Eric Roozendaal (*Deputy Chair*)
Mr Peter Primrose
Mr Ian West
Mr Harwin (Cusack)
Mr Ryan (Parker)

2. Apologies

Ms Rhiannon

3. Substitute arrangements

The Chair advised that Mr Harwin would be representing Ms Cusack and Mr Ryan would be representing Ms Parker for the purposes of this meeting.

4. Budget Estimates 2004-2005

The Hon Meredith Burgmann MLC, President of the Legislative Council, was admitted and accompanied by the following advisers:

Legislative Council

Mr John Evans, Clerk of the Parliament

Information Technology Services

Mr Ali Shariat, Manager

Office of the Financial Controller

Mr Greg McGill, Financial Controller

The public and media were admitted.

The Chair made a statement regarding certain procedural matters during hearings on budget estimates.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of the Legislature open for examination.

The President made a brief opening statement.

The President and her advisers answered questions by Members of the Committee.

Examination of the proposed expenditure for the portfolio area of the Legislature concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 5.10pm *sine die*.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee