



DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

annual report 2021

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

The Honourable Matthew Mason-Cox MLC
President of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr President

It is with pleasure that I submit for your information and presentation to the House the annual report for the Department of the Legislative Council for the year ended 30 June 2020.

As you are aware, the Department of the Legislative Council is not legislatively required to table an annual report. However, as has been customary over previous years, the opportunity to provide information on the performance of the Department is embraced.

The content of the report incorporates the reporting requirements of the Annual Reports (Departments) Act 1985 and the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983, particularly in regard to the Department of the Legislative Council's aims, objectives, operations and financial performance.

I commend the report and hope you find it informative.

Your sincerely

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments

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<https://wordpress.com/view/thehouseinreview.com>

ACCESS TO THE CHAMBER

The Legislative Council Chamber and public areas of Parliament House are open to the public from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, every weekday (excluding public holidays).

During sitting days, public access to the Chamber is restricted to the visitors' gallery, where the public can watch the proceedings of the House. A calendar specifying sitting days is available from the Parliament's website.



*The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC,
President of the Legislative Council*

*The principal role of the President is to
preside over the House. The President
is the independent and impartial
representative of the Legislative Council.
Together with the Speaker of the
Legislative Assembly, the President is
jointly responsible for the Parliamentary
precincts.*

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present to the House the 2020-21 Annual Report for the Department of the Legislative Council.

This Annual Report is also my first as President of the Legislative Council, following my election on 4 May 2021. I am very proud of both the work it showcases and of the Legislative Council itself. I thank my predecessor, the Hon John Ajaka MLC, for his stewardship of the House over recent years, particularly through a period of significant procedural reform.

Since becoming President, I have continued to be impressed by the adaptability and exceptionally high standards of the department, particularly in response to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout this time, staff of the Council have shown themselves to be dedicated in their support of Members in the House, committees and other activities. The arrangements made to facilitate the House's consideration of the budget appropriation bills in June, following the outbreak of the COVID-19 Delta strain, deserve particular commendation, as does the Committees team's rapid transition to fully virtual hearings.

Over the reporting period, the Legislative Council has continued its legislative program with 59 bills passing, 32 of which were amended by the House. The House has also continued in its scrutiny role through for orders for papers, with 164 orders agreed to in this reporting period; an increase of 90 from the previous period.

The output of the Committees team was similarly high in 2020-21, with 36 inquiries being established and 31 reports being tabled. The House continued to increase its use of the Selection of Bills process by referring 14 bills for inquiry and report. With the COVID-19 pandemic having prevented the 2020 Budget Estimates hearings from taking place at their usual time in August, the round of hearings in March 2021 is notable for further enhancing the scrutiny function of the Legislative Council.

Outside the Chamber, the Department successfully built on its program of engagement with the community. The Department has launched a Legislative Council Engagement Strategy to complement a new program for communication, education and engagement adopted by the three parliamentary departments, and the Chamber and Support team resumed delivery of school talks and tours to a range of visitors as soon as the building reopened to the public. The Fountain Court and Reconciliation Wall have continued to exhibit exceptional work from artists and communities across New South Wales and have benefited from new promotional initiatives such as virtual exhibitions and greater prominence on social media. Preparations have also commenced for the Bicentenary of the Legislative Council, with an exciting program of events scheduled to launch during the next reporting period.

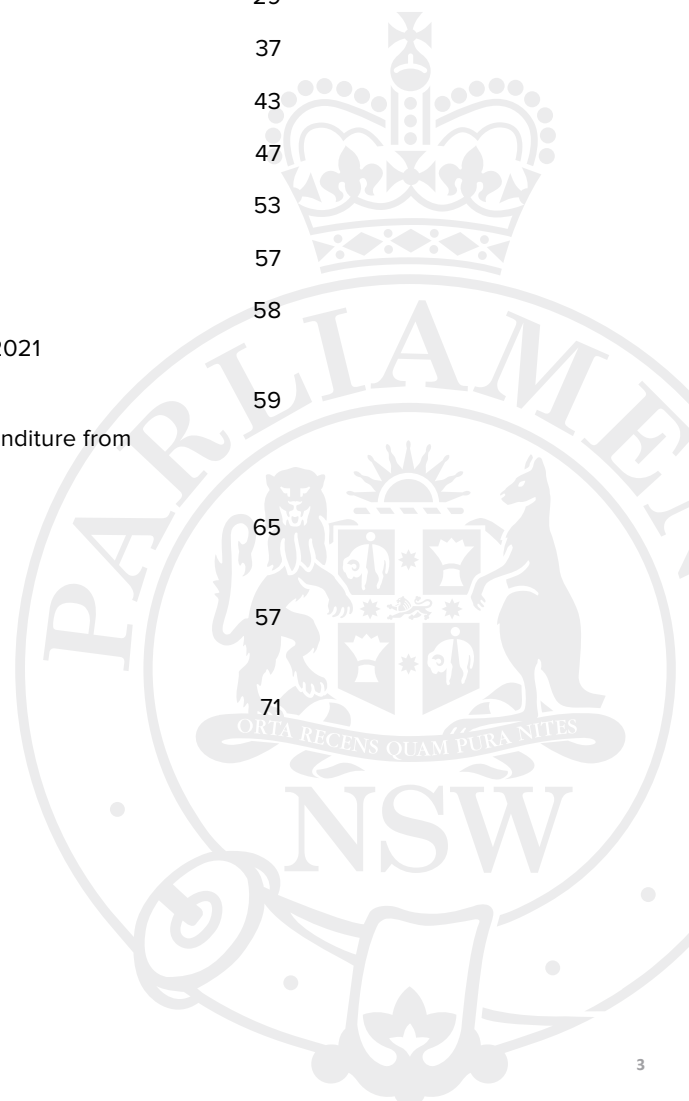
On behalf of all members I express my gratitude to the Clerk and all staff of the Department for their dedication to supporting the Legislative Council throughout the year.

The Honourable Matthew Mason-Cox
President



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Mr David Blunt, Clerk of the Parliaments

The Clerk provides expert advice on parliamentary law, practice and procedure to the President, Ministers and members of the Legislative Council. The Clerk is also responsible to the President for the efficient and effective administration of the Department of the Legislative Council.

CLERK'S REVIEW

The period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 covered by this report coincided with a relatively COVID-normal period of flexible parliamentary operations by the Legislative Council, although this normality was interrupted by the Delta variant outbreak impacting Parliament House directly during the last sitting week in June 2021 (see page 16 for further details). Next year's annual report will record the extraordinary efforts of the staff in the Department of the Legislative Council and the Department of Parliamentary Services to support continued committee operations and COVID-safe sittings in the second half of 2021, notwithstanding the Delta outbreak.

March 2021 saw the retirement of the Hon John Ajaka (see page five) whom it was my pleasure to serve and support in his role as President from February 2017. Mr Ajaka's retirement caused a vacancy in the Office of President and there followed an unprecedented and very stressful election, with the House finalising its election of a new President, the Hon Matthew Mason-Cox, on 4 May (although this was a continuation of the sitting day which commenced on 24 March). Anyone wishing to understand the full story around this election should read the entirety of the Legislative Council Hansard for 24 March (the quality of which is a testimony to the professionalism of the NSW Parliament's superb Hansard team).

One of the highlights of the year was the visit to the Legislative Council of esteemed former member the Hon Elisabeth Kirkby OAM to mark her 100th birthday (page 23), a milestone which was warmly embraced by the current members of the Council. The launch of the second edition of *New South Wales Legislative Council Practice* (see page 22) was a major milestone of a different kind. The appropriately 2021 "hybrid" launch of the second edition was a celebration of over ten years work by Clerk Assistant Stephen Frappell, supported by many colleagues. It was a great pleasure to have my predecessors Leslie Jeckeln AM and John Evans PSM, present for the launch, together with Lynn Lovelock and former Usher of the Black Rod, Warren Cahill, amongst other dignitaries, participating in the launch remotely.

As always, this report outlines key statistics and achievements arising from the sittings of the House (see pages 19 to 28) and committees (see pages 29 to 36), as well as in the areas of community engagement (pages 37 to 42) and inter-parliamentary relations (pages 43 to 46). The staff of the Department of the Legislative Council have continued to work diligently and collaboratively to support all of these areas to a high level of performance during a time of extremely high workload. This report is a tribute to the work of all of the staff, a number of whom have joined us in the last two years.

There is much to look forward to in next year's report: the first review of the Standing and Sessional Orders since 2004 which is currently underway (page 26), the commencement of a series of events to mark the forthcoming Bicentenary of the Legislative Council (page 28), and important work bringing closer the establishment of a position of Compliance Officer (page 48) and hopefully even some movement towards a more independent funding model for the Parliament! The last two of those matters are a fitting prompt to also acknowledge my colleagues the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Helen Minnican, and the Chief Executive of the Department of Parliamentary Services, Mark Webb, for their ongoing collaboration, on these and many other initiatives and to ensure the continued COVIDSafe operations of the Parliament this year. Both my colleagues are dedicated professionals who have worked tirelessly to support and improve the operations of the NSW Parliament during some very challenging times.

Mr David Blunt

Clerk of the Parliaments



FAREWELL TO PRESIDENT AJAKA

On 24 March 2021, the Honourable John Ajaka resigned as President of the Legislative Council, and as a member of the Legislative Council on 31 March. President Ajaka joined the Legislative Council as a member in 2007, was first elected to the office of President in 2017, and was re-elected by members in 2019. Prior to that, he had been Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, a Minister and was a member of a number of Upper House committees.

As President, Mr Ajaka was recognised for his calm stewardship of the House and his support for procedural reform to streamline business and bolster the powers of the Legislative Council as a House of Review. Widely respected by all sides of the Chamber, President Ajaka was recognised as a fair officiator of debates and a warm and generous colleague.

President Ajaka is also remembered for his involvement in, and championing of, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA). He served as Regional Representative of the CPA International Executive Committee and was elected Vice Chairperson of the CPA at the 2019 General Assembly in Kampala, Uganda – a great honour for the NSW Parliament. President Ajaka was also a strong advocate for the Parliament's work with its twinned Parliaments in the Solomon Islands and Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

President Ajaka gave his valedictory speech on 9 June 2021 from the Bar of the House. While this procedure is used rarely, its use to facilitate President Ajaka's speech – who, having become a 'stranger' following his resignation on 31 March, could not enter the Chamber to speak at the table – was a mark of the high regard in which he was held by members. In his speech, President Ajaka observed:

'A lot of us get elected to Parliament to take up the battle of ideas in the political arena... but once I was elected President I knew that part was no longer mine to play – that my role was to protect, defend and advocate for the institution itself. That is the task that I devoted myself to each and every day since and they are the achievements I look back on with the most pride'.

The members and staff of the Legislative Council thank President Ajaka for his service to the Parliament and to the people of New South Wales, and wish him all the best in his retirement.



Former President Ajaka was elected Vice Chairperson of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in 2019, a position in which he made a lasting contribution to the governance of the CPA



Former President Ajaka was afforded a singular honour to deliver his valedictory speech, some 10 weeks after his retirement, from the Bar of the House, surrounded by family members

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

It was another busy year for the Department. The Procedure Office supported the House through 498 hours of sittings. The Committee Office managed 36 committee inquiries and wrote 31 reports.

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17
Department staff	53.57FTE*	39.0FTE	38.8FTE	37.8FTE	37.8FTE
Secretary Research Assistants	50.0FTE	57.0FTE	49.8FTE	48.8FTE	48.8FTE
Sitting days	45	36	32	48	51
Sitting hours	498	330**	268	378	375
Bills passed	59	33	61	77	65
Amendments to bills (circulated)	781	584	422	672	633
Amendments to bills (agreed to)	253	212	68	102	63
Orders for papers	164	74	14	6	5
Notices of motion given	780	503	600	893	634
Committee inquiries	36	36	55	47	37
Committee reports tabled	31	30	37	20	18
Submissions to committees	3900	5,331***	1,727	1,935	2,299
Inquiry witnesses (hearings and forums)	1539	930	814	677	988

* Includes staff on maternity leave

** Sittings of the House were reduced after the House resolved on 22 March 2020 that it would not meet again until Tuesday 15 September 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Following an easing in case numbers, 'normal' sittings resumed in June.

*** This figure does not include the 13,000+ submissions received to the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 inquiry.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

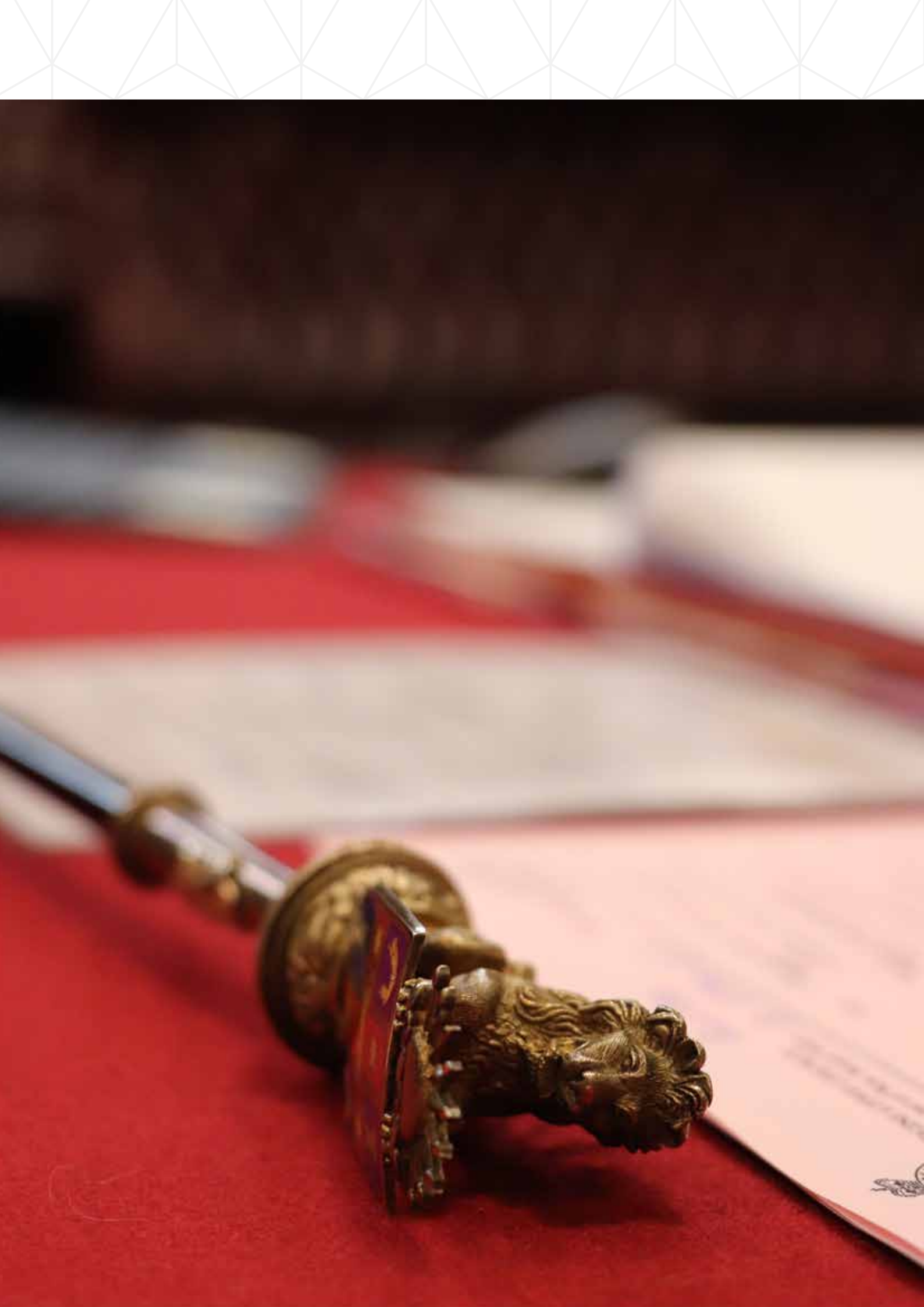
	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17
Net cost of services for the Legislative Council	32,445,982	31,319,217	28,344,571	26,534,631	25,835,074
Operational, Committees and other costs	8,586,305	7,991,982	6,691,967	6,048,509	5,949,958

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launch of the second edition of NSW Legislative Council Practice.
- Ongoing flexible management of the Procedure Office to maintain levels of service provided to members during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Transition to fully-virtual committee hearings.
- The webcasting on the Parliament's website of committee hearings from regional New South Wales, believed to be a first for any Australian parliament.
- Continued effective management of record numbers of written questions on notice, returns to orders and amendments to bills.
- Rollout of a range of new digital products under the Parliament's Digital Transformation program.
- Employment of a dedicated digital engagement and communications officer to support a renewed focus on engagement through social and other digital media
- Launch of 'virtual' exhibitions on the Parliament's website following the closure of the Fountain Court and Reconciliation Wall during the COVID-19 pandemic, and expansion of promotional support provided to exhibitors.
- Launch of an LC Engagement Strategy.

The launch of the second edition of New South Wales Legislative Council Practice was one of the highlights of the year and brought together Members, staff, former Clerks and senior representatives of the legal profession







THE DEPARTMENT



THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Legislative Council was established in 1823 and is the oldest legislative body in Australia. It is a House of Review, and acts as a check and balance on the Executive Government.

The Legislative Council performs this function through procedures such as questions to ministers, orders for the production of documents and a robust committee system which allows members to examine public affairs, including the administration of government, in more detail.

There are 42 members of the Legislative Council, elected according to a system of proportional representation with the entire State as a single electorate. Members serve an eight-year term, with one half of the Council elected every four years at a periodic election.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The role of the Department is to support the sittings of the House and the activities of its committees, and to provide corporate, governance and protocol support. This includes the provision of procedural, analytical and administrative support services to enable members of the Council to effectively perform their parliamentary duties.

The Department has an establishment of 53.57 full time equivalent (FTE) staff, with two principal areas, the Procedure Office and the Committee Office.

The Department is accountable to the President of the Legislative Council, the Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC. Department staff work in collaboration with the Department of the Legislative Assembly and the Department of Parliamentary Services to ensure the effective running of the Parliament. Department staff strive to provide exceptional service to the President, members and their staff, and to key stakeholders including government agencies, participants in committee inquiries, members of the public and visitors to Parliament.

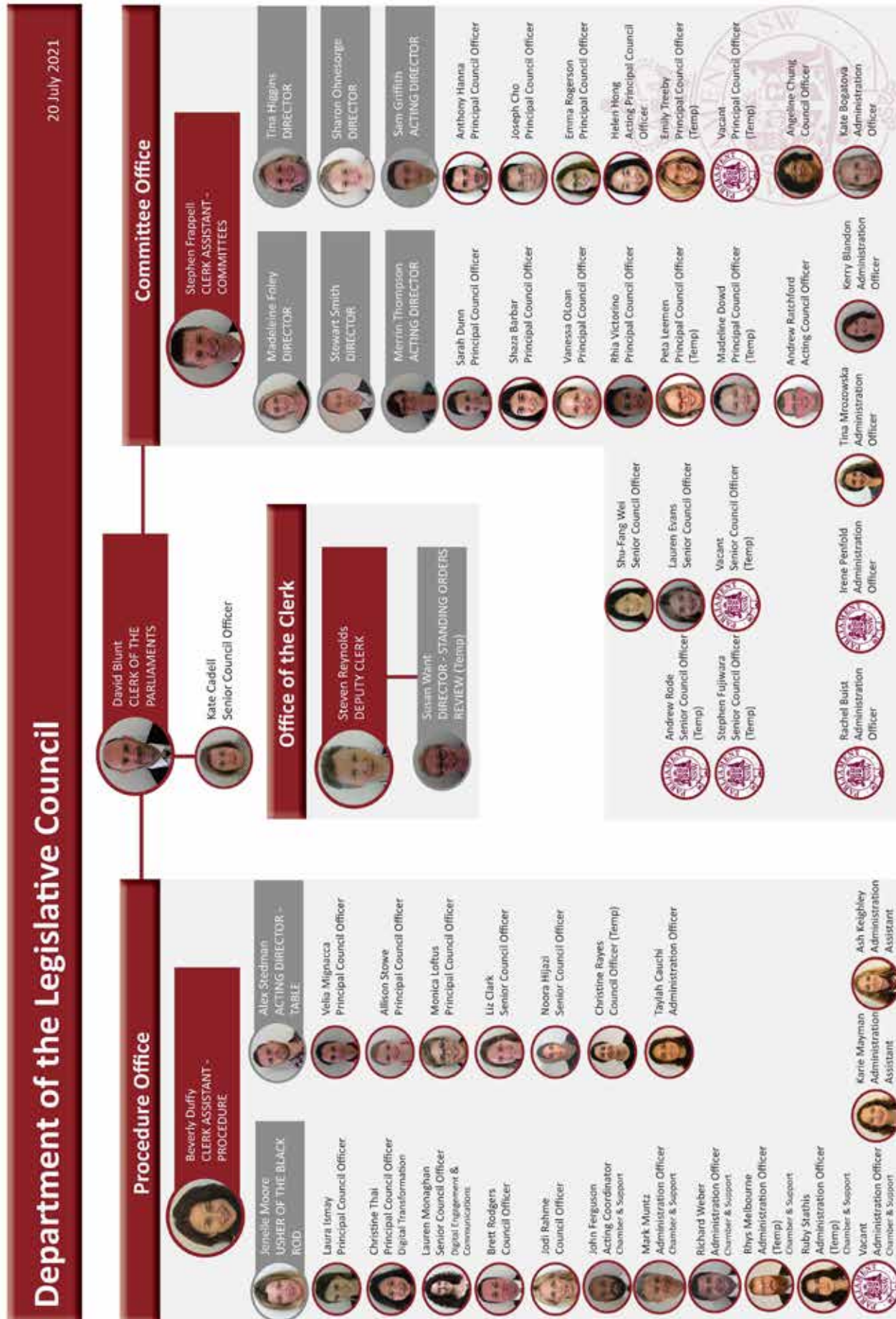
DEPARTMENT
— OF THE —
LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL
VALUES



Department of the **Legislative Council** staff work together to provide procedural, analytical and administrative support services to enable members to effectively perform their parliamentary duties. **We seek to:**



ORGANISATION CHART



EXECUTIVE TEAM



David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council

David is responsible to the President for the efficient and effective administration of the Department. He provides expert advice on parliamentary law, practice and procedure to the President, Deputy President, ministers and members.



Steven Reynolds
Deputy Clerk

Steven assists the Clerk to manage the planning, development and performance of the Department to ensure its effective operation, within budgetary constraints as well as managing the Office of the Clerk.



Beverly Duffy
Clerk Assistant – Procedure

Beverly provides strategic oversight of the Procedure Office, which includes providing authoritative and timely advice on complex parliamentary procedure, law and protocol.



Stephen Frappell
Clerk Assistant – Committees

Stephen provides strategic oversight of the Committee Office, which includes providing authoritative and timely advice on complex parliamentary procedure, law and protocol.

FAREWELL TO LONG SERVING STAFF

During the reporting period the Department bade farewell to long serving staff member Ms Rebecca Main, for a second time. Rebecca returned to the Department in March 2021 to assist with a number of corporate projects, having previously worked in the Council for over 15 years across the Procedure and Committees sections. In June 2021, Rebecca left to take up the prestigious role of State Manager of New South Wales at the Australian Electoral Commission.

PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE AWARDS

Since 1986 the Presiding Officers have presented Parliamentary Service Awards to staff who have reached significant milestones of service to the Parliament. At a function held in the Strangers' Dining Room on Thursday 12 November 2020, the Presiding Officers, Joint Clerks and Chief Executive presented awards to staff in the various departments. The Department was particularly pleased to honour the 30 year service of its Clerk, Mr David Blunt.

The recipients of awards from the Department of the Legislative Council on this occasion were:

30 years

David Blunt	Clerk of the Parliaments
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20 years

John Ferguson	Chamber & Support
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15 years

Jenelle Moore	Usher of the Black Rod
Rhia Victorino	Committees

10 years

Kerry Blandon	Chamber & Support
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Louise Callaway	Office of the Hon. Emma Hurst MLC
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Marie Mirza	Office of the Hon. Mark Latham MLC (subsequently Office of The President)
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The annual Parliamentary Service Awards recognise the loyal and dedicated service of our staff. The Clerk of the Legislative Council, Mr David Blunt, received an award for 30 years of service from President Ajaka

WORKLOAD AND STAFFING

For the second consecutive year the Department received additional funding to address the major increase in workload, although also for the second year running the workload, generated by the post 2019 election political outcome in the House, soon outran the additional resources. The additional funding was used to create three additional positions to support the new expanded Estimates process and the increase in referral of bills to committees, to cover additional overtime with the House sitting until midnight on most private members business days and an increase in arbitration costs with the continued rapid expansion of orders for papers.

Both the workload of the Committee Office, and the Procedure Office in relation to orders for papers, reached levels not seen in the history of the Council, and these are expanded on in subsequent pages of the annual report. Throughout the year the number of active committee inquiries often rose to 30. This proved an unsustainable workload for even four highly efficient and capable committee Directors, so a temporary fifth Director position was created and an additional Principal Council Officer and administration officer were also temporarily established, with ongoing funding sought as part of the budget process. The number of orders for papers continued to grow unabated – on some days more orders were agreed to in a single day than had occurred in the four years of the previous parliament. The number and complexity of disputes of claims of privilege also put additional strain on the support services required by members. An additional contractor with specialist archival skills was engaged to assist with the workload during the year.

In addition, the Parliament-wide focus on engagement lead to moving the Digital Engagement position, with part time committee responsibilities, to a full time position within the Black Rod team in the Procedure Office. Two additional officers were engaged on a temporary basis to support additional school and public tours.

The workload of the last two years has put staff of the Department under great strain. It is very fortunate that at the time of the Council's peak workload the department has such skilled professional and capable staff at all levels to support the work of the House and its many committees.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to cultivating a professionally and personally rewarding workplace for staff. The Department provides opportunities for development through internal and external training programs.

Great Managers Program

The Institute of Public Administration Australia's Great Managers Academy program is targeted to executive, senior and mid-level managers. This intensive nine month course features seven in-person workshops, many online lectures and individual learning activities focused on developing personal, team and business leadership skills. In March there was a reunion of Cohort 3 of the Great Managers Academy program for a refresher and extension on some of the key skills from the program as it had been more than a year since graduation in 2019. The participants from the Legislative Council were Jenelle Moore, Alexander Stedman and Merrin Thompson. The participants in the 2021 program are Sharon Ohnesorge and Rhia Victorino.

ANZACATT

ANZACATT is the professional body for clerks and parliamentary officers in Australia and New Zealand and runs a number of activities including the annual Parliamentary Law and Practice course, an annual professional development seminar, a case law database and an electronic information-sharing bulletin board.

Like many other events, the 2021 ANZACATT Professional Development Seminar was held virtually in January 2021, with the theme of 'Parliament and the Pandemic'.

PLPP

The PLPP is a university accredited professional development opportunity for parliamentary staff from around Australia and New Zealand managed by ANZACATT. The course develops participants' understanding of the fundamental principles of parliamentary law, practice and procedure, and of the place of parliaments in the systems of government of Australia and New Zealand. In addition to a sound theoretical grounding, the program provides an opportunity to learn from the practical experiences of officers from the different parliaments. For many years the program has been delivered by the University of Tasmania, together with presenters from Parliaments around Australia.

In 2020 Joseph Cho and Monica Loftus completed the course, which was held entirely online owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Monica, who received a high distinction for her paper, wrote about orders for papers by NSW Legislative Council Committees. Joseph, who received a distinction, wrote about the oversight of human rights during the COVID-19 pandemic, with a version of the paper set to be published in the *Alternative Law Journal*. Laura Ismay is currently

completing the course virtually, as travel restrictions prevented a return to in-person teaching in 2021.



Monica and Joseph receive their PLPP certificates from the Clerk – both with outstanding results!

Australian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG)

The Australasian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG) is a politically non-partisan body which was established in 1979 to encourage and stimulate research, writing, teaching and discussion about parliamentary institutions, particularly those in Australasia and the South Pacific.

The National Executive postponed the ASPG 2020 Conference due to the pandemic.

Working in the Legislative Council program

The 'Working in the Legislative Council' program is a 12-week professional development initiative offered to departmental officers in the broader public service who want to gain first-hand experience of the operations of Parliament, including assisting with the annual budget estimates process and committees generally. In 2020, Felicity Ballard and Donna Glover, both from the NSW Police Force, took part in the program and made a significant contribution to the work of the secretariat supporting the initial round of estimates hearings. Both participants provided positive feedback about their experiences.

Performance Development Program

The Department's Performance Development Program provides an opportunity for managers and staff to identify performance and career goals. The program is conducted every 12 months, with the option of informal review at six months or earlier.

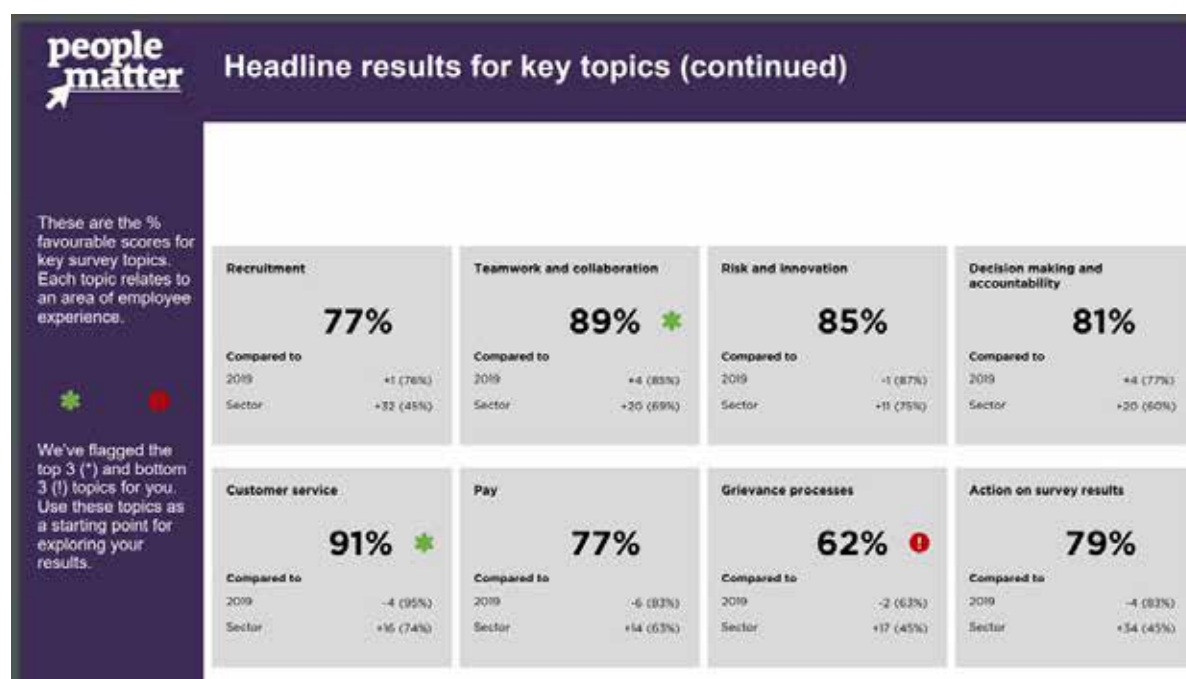
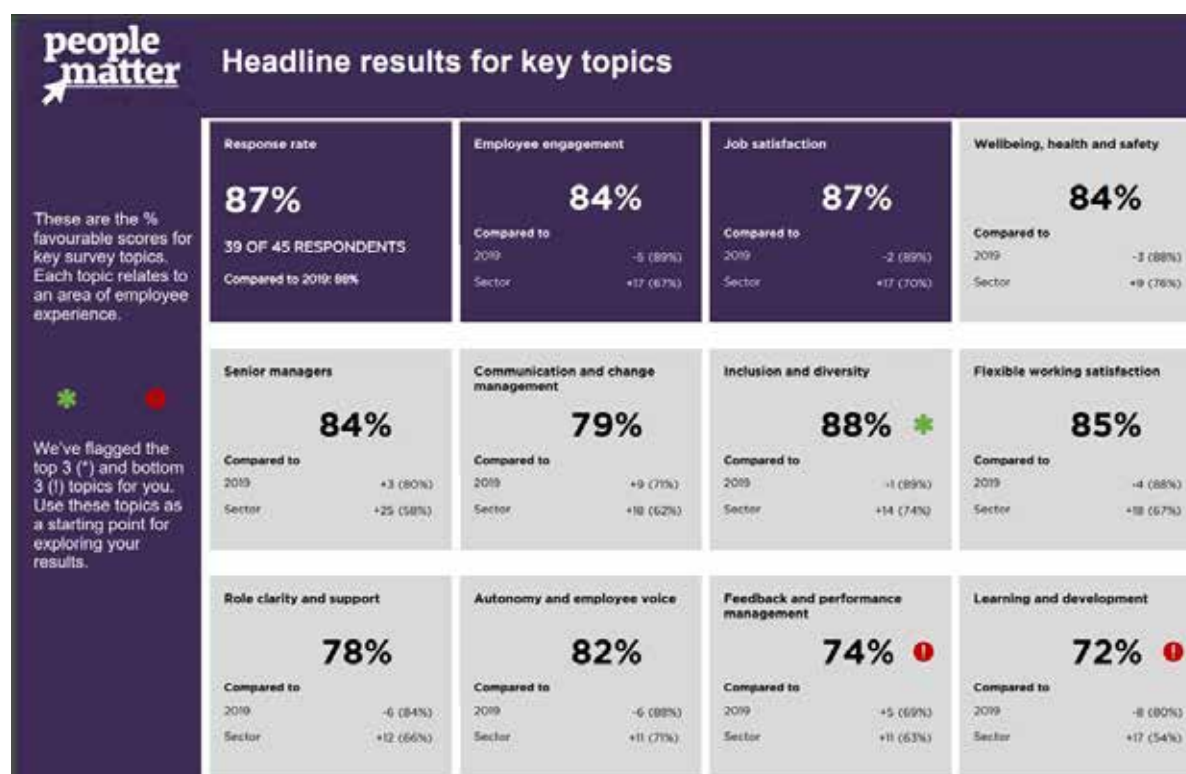
INTERNSHIP PROGRAM AND NEW ROLES FOR INTERNS

In early 2020 the NSW Parliament entered into a partnership with UNSW Co-NNECTIONS, a career development program designed to support students from the University of New South Wales from disadvantaged backgrounds. Two interns were selected and successfully completed their internships in 2020: Karie Mayman and Ash Keighley.

Both interns have secured part time administration officer positions in the Department of the Legislative Council for a 12 month period.

PEOPLE MATTER EMPLOYEE SURVEY

The People Matter Employee Survey is an annual survey available to Department staff, which provides a report to senior management to assist in making workplace improvements. The staff response rate in the Council for 2020 remained high at 87%, with staff returning very favourable responses in the areas of employee engagement, job satisfaction, inclusion and diversity, teamwork and collaboration and customer service. Work stress was identified as an area for improvement – an unsurprisingly result given the high workload of all Departmental staff.



A summary of results from the 2020 People Matter Employee Survey for the Department

RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During 2021-21 the Department continued to adapt to the changing workplace environment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, providing ongoing support for members in the House, committees and across other services.

In particular, the Department continued to develop innovative solutions to ensure the Parliament continued to operate effectively during the 'new normal'. These included: a transition to fully virtual committee hearings; support for socially distanced sittings of the House, including various new procedural innovations; the introduction of virtual exhibitions; and flexible work and management practices to facilitate staff and members working from home.

This flexibility was particularly put to the test on 23 June 2021 when, following advice that several members had taken COVID tests after visiting a potential exposure site for the highly transmissible delta virus, the President announced that members and staff would be requested to wear masks in the Chamber – a measure that accompanied more longstanding COVID-safe measures implemented in 2020 such as social distancing and a new process for divisions.

The following day, in view of news that a member of the Legislative Assembly had tested positive for COVID-19 overnight, only a skeleton staff attended the building to support the sittings with the remainder of staff working from home. Members and chamber staff undertook COVID tests.

Owing to the need to pass the annual appropriation bills the House met, however by agreement only 18 members entered the chamber, each having been tested that day and received a negative COVID result. Three staff supported the chamber, all having also received negative test results. Special procedural motions were adopted to facilitate the swift conduct of proceedings, with the sitting concluding in just 10 minutes. These arrangements are discussed further in subsequent pages.

Unfortunately these events coincided with what soon emerged to be a second Sydney outbreak, prompting state-wide lockdowns that have continued into the new reporting period.

The pandemic also continued to significantly impact other business of the Parliament, considerably restricting the provision of tours to schools and members of the public; international delegations; and the accessibility of the precincts to visitors, including to the chamber galleries, exhibitions and functions.

Throughout these challenging periods, the Legislative Council, along with the Department of Parliamentary Services and the Department of the Legislative Assembly, has continued to implement and review the Parliament of NSW Pandemic Plan. The plan details the Parliament's response to COVID-19 in order to maintain the operational viability of the Parliament. The Parliament's Senior Management Group continued met regularly during the pandemic and the Chief Executive of DPS, Mark Webb, continued weekly (and sometimes daily) emails to all staff with updates about the pandemic and the Parliament's evolving response.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2021 - 2022

Department of the Legislative Council

PURPOSES PRECONDITIONS FOR A SUCCESSFUL PARLIAMENT

- 1. Making of law
- 2. Holding the executive to account
- 3. Representation of electorates and broader constituency
- Strength and independence of the institution
- Understanding of the institution (civics education)
- Efficient and effective use of public money
- Productive stakeholder relationships
- Inter-parliamentary connection
- Fit for purpose facilities
- Contemporary and relevant business systems
- Expertise
 - Profession of the Clerk
 - Parliamentary administration

NSW PARLIAMENT PRIORITIES

2019 - 2023

1. Modernisation of Parliament

Strengthened governance framework, procedural innovations plus supporting technology/infrastructure, digital transformation, integrated service delivery, customer service enhancement, contemporary systems and processes.

Joint projects:

- Digital Parliament transformation
- Committee toolbox
- Performance regime for contemporary Parliament

2. Strengthening engagement with the public and enhanced trust in Parliament as an institution

Access to the institution, engagement models, institutional integrity initiatives, perceived independence of Parliament.

Joint projects:

- Regional outreach project

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL KEY PROJECTS

2021 - 2022

- Refine the infrastructure and procedures for remote sittings of the Legislative Council
- Contributing to AV capital works program, enhancing virtual participation in committee activities
- Digital transformation roadmap including ePetitions, and eReturns; My DAY Parliamentary portal
- Introduction of M365; rationalisation of the I drive; statistics UI and digitisation
- New parliamentary procedure precedents database
- Enhancing the look and format of committee reports to improve online accessibility
- Revise the department's social media and communications strategy
- Regional seminars about the NSW Parliament
- Development of a witness briefing video and associated guidelines
- Continuing to promote engagement during the pandemic through online tours, online exhibitions
- Implementation of strategy to celebrate
- Bicentenary of the Legislative Council



NSW PARLIAMENT PRIORITIES

2019-2023

3. Safeguarding the independence of a strong Parliament

Financial independence from the executive, asserting Parliament's powers, strengthening inter-parliament relationships and administrative collaboration

Joint projects:

- Model for financial independence
- Legislative reinforcement of independence regime
- Manual of delegations
- Twinning program

4. Support members in their evolving role as elected representatives

Skills development, integrity, wellbeing and security

Joint projects:

- Integrity framework for members
- Responsibilities and professional development for members
- Welfare checks for former members

5. Develop the capabilities of the Parliament's workforce

Leadership development, further development of profession-specific capability frameworks, adaptive roles, succession planning and other workforce planning initiatives

Joint projects:

- Leadership development for departmental executive teams
- Great Managers Program

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL KEY PROJECTS

2021 - 2022

- Development of strategic plan for Twinning in conjunction with twinned parliaments
- Fostering scholarship on parliamentary processes
- Implementation of response to PAC recommendations on future funding model for the parliament
- Support new compliance officer/ethics regime enhancements
- Develop practical procedural resources for members and staff using eLearning authoring tools
- Supporting Procedure Committee inquiry into review of standing orders
- Development of leadership capacity among staff with supervisory responsibilities
- Continued implementation of diversity and inclusion plan with focus on disability access
- Develop a virtual seminar for DPS staff based on the LC in practice seminar
- Identify further efficiencies in committee administrative processes to manage increased workload



THE HOUSE



INTRODUCTION TO PROCEDURE AND BLACK ROD

The Procedure Office, which incorporates the Black Rod and Chamber and Support teams, has 19 full time equivalent positions and reports to the Clerk Assistant – Procedure.

The Table team

The Table team, led by the Director – Procedure, support the sittings of the House, provide procedural advice to the President, members and the Clerk and manage training initiatives. This includes:

- coordinating bills, amendments and questions on notice
- preparing notices of motions and procedural scripts
- managing the operation of the Chamber
- preparing the official records of the House, including the Minutes of Proceedings, the Notice Paper and the Questions and Answers Paper
- managing returns to orders for papers, including viewing of public documents
- publishing the live Running Record and House in Review social media blog
- supporting the Procedure and Selection of Bills Committees.

The Black Rod team

Within the Procedure Office, the Black Rod team, led by the Usher of the Black Rod, manages protocol, various corporate and governance functions of the department, security and media arrangements for the Council, engagement and training initiatives, as well as public and school tours of the Legislative Council chamber. This includes:

- delivering training programs for members and their staff, departmental officers and public servants
- managing ceremonial events, international delegations, consular visits and parliamentary room bookings
- representing the department on various governance committees
- coordinating the Fountain Court exhibition space, which includes the Reconciliation Wall – a space reserved for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists
- presenting school and public tours
- supporting the Privileges Committee.

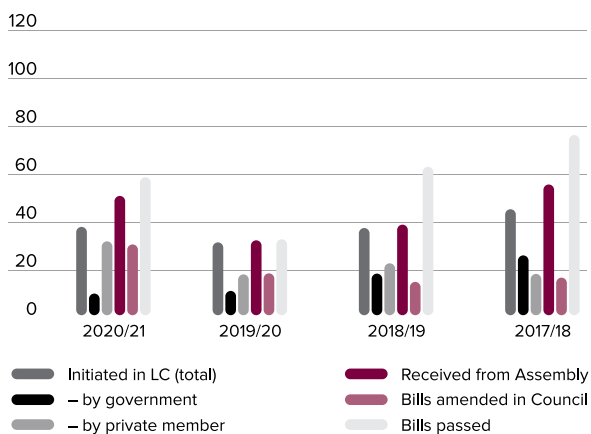
Further information regarding the work of the Black Rod team can be found under 'Engaging with the Community' and 'Parliamentary Relations'.

KEY STATISTICS

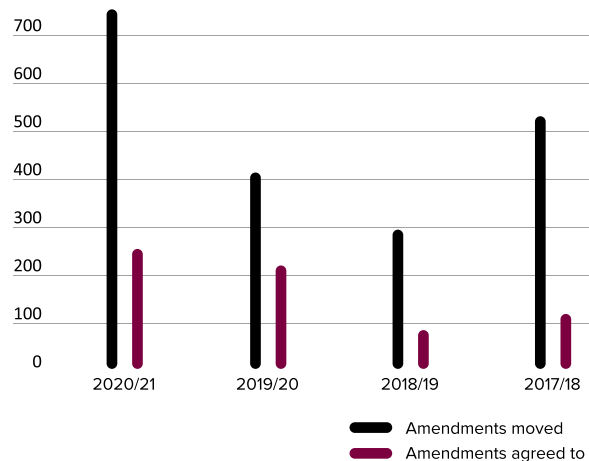
Notices of Motions



Bills considered in the Legislative Council



Amendments to bills



45

SITTING DAYS

498

SITTING HOURS

38

TOTAL BILLS
INTRODUCED IN LC

6

GOVERNMENT BILLS
INTRODUCED

32

PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS
INTRODUCED

49

BILLS RECEIVED FROM LA

43

BILLS CONSIDERED IN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

781*

AMDTS CIRCULATED

758

AMDTS MOVED

253

AMDTS AGREED TO

32

BILLS AMENDED IN THE
COUNCIL

59

BILLS PASSED

164

ORDERS FOR PAPERS –
SO52 HOUSE

0

ORDERS FOR PAPERS –
SO208 COMMITTEES

25

CLAIMS OF PRIVILEGE
DISPUTED

780

NOTICES OF MOTIONS
GIVEN

441

PMB RESOLVED –
INCLUDING AS FORMAL
BUSINESS

1004

QUESTIONS ASKED IN
QUESTION TIME

4911

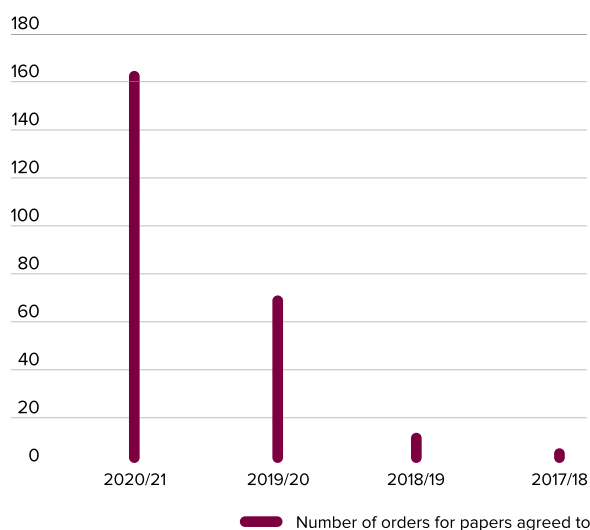
WRITTEN QUESTIONS
LODGED

12

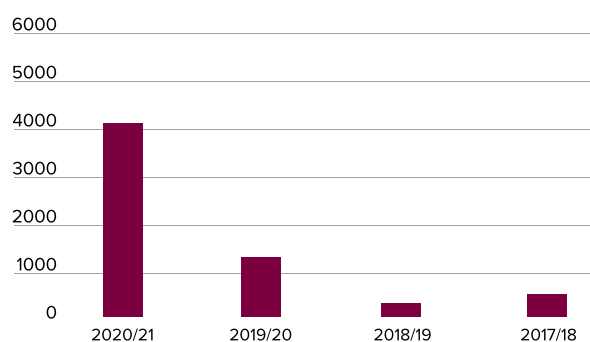
PETITIONS PRESENTED

* Of the 781 amendments circulated, 257 related to the Electricity Infrastructure Investment Bill 2020

Orders for papers



Written questions on notice

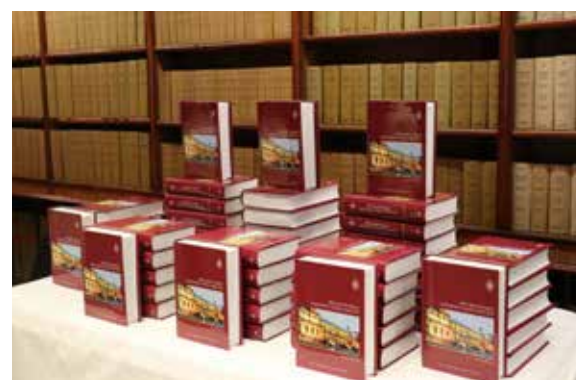


KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Continued roll-out of the Parliamentary Information Management System (PIMS) modules or modifications
- Ongoing flexible management of the Procedure Office to maintain levels of service provided to members during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Continued effective management of record numbers of written questions on notice and returns to orders.
- Completion of the Procedure Manual at the end of 2020.
- Continuation of the popular 'Friday debrief', including a successful pivot to fully-virtual debriefs during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Commencement of initial preparations for the Bicentenary of the Legislative Council in 2023.
- Launch of new induction arrangements for members' Senior Research Assistants (SRA's).

LAUNCH OF SECOND EDITION OF NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PRACTICE

The second edition of *New South Wales Legislative Council Practice*, edited by the Clerk Assistant -Committees, Stephen Frappell and the Clerk, David Blunt, was launched on 23 March 2021 by the former President of the Legislative Council, the Hon John Ajaka MLC. This was the Mr Ajaka's last official event prior to his resignation as President on 24 March. The release of the second edition came 13 years after the publication of the first edition in 2008. The second edition includes a discussion of the new procedures adopted by the House in 2019, an account of a number of significant developments in the exercise of the powers of the House since 2008, together with additional research and precedent information that came to light through the research and subsequent publication of the *Annotated Standing Orders*.



The second edition of *New South Wales Legislative Council Practice*, launched on 23 March 2021



The launch was appropriately "hybrid" with special guests present either in person or "virtually" from as far afield as Greece, Bougainville and the Solomon Islands

Professor Gabrielle Appleby from the University of New South Wales Faculty of Law & Justice was the virtual guest speaker at the launch. Joining the occasion were the two former Clerks of the Parliaments and authors of the first edition, Mr John Evans PSM and Ms Lynn Lovelock (virtually) and former Usher of the Black Rod Warren Cahill (also virtually). Former Clerk of the Parliaments, Mr Leslie Jeckeln AM, who retired as Clerk in 1989, and

who was a silent editor of the second edition, also attended the launch along with Ministers, Members and staff of the Legislative Council and the Clerks from our twinned parliaments, Mr Robert Tapi from the Bougainville House of Representatives and Mr David Kusilifu from the National Parliament of Solomon Islands.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF THE HONOURABLE DR ELISABETH KIRKBY OAM

On Tuesday 16 February 2021, President Ajaka acknowledged the 100th birthday of former member of the Legislative Council, the Honourable Dr Elisabeth Kirkby OAM. Following a lunch hosted by the President, attended by a number of former presiding officers and members, the President made a statement in the House about Dr Kirkby's life and career including her election in 1981 as an Australian Democrats Member of the Legislative Council.

Dr Kirkby was State Parliamentary Leader of the Party from 1981 to 1998 and she, and Revd the Honourable Fred Nile, were the first crossbench members to be elected to the Council. In a statement to the House where Dr Kirkby was joined by her family, the President observed that Dr Kirkby was at the forefront of many of the major developments that took place in the Council during that period, such as: the development of the Standing Committees, the establishment of the General Purpose Committees, the Egan cases, and the reconstitution of the Council in the 1990s. Since leaving the Council Dr Kirkby has been member of the New South Wales Judicial Commission, the Administrative Decisions Tribunal, the International Commission of Jurists and was a Temora Shire Councillor for five years. In recent years, Dr Kirkby also successfully completed a doctorate in history. In contributions to debate members acknowledged the universal respect in which Dr Kirkby is held by members of all parties and her legacy as a change maker in the Council.



The Hon Dr Liz Kirkby with former Presidents Primrose, Burgmann, Fazio, Willis and Harwin at a lunch hosted by President John Ajaka in celebration of her 100th birthday. Also in attendance was Reverend Fred Nile, who, like Dr Kirkby, was first elected to the Council in 1981, together with the former Attorney-General, Hon John Dowd QC

ORDERS FOR PAPERS

One hundred and sixty four orders for State papers were made during the reporting period. This is a marked increase on the 74 orders made in the previous reporting period.

Prior to the current Parliament, the highest number of orders for papers passed in a four year parliament was 145. This occurred in the 53rd Parliament (2003-2006). This record has already been passed in the current Parliament which to date has passed a total of 254 orders.

The subject areas for orders included:

- State infrastructure projects: Powerhouse Museum, Western Sydney Airport and Aerotropolis, ferries, new intercity fleet, New Dubbo Bridge, Parramatta Light Rail Project (Stage Two), Narrandera to Tocumwal Rail Line
- Education: enrolment capacities of schools, Schools Infrastructure NSW projects, before and after school vacation care, TAFE NSW courses, sale of TAFE campuses, Key Facts documents, workforce planning in public schools
- Water: Water projects and modelling, Warragamba Dam, Dams infrastructure projects, water regulations
- Energy: Tallawarra Power Station
- Finance: Budget documents, Insurance and Care NSW, community funds and grants, department agency and assets, Revenue NSW investigations, Wages Policy Taskforce, land or property sales, disposal, or divestment targets, government asset management's plans, stronger communities funds
- Environment: Koala regulations, forestry operations, private native forestry plans, Monaro Farming Systems, grey nurse sharks,
- Health: unflued gas heaters in schools, hospital developments, New Banksia Mental Health Unit at Tamworth Hospital
- Police investigations: Operation Tepito, Strike Force Wyndarra
- Miscellaneous: Alleged breach of public health order by the Honourable Don Harwin MLC and a number of orders in relation to former member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr Daryl Maguire.

During the reporting period a total of 410 boxes of public documents were returned, as well as a further 306 boxes of documents over which claims of privilege were made by government agencies. Members lodged a record twenty-five disputes in relation to claims of privilege compared with eight disputes lodged in the previous reporting period.

In the majority of these disputes, based on an agreement reached between the member who

disputed the claim of privilege and the relevant government agency, some personal information was redacted from the documents before they were made public.

The Procedure Office is working with the Digital Transformation Branch and the Department of Premier and Cabinet to develop a system for receipt of returns to order in electronic format. e>Returns will provide for the secure transfer of files to the Parliament through a new parliamentary portal that links to the Parliament's existing document storage databases. Further detail on this project and other digital initiatives can be found under 'PIMS Project Work and Digital Transformation'.

New orders for papers sessional order – varying the scope of an order for papers

During the reporting period, a sessional order was agreed to that formalised a process for government agencies to negotiate with members to vary the scope of an order for papers where the timeframe for production is unduly onerous or the terms of the order are too broad.

The sessional order does not impact the House's power to order the production of documents, but rather addresses the need to vary the scope or timeframe of certain orders in exceptional circumstances.

During the reporting period, the new sessional order was used 17 times to give departments more time to produce documents. In two instances it was used to vary the scope of an order.

Orders for papers roundtable

In November 2020 a roundtable meeting was held to discuss aspects of the operation of standing order 52. The meeting was attended by various members and office holders of the House, the independent legal arbiter, the Hon. Keith Mason AC, QC, the Clerk of the Parliaments, and representatives of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The genesis for the roundtable meeting was concerns raised by the arbiter about the substance of claims of privilege being made in relation to a number of orders for papers.

The following key themes were discussed at the roundtable.

- The significant increase in the scope and volume of orders and its impact on the capacity of the Department of Premier and Cabinet and government agencies to manage the process of preparing returns.
- The quality of privilege claims. The arbiter expressed concern, and considerable frustration, at the nature of some of the claims of privilege over documents including those that were contrary to

previous findings and recommendations he has made to the House

- How to best manage personal information included in documents produced in response to orders of the House where such information is not relevant to the House's review function.
- How to address some apparent confusion within departments regarding the meaning of privilege in standing order 52.

A report on the roundtable was tabled in February 2021 and can be accessed from the Parliament website.

SITTING CALENDAR AMENDMENTS AND RECALL OF THE HOUSE

Largely due to the impact of COVID-19, a number of changes were made to the scheduled sittings of the House during the reporting period.

At the end of the sitting day on 6 August 2020, the House adjourned until 15 September. A few days later however, the President informed members that the House would be recalled on 25 August 2020. This followed a request by an absolute majority of members in the Council that the House should meet sooner than the next scheduled sitting day to consider a range of matters. The House then sat for the week of August 25, 26 and 27.

An additional sitting day was also held on 20 November 2020 to debate the budget bills, which had been delayed due to COVID-19. Later that day, the House agreed to a special adjournment and returned to sit the next week on Tuesday 24 November. This additional sitting day (spanning 2 calendar days) was required to allow debate on the Electricity Infrastructure Investment Bill 2020 to be concluded, a bill to which over 250 amendments were lodged.

In November 2020, the House amended the 2021 sitting calendar. The amendment to the calendar, which had been adopted in the previous week, added an additional sitting day for the House to deal with private members' business on Friday 19 February 2021. This sitting day was ultimately not proceeded with and at the conclusion of proceedings on 18 February 2021, the House agreed to a special adjournment to 16 March 2021.

Unfortunately, in mid-June an outbreak of the COVID-19 Delta strain occurred in Sydney. The outbreak directly impacted the NSW Parliament with a Legislative Assembly member testing positive for COVID, and a number of members and staff forced into self-isolation. The outbreak also caused significant disruption to Parliament's final sitting week in June which was scheduled as a four-day sitting week, Tuesday 22 June 2021 to Friday 25 June 2021. The Thursday and Friday were expected to focus on the budget appropriation bills. However,

the public health situation within Sydney, including at the Parliament, changed rapidly during the week and on Thursday 24 June, NSW Parliament was identified as a potential close contact venue.



A House in Review explainer published prior to Budget Week described the usual process for the passage of the appropriation bills – however, the process followed in 2021 was anything but usual after NSW Parliament was identified as a potential close contact venue

For the Chamber to operate on Thursday 24 June, only 18 members, nominated by their parties, were permitted to attend the Chamber. A minimum number of staff were also present. Those that did attend the Chamber undertook COVID tests. According to temporary order, the meeting of the House was postponed until the test results could be confirmed by NSW Health. The Thursday and Friday sitting days were condensed into a ten minute sitting of the House which focused on certain formalities and the expeditious passage of two of the budget appropriations bills. The House then adjourned until 10 August.

PIMS PROJECT WORK AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Since 2017, the Parliament has undertaken to move a number of its existing databases or data to PIMS (Parliament's Information Management System). The following modules have been successfully developed in PIMS:

- Bills
- Tabled Papers
- Hansard, Votes and Minutes
- Questions and Answers
- House Papers
- Notices

A number of key modules are yet to be developed. These include procedural precedents, procedural statistics, e-Petitions and e>Returns.

ePetitions project

Following the success of the ePetitions system launched by the Legislative Assembly in August 2020 and the recommendations from an October 2020 Procedure Committee report, the Council ePetitions platform was highlighted as a priority PIMS project.

The ePetitions platform will allow petitioners to lodge online electronic petitions to the Legislative Council and supporters will be able to view and sign petitions via the Parliament's public website. Development on the ePetitions platform commenced in May 2021 and it is anticipated that the Council ePetitions platform will launch in late 2021.

eReturns project

The e>Returns project is designed to provide an electronic system for the lodgement and receipt of returns to orders. Documents will be securely transferred to the Parliament through a new parliamentary portal that links to the Parliament's existing document storage databases.

It is anticipated that e>Returns will improve the accessibility of returns to orders for members and the public and provide administrative efficiencies, while ensuring file security and appropriate document oversight are maintained.

The e>Returns project is a key priority for the Procedure Office who are working with the Digital Transformation Branch and counterparts from the Department of Premier and Cabinet with a view to completion in mid-2022.

Procedure Committee

The Procedure Office provides secretariat and procedural support to the Procedure Committee and its inquiries.

A review of the Standing and Sessional Orders was referred to the Procedure Committee during the reporting period (see further discussion below).

The Procedure Committee completed the following reports during the reporting period:

- e-Petitions in the Legislative Council
- Consultation on highly contentious bills and committee access to external experts.

Privileges Committee

The Privileges Committee is provided with secretariat and procedural support by the Deputy Clerk, along with staff from the Procedure Office.

The Privileges Committee inquires into and reports on matters relating to parliamentary privilege referred to it by the House or the President, carries out certain functions relating to ethical standards for members of the Legislative Council under section 72C of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988 and considers submissions from citizens seeking a right of reply to statements made about them in the House in accordance with standing orders 202 and 203.

The Privileges Committee completed the following reports during the reporting period:

- Execution of search warrants by the Australian Federal Police
- Execution of search warrants by the Australian Federal Police No. 2
- Proposal for a Compliance Officer for the NSW Parliament
- Citizen's Right of Reply (RSPCA NSW).

REVIEW OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS

The standing orders of the Legislative Council are the rules for the operation of the chamber, member conduct in the chamber, the routine of business and committee inquiries. Standing orders are adopted under section 15 of the Constitution Act 1902 and are approved by the Governor. In addition to the standing orders there are usually a number of sessional or temporary orders that complement or modify the standing orders. Sessional orders expire at the end of a session and have to be adopted again in the next session if they are to continue.

Following the 2019 election, the Council adopted a range of new sessional orders. Some of these were relatively minor in scope while others fundamentally changed practice and have had a significant impact on the mechanisms and opportunities for scrutinising government action and decisions. New standing committees were established to inquire into government spending, infrastructure projects and legislative proposals, new procedures were adopted to enhance question time and to improve the process for production of government papers by order of the House, and more time and more opportunities were given to non-government members to raise matters of concern to them and their constituents.

On 9 June 2021, the House, having trialled these new procedures for two years, referred to the Procedure Committee an inquiry into the rules of the House and to report which, if any, of the new sessional orders should be adopted as standing orders and if any other changes were required. The committee is to report to the House by the first day of the second sitting week of 2022.

LEGISLATION

In 2020-21 the House sat for 45 days, an increase from 36 days in the previous period. The House considered 87 bills during the period. Of these, 38 were introduced in the Council and 49 were received from the Legislative Assembly. Of the Council bills, 6 were introduced by the Government and 32 by Private Members. Overall, 59 bills were agreed to, with 32 of these amended by the Council. This shows an increase from the previous period, in which 33 bills were passed, 19 with Council amendments.

Eight Private Members' bills were agreed to and sent to the Legislative Assembly for consideration, however none were ultimately passed by the Assembly.

The House also saw an increase in amendments debated during this period. There were 781 amendments circulated and 253 amendments agreed to, compared to 412 circulated and 212 agreed to in the previous period. The figure of 781 included a large number of proposed amendments to the Electricity Infrastructure Investment Bill 2020.

Electricity Infrastructure Investment Bill 2020

The Electricity Infrastructure Investment Bill 2020 (the bill) was introduced to encourage investment in new electricity generation, storage, network and related infrastructure. A very high number of amendments were circulated – 257 in total, 249 of which were proposed by Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party (PHON).

During debate on the bill two attempts were made to utilise standing order 163, which provides for an Assembly minister to be invited to sit in the Council to explain a bill. This procedure has been used only once previously in the Legislative Council, in 1990 during debate on industrial relations legislation.

Contrary to common practice, leave was not granted to take the bill as a whole in the committee stage, which had the effect of requiring the Chair to put the question on every clause and part of the bill, and each amendment moved. Progressing through the committee stage in this manner saw the House

deal with only 28 of the 257 amendments over the course of a sitting day commencing at 10.00 am and adjourning at midnight.

The next sitting day the House adopted several instructions to manage the remainder of debate in committee. These included:

- that no further amendments be accepted
- that all amendments to a clause in the bill be moved and debated concurrently provided that the questions on the amendments be put separately
- on a division being called on an amendment to a clause to which other amendments have been moved and debated, the bells be rung for 5 minutes for the first division and 1 minute for each subsequent division
- that only a Minister be permitted to move that the Chair report progress and seek leave to sit again.

The instructions were agreed to on division, opposed by certain members who argued they would ‘guillotine’ debate. Notwithstanding the instructions applied to the committee, there were 100 divisions on amendments across three days before the bill was reported to the House.

At the conclusion of the committee stage, the bill was reported to the House with two amendments moved by the Greens. The bill was returned to the Legislative Assembly, which agreed to the two amendments and then sent to the Governor for assent.

LAUNCH OF PROCEDURE AND BLACK ROD MANUALS

Procedure manual

In December 2020, the Procedure Office launched a revised version of its manual. The manual has been revised to:

- Incorporate changes subsequent to the introduction of PIMS as well as changes to administrative/procedural practices as a consequence of the raft of sessional orders agreed to in 2019.
- Assist new staff in their transition to the Procedure Office and encourage consistency in service delivery.

The manual is a ‘live’ resource with electronic updates published regularly to capture new processes, especially in relation to the roll out of digital products.

Black Rod and Chamber & Support Manual

At the same time, manuals outlining the roles and responsibilities of the Black Rod and Chamber

Support teams were drafted for the first time and then consolidated into a single document. The manual covers delegations and protocol, governance and corporate functions, as well as responsibilities relating to the Office of the President. The manual also discusses Chamber and Support responsibilities on sitting days, room setup, public and school tours, and preparations for joint sittings.

PROCEDURAL DEBRIEFS

On the Friday of each sitting week the Clerk hosts a half-hour ‘Friday Debrief’ for members, members’ staff and parliamentary staff. The debrief provides the opportunity to explain procedural highlights from the week’s sitting, explore unusual or complex aspects of the Council’s work, and reflect on some of the lighter moments of the week. The debrief aims to be both informative and entertaining.

The Debrief first transitioned to an online format in 2020, in response to the COVID outbreak. The sessions temporarily moved to a ‘hybrid’ format in 2021 to accommodate social distancing requirements, before returning to an online format following the June 2021 Delta outbreak. While the Debrief has always been popular, the sessions have enjoyed a noticeable uptick in viewers during this reporting period, with the audience regularly numbering over 70 people in attendance often including the Leader of the House and other members, as well as parliamentary and members staff.



The weekly Friday Procedural debrief, attended by members, members staff and parliamentary staff explores and explains interesting and unusual procedures from the House. As a “virtual” event the Debrief has usually attracted 50-70 participants most weeks.

SRA OUTREACH

During the reporting period the Black Rod team launched a new induction initiative for members' Secretary and Research Assistants (SRAs). While SRA's routinely participate in a comprehensive induction program, the sessions have traditionally been scheduled periodically so some SRAs may not participate in a session until several months into their new role. Under the new initiative, SRA's are contacted immediately on commencing with their member and offered personalised induction meetings with procedure and committee staff. These tailored sessions ensure SRA's are equipped to support their member in obtaining drafting assistance, procedural advice, secretariat assistance and access to room booking and protocol services. The personalised sessions have received positive feedback from participants.

BICENTENARY PREPARATIONS

In 2023/24 the Parliament will celebrate the bicentenary of the pre-bicameral First Legislative Council. While the Council was established in statute on 19 July 1823, the Council of five appointed members met for the first time on 25 August 1824. On Tuesday 8 June 2021, the President gave a statement in the House outlining a schedule of celebratory markers and events that will take place between 2021 and 2024. These include statements in the House, exhibitions, seminars and re-enactments, culminating in an Official Opening of Parliament in 2024. The President described the first meeting of the Council as 'Australia's Magna Carta moment' and the planned events as a 'celebration of 200 years of democracy'.

In his statement, the President foreshadowed that a Bicentenary Steering Committee would soon be established to assist in guiding the plans for events and the commissioning and publication of historical research which will provide a lasting legacy. Membership will include the Government, Opposition and Crossbench and the committee will engage with historians and a range of stakeholders with an interest in these matters, including the Aboriginal community.

In recognition of similar commemorative activities being organised by other institutions, the committee will liaise with the Supreme Court of New South Wales, St James Church, Sydney Living Museums and the Cultural Kilometre Hub (which is comprised of organisations in close proximity to Parliament including the Art Gallery, Royal Botanic Gardens and State Library of NSW).

The Bicentenary promises to be a special period of commemoration and celebration, and an opportunity to envision a dynamic democracy into the future. Coordination of the events will be the responsibility of the Clerk and the Usher of the Black Rod, who will work together with a group of staff from across the parliament and external agencies to implement the planned program.



IN COMMITTEES



INTRODUCTION

The Legislative Council's extensive committee system continued to be exceedingly active in 2020/2021. In total during the reporting period, 36 inquiries were established, including 14 inquiries into bills, and 31 reports tabled, including 13 reports on bills.

Inevitably, committee work was significantly affected during the reporting period by the COVID-19 pandemic. As the first wave of the pandemic passed in the second half of 2020, many committees moved back from virtual proceedings to more traditional face-to-face hearings and meetings, including the conduct of a full round of budget estimates hearings in February and March 2021.

With the ever growing work of committees, the Committee Office also continued to expand, with funding received in the 2020/2021 Budget to employ an additional five officers to support its work.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

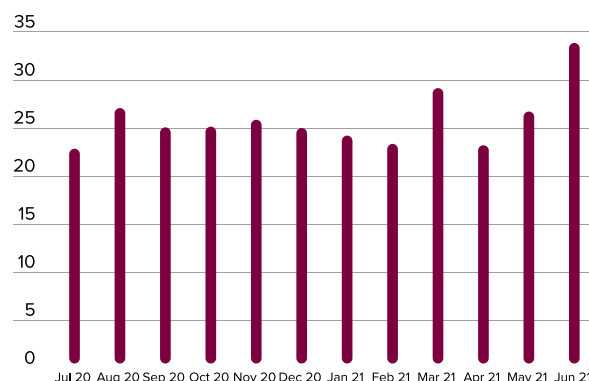
- Support for the move of committees back to traditional face-to-face hearings in the second half of 2020 and into 2021 following the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The live webcasting on the Parliament's website of hearings from regional New South Wales, believed to be a first for any Australian parliament.
- The development of new guides to assist members and committee staff with strategies for engaging effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Support for 13 bill inquiries, including ongoing refinement of the means by which committees engage with stakeholders during such inquiries, which often have tight reporting deadlines.
- The conduct of a number of significant inquiries, including the Inquiry by the select committee on the high level of First Nations people in custody and oversight and review of deaths in custody and the Inquiry into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales.

KEY STATISTICS

36	INQUIRIES ESTABLISHED
3880	SUBMISSIONS
112	HEARINGS
1303	WITNESSES
31	REPORTS Tabled
23	GOVERNMENT RESPONSES

Note – these statistics do not include inquiries of the Procedure Committee or Privileges Committee. Information on individual committee activity is available at Appendix 4 and details of committee travel at Appendix 3.

Number of active inquiries in 2020/2021



Ongoing expansion of the Committee Office

The workload of the Committee Office has increased considerably over the course of the 57th Parliament when compared with the 56th Parliament. As a simple measure of this, at 30 June 2021, there were 29 active inquiries before Legislative Council committees, counting budget estimates as one inquiry. At the equivalent point in the 56th Parliament there were 13 active inquiries.

At the commencement of the 57th Parliament, on the initiative of the Clerk, the former President approved the employment of an additional Director grade 11/12, two additional Principal Council Officers grade 9/10, one additional Senior Council Officer grade 7/8 and one additional Administration Officer grade 3/4 in anticipation of the additional workload. Additional funding of \$635K per annum was received in the 2019/2020 Budget to support these additional positions.

Subsequently, in the 2020/2021 budget, the Committee Office received a further funding boost of \$440k per annum following a successful funding submission to Treasury. This allowed the employment of two further Principal Council Officers grade 9/10, the employment of a second Council Officer grade 5/6 and two additional Administration Officers grade 3/4.

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2020/2021

In 2020/2021 it was expected that budget estimates would again be held over three separate rounds of hearings spread across the financial year similar to the arrangements adopted for the first time in 2019/2020. However, as with other inquiries, the budget estimates inquiry was significantly affected by the COVID pandemic, with the State Budget not handed down until Tuesday 17 November 2020. As a result, only a single round of budget estimates hearings was held during 2020/2021 from 25 February 2021 to 12 March 2021.

Whilst the estimates hearings were curtailed in 2020/2021, over the 12 days of hearings in February and March 2021, 25 hearings were held, encompassing over 141 hours of questioning of ministers and senior government officials.

WEBCASTING OF RURAL HEARINGS

In May 2021, the Legislative Council pioneered the live webcasting of committee hearings from regional centres when Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health webcast its hearings from Wellington and Dubbo as part of its inquiry into the health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in regional, rural and remote New South Wales. A number of other regional hearings of Portfolio Committee No. 2 and of the Select Committee into the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission were also subsequently webcast live.

The committees received very positive feedback from members of the media, inquiry stakeholders and members of the public on the availability and quality of the regional webcasts. This development significantly broadens the accessibility of committee hearings beyond those held at Parliament House. It is understood that the Legislative Council is the first House of a parliament in Australia to offer the webcasting of regional hearings, ahead even of the Commonwealth Parliament in this regard.

Number of length	BE 2020/2021*	BE 2019/2020	BE 2018/2019
Hearing days	12	28	10
Hearings	25	62	29
Hours of hearings	141 hrs and 4 mins	363 hrs and 6 mins	57 hrs and 15 mins
Witnesses	231	513	176
Meetings other than hearings	14	42	24
Questions (supplementary and on notice)	6,090	13,839	7,452

* As discussed above, these figures were affected by the delay in the handing down of the 2020/2021 budget until Tuesday 17 November 2020. As a result only a single round of estimates was held in 2020/2021 from 25 February 2021 to 12 March 2021.

NEW BROCHURES AND GUIDE FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STAKEHOLDERS

In 2020/2021, the Committee Office developed three new resources to promote and support the engagement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders in Legislative Council committee inquiries.

The first was a guide to assist members and committee staff with strategies for engaging effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The guide consolidated strategies used in previous inquiries and the learnings gained over time, based on inquiries such as the Inquiry into the family response to the murders in Bowraville, Reparations for the Stolen Generations and the recent Inquiry into the high level of First Nations peoples in custody and oversight and review of deaths in custody. The guide also sets out tips for effective communication, which can be helpful for site visits and hearings where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people may be participating.

In addition, the Committee Office now has two specific brochures for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders on:

- making a submission
- giving evidence.

These new resources were all developed in consultation with Steven Collins, Parliament's Aboriginal Liaison Officer and drew on the experience of members and the Committee Office over recent Parliaments. All are written in plain language and aim at being more accessible and user friendly.

BILL INQUIRIES

In keeping with the trend observed in 2019/2020, during 2020/2021 the Legislative Council continued to make extensive use of committees to inquire into and report on government and private members' bills. During the reporting period, 13 bill inquiry reports were tabled and the House referred the following 14 bills to committees for investigation and report:

Government bills

- Work Health and Safety Amendment (Information Exchange) Bill 2020
- Warnervale Airport (Restrictions) Repeal Bill 2020
- Drug Supply Prohibition Order Pilot Scheme Bill 2020
- Mandatory Disease Testing Bill 2020
- Local Land Services Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2020
- Mutual Recognition (New South Wales) Amendment Bill 2021
- Tax Administration Amendment (Combatting Wage Theft) Bill 2021
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Infrastructure Contributions) Bill 2021.

Private members' bills

- Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill
- Public Health Amendment (Registered Nurses in Nursing Homes) Bill 2020
- Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment (Plastics Reduction) Bill 2021



The Standing Committee on Law and Justice held a hearing in the Jubilee Room as part of its bill inquiry into the Mandatory Disease Testing Bill 2020, one of 13 inquiries into Bills in this reporting period – a developing aspect of the LC's committee work

- Coal and Gas Legislation Amendment (Liverpool Plains Prohibition) Bill 2021
- Petroleum (Onshore) Amendment (Cancellation of Zombie Petroleum Exploration Licences) Bill 2021
- Protection of the Environment Operations Amendment (Clean Air) Bill 2021.

As the number of bills inquiries undertaken by committees has steadily increased in recent years, differing approaches to how inquiries were conducted had emerged. In order to assist committee members to meet the set reporting timeframes and encourage opportunities for community participation, during the reporting period a standardised approach to the management of bills inquiries was developed and presented to the Chairs' committee with following key features:

- The inquiry is promoted on NSW Parliament's social media platforms and through stakeholder emails and media releases
- The committee invites submissions from nominated stakeholders
- Pro formas are not accepted
- An online questionnaire that contains standard neutral questions is the primary method by which interested individuals can express their opinion about the bill
- The results of the questionnaire are presented in a summary report that draws out key themes and quotes from participants
- The committee conducts a hearing within the set inquiry timeframe
- A committee report is tabled and includes the results of the questionnaire and committee recommendations where appropriate.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND POLICY INQUIRIES

Select committee on the high level of First Nations people in custody and oversight and review of deaths in custody

In June 2020, a select committee was established to inquire into the over-representation of First Nations people in the criminal justice system and the oversight and review of deaths of First Nations people in custody. The inquiry was established following a number of Black Lives Matter protests in Sydney and around the world.

The select committee received 137 submissions, with a large number of them highlighting the rates and causes of the disproportionately high incarceration rates for First Nations people.

The committee held five public hearings exploring the role of various oversight bodies in New South Wales in relation to the review of deaths in custody, considering mainly whether there should be a single oversight body.

The committee received valuable evidence from the NSW Ombudsman, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission and the Inspector of Custodial Services. It also heard from community legal centres, Aboriginal community groups and organisations and researchers in this field, as well as organisations focused on supporting women and youth in the criminal justice system. The committee also had input from health and medical experts and industry unions, and key government departments including the Department of Communities and Justice, Corrective Services, Youth Justice, Aboriginal Affairs and the Department of Health.



A new inquiry into compulsory land acquisitions is announced on the Legislative Council's social media platforms. During 2020/21, new records were set for content reach and engagement across Facebook and Twitter

In addition, the committee spoke with several First Nations families who have devastatingly lost a loved one whilst they were in custody. The families came forward and provided heartfelt evidence to the committee about the loss of their family member and the impact this continues to have on them and their communities. The committee tabled its report on 15 April 2021, marking the 30 year anniversary of the handing down of the report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. The committee's report made 39 recommendations to address the over-representation of First Nations people in the criminal justice system and to enhance the oversight arrangements for the review of deaths in custody. In particular, it recommended that the NSW Government expand the functions of the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission to undertake full investigations in relation to all deaths in custody.

Following the tabling of this report, in May 2021 a select committee with the same committee membership was established to inquire into the coronial jurisdiction in New South Wales. The inquiry is ongoing and continues the work of the original select committee to improve the system for First Nations families and communities, as well as undertaking a root and branch review of the coronial jurisdiction in New South Wales.

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education: Review of the New South Wales Curriculum

In 2020/2021, Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education undertook a Review of the New South Wales Curriculum. The inquiry followed the announcement that New South Wales was to introduce a new school curriculum within the next four years, following a two-year review of the school curriculum conducted by Professor Geoff Masters AO.

The committee examined in detail the extent to which the Masters Curriculum Review addressed its terms of reference and whether it met key policy objectives, as well as a range of related issues.

The inquiry was procedurally unique in that two discussion papers were produced for consideration by inquiry participants – one by the Chair, the Hon Mark Latham MLC, and one by the committee.

The report provided a detailed examination of the key conclusions and recommendations of the Masters review, specifically around:

- genuine decluttering of an overcrowded curriculum
- the validity of untimed syllabuses
- the efficacy and value of cross-curriculum priorities, and
- integration of skills and knowledge.

The committee made 33 of its own recommendations to the NSW Government to improve learning outcomes in the state's schools through best practice teaching and evidence-based syllabus reform. The recommendations focused on a return to core learning principles, demarcation of what schools should be responsible to their students for, and the implementation of reform over the next four years and beyond.



'A post on the Legislative Council's Facebook page announcing the release of the 2020 Review of the Workers' Compensation Scheme by the Standing Committee on Law and Justice in April 2021

In August 2020, Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health commenced an inquiry into the health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales. The inquiry was self-referred following extensive media coverage of the deaths of a number of patients in the state’s rural health system.

The committee received over 700 submissions from organisations and individuals representing NSW’s rural, regional and remote communities and conducted eight hearings during the reporting period, including seven in regional locations. During one regional trip the committee conducted three hearings in Gunnedah, Taree and Lismore across two consecutive days and during the reporting period heard from a total of 124 individual witnesses.

In addition, as noted above in the section above on ‘Webcasting of rural hearings’, the committee’s hearing in Wellington on 18 May 2021 was the first time a regional hearing had been webcast live on the NSW Parliament’s website.

The inquiry is exploring a wide range of complex issues including service availability, wait times, staffing challenges, technological innovations and the interdependence of the state and federal health systems. The committee has resolved to host another seven hearings in 2021 to gather further evidence from organisations and local communities to inform its final recommendations.

Public Accountability Committee – Budget process for independent oversight bodies and the Parliament

In October 2019, the Public Accountability Committee commenced an inquiry into the budget process for independent oversight bodies – the Independent Commission Against Corruption, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, the Audit Office of New South Wales, the NSW Electoral Commission and the NSW Ombudsman – and the Parliament. The focus of the inquiry was on the adequacy of the funding of these agencies but also most importantly the process by which their budget is set.

The committee’s final report was tabled in February 2021. In it, the committee reiterated earlier recommendations from its interim report that parliamentary oversight committees for the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, the NSW Ombudsman and the NSW Electoral Commission review the annual budget submissions of each agency and make recommendations to the Parliament as to their funding priorities.

In addition, the committee recommended that the NSW Government work with the Legislature in adopting the United Kingdom model of funding for the Parliament of New South Wales and that the Legislative Council designate the Public



Inquiry participants at a hearing at Cobar Memorial Services Club on 30 April 2021, as part of the inquiry by Portfolio Committee No 2 into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales. LC Committees seek to engage with rural and regional communities, including through travel within NSW, although that has been significantly curtailed due to COVID-19.

Accountability Committee to review the Department of the Legislative Council's annual budget submission and give directions as to the funding priorities of the Legislative Council, as well as any requests for supplementary funding.

Regulation Committee – Making of delegated legislation in New South Wales

In October 2020, the Regulation Committee published a report on the making of delegated legislation in New South Wales. Unlike most other regulation scrutiny committees across Australian parliaments, the Committee may examine the policy or substantive content of regulations (as opposed to being limited to technical scrutiny criteria), and may also inquire into trends or issues that relate to regulations. This inquiry was the first opportunity for the committee to examine broader trends relating to regulations, focusing on enhancements to the legislative framework for delegated legislation, and on safeguarding against potential executive overreach.

Given the complex nature of the laws and procedures governing delegated legislation and the variety of possible approaches to reform proposed by stakeholders, the committee ultimately concluded that the NSW Law Reform Commission should be tasked with reviewing and reporting on the extent and use of delegated legislative powers in New South Wales, powers and safeguards relating to delegated legislation in other jurisdictions, and suggestions for improvements in the use of delegated legislative powers to prevent executive overreach.

Separate to the recommendation relating to the NSW Law Reform Commission, the committee made a recommendation specifically aimed at increasing transparency in the use of 'Henry VIII clauses' (which delegate power to modify primary legislation), 'shell legislation' (which delegates power to fill in wide legislative gaps by subordinate legislation) and quasi legislation (which proposes compliance based on the requirements of a non-legislative document). In particular, the committee recommended that explanatory notes to bills which contain these types of provisions should highlight the presence of the provision in the bill and explain why such a broad delegation of legislative power is considered necessary.

The committee also made a set of recommendations aimed at addressing certain gaps in the current framework for the scrutiny of delegated legislation by committees, which play a critical role in supervising the executive's exercise of legislative power. These gaps include limitations in the powers and functions of the Regulation Committee itself. The committee recommended that the resolution establishing the Regulation Committee be expanded to make it clear that the committee may consider all instruments of a legislative nature and not just regulations, as well as draft delegated legislation, and that the committee be given the power to self-refer inquiries. The resolution establishing the Regulation Committee was subsequently amended accordingly in November 2020.



ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY



OVERVIEW

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to strengthening our community engagement. The Department aims to deliver programs that educate and encourage participation in the parliamentary process and to inform the community about the work of the Legislative Council. The Council has significantly expanded its social media presence during the reporting period, launching a number of new initiatives to increase public engagement.

Role of Black Rod and Chamber and Support teams

The Black Rod and Chamber and Support teams play an important role in engagement. The Black Rod team is primarily responsible for managing Fountain Court and Reconciliation Wall art exhibitions, social media coordination and various events, while the Chamber and Support teams (Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly) are the public face of the Parliament, welcoming visitors into the building and leading tours of the Chambers.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Launch of a Legislative Council Engagement Strategy, 2020-22.
- Recruitment of a dedicated digital engagement and communications officer.
- Renewed focus on engagement through social and other digital media, including introduction of 'intensive' sitting-day content on Twitter in 2021.
- Launch of 'virtual' exhibitions on the Parliament's website following the closure of the Fountain Court and Reconciliation Wall during COVID-19 pandemic
- Expansion of support provided to Fountain Court and Reconciliation Wall exhibitors, including media engagement, production of artist videos and social media promotion on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Twitter.
- Preparation for a new tour schedule to meet benchmarks set under the Parliament's Communications, Education and Engagement Strategy, including working with the Legislative Assembly to develop a new timetable that will increase the numbers of tours made available to schools and visitors.
- Review of the public and school tour programs.

COMMUNICATIONS, ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION STRATEGY

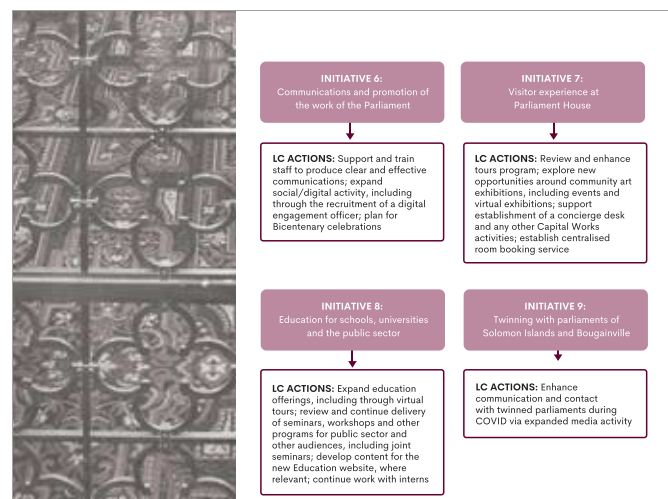
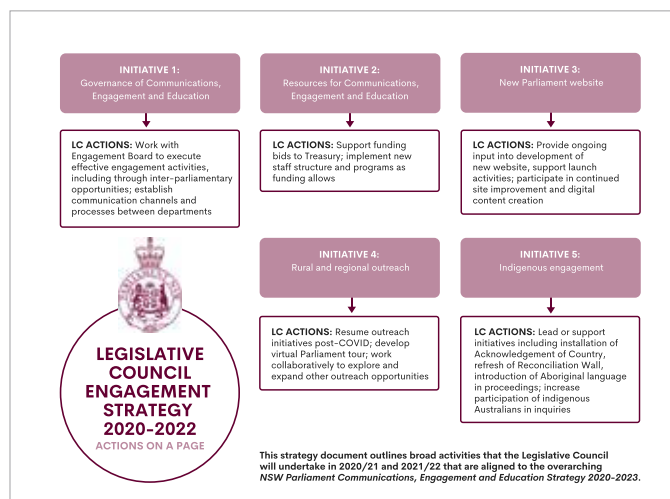
In December 2020, the Presiding Officers approved a new Communications, Engagement and Education Strategy for the Parliament. The product of collaboration between the three parliamentary departments, the strategy sets out nine key initiatives to enhance and expand the way Parliament educates, communicates and engages with the people of NSW from 2020 to 2023. The strategy was informed by a review of approaches taken in Australian and international parliaments, as well as extensive consultation with key stakeholders in the NSW Parliamentary community, including of course, members and their staff. The strategy can be found on the Parliament's website.

The Clerk Assistant – Procedure and the Usher of the Black Rod are members of the newly established Engagement Board. The Board has a governance and oversight role to ensure the strategy is implemented within the timeframes set for each year and outcomes met.

LC ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

To ensure that the Department of the Legislative Council's activities align with the targets set out for the Parliament under the overarching strategy, in 2021 the department published an LC Engagement Strategy. The strategy sets out the broad activities that will be undertaken in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years to support the nine initiatives identified for the Parliament.

The strategy speaks to the important work that departmental staff do every day to do foster engagement across social media and online generally, with other parliaments, in regional and rural areas, within the parliamentary precincts, in support of the Parliament's valued Twinning partners, to support parliamentary committees and to deliver on the Parliament's broader strategic initiatives. The strategy also underscores the primacy of outreach and engagement to the core work of the Legislative Council. The LC Strategy can be found on the Parliament's website.



The Legislative Council's Engagement Strategy 2020-2022 sets out activities that will be undertaken in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years to support the nine initiatives identified under the Parliament's overarching Communications, Education and Engagement Strategy

SOCIAL MEDIA

During the year, the Legislative Council renewed its focus on engagement through social and other digital media, including through the recruitment of a permanent Digital Engagement Officer at the beginning of 2021.

The Council's social media channels are an increasingly important mechanism for driving awareness of – and engagement with – the work of the Upper House. They provide access to clear and compelling information about the Council's role, procedures and current activities, and encourage public participation through committee inquiries.

Channels that continued to be used by the Council in 2020/21 included Facebook (facebook.com/nswupperhouse), with 194 posts during the year; Twitter (twitter.com/nsw_upperhouse), with 744 tweets made; and The House in Review blog (thehouseinreview.com), with 54 articles posted.

Content produced by the Council was also regularly amplified through news and other pages on the Parliament of NSW website, as well as through the Parliament's LinkedIn, Instagram and general Facebook accounts, working in collaboration with other parliamentary departments.

Audiences for the Legislative Council on social media range from the broad general public of NSW to stakeholders within and related to the parliament – and their numbers continued to grow during the reporting period. The reach of the Council's content also begun setting new benchmarks, with Twitter content viewed close to 823,000 times in 2020/21. Meanwhile, there was a 57 per cent increase in the number of people who saw at least one piece of content from the Council's Facebook page compared to 2019/20, and The House in Review blog was visited more than 11,600 times.

A range of new initiatives were implemented in 2020/21, including but not limited to the introduction



An example of inquiry content created using the digital engagement template for committee inquiries



'Intensive' sitting day content was introduced on Twitter, allowing the public to follow along with action in the Council as it happened

of 'intensive' sitting-day content on Twitter in the second half of the period, making all key motions and outcomes immediately and plainly accessible, including for Council members to share. A digital engagement template for Upper House inquiries was also developed, increasing the frequency and depth of inquiry content across social media channels – including through polished animated 'launch' videos and other strong calls to action, which on Facebook saw more than 3940 clicks through to inquiry submission pages.

Finally, during the year, work was undertaken to identify further strategies for growth and improvement in the social and digital media space, with further activities to be launched in 2021/22.

LUNCHEON FOR THE FAMILIES OF THE 'FOUR ANGELS'.

On Wednesday 17 March 2021 Former President Ajaka hosted a luncheon for the families of the "Four Angels" and members of both Houses to mark the passage of the Road Transport Legislation Amendment (Drink and Drug Driving Offence) Bill, otherwise known as the Four Angels Law. The law introduced new, harsher penalties for combined drink and drug driving offences and was named in honour of Antony, Angelina and Sienna Abdallah and Veronique Sakr, who were tragically killed the previous year by a driver who was three times the legal alcohol limit and under the influence of drugs. Following the luncheon, the President welcomed the families into his Gallery and made a statement in the House. The President acknowledged the immense grace, strength and compassion both families had demonstrated in establishing i4give Day, which now takes place annually on 1 February in remembrance of the four angels; to help others who have someone lost to them in a similar way; and to encourage everyone to find someone they can forgive or ask for forgiveness.



Members of the Abdallah and Sakr families with members of both Houses at a luncheon held to mark the passage of the Road Transport Legislation Amendment (Drink and Drug Driving Offence) Bill

FOUNTAIN COURT

The Fountain Court is a free exhibition space for monthly art exhibitions which are relevant to New South Wales and hosted by a Member of Parliament.

While the Parliament was initially closed to the public from July 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Black Rod team transitioned exhibitions to a virtual format, the first of these exhibitions being *Roots* by Marilyn Rabinowitz.



The title tile for Parliament's first virtual exhibition, Roots by Marilyn Rabinowitz

With the reopening of the Parliament from October, the Fountain Court saw the return of a vibrant program of nine exhibitions such as

- October 2020 – Visions of Australia: the spirit of our lives by Tracey Esteves, sponsored by Guy Zangari MP
- November 2020 – The Nikon Walkley Press Photography Exhibition by The Walkley Foundation, sponsored by the Premier, Gladys Berejiklian MP
- February 2021 – Hope and Gratitude by Nick Baldas, sponsored by Trish Doyle MP and The Effect of a Butterfly by Kay Lyon, sponsored by Mark Coure MP
- March 2021 – Our Place by the Eastwood Chinese Senior Citizens Club, sponsored by Victor Dominello MP



'One of the artworks from 'Clear Away the Dust' by Carmonn French, displayed in the Fountain Court during May 2021'

- April 2021 – The Flower Picking by Carol Barroso, sponsored by Ryan Park MP
- May 2021 – The Queen's Album by Sydney Living Museums and NSW State Records and Archives, sponsored by Hon Shayne Mallard MLC
- June 2021 – Clear Away the Dust by Carmonn French, sponsored by Matt Kean MP

In addition to physical exhibitions, in response to the popularity of virtual exhibitions the Black Rod team continued to host content on the Parliament's website. Virtual exhibitions have enabled exhibitors' works to be shared with a wider audience, particularly in regional areas and to people who do not ordinarily have the opportunity to visit Parliament.

The Black Rod team has also significantly expanded the promotional and media support provided to exhibitors, following the commencement of a dedicated Digital Engagement and Communications Officer in January. Services include engaging with media, production of artist videos for the Parliament's website and promotion of exhibitions across the Parliament's various social media channels.

RECONCILIATION WALL

Located within the Fountain Court, the Reconciliation Wall is part of the Parliament's commitment to reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The space is intended to support the Parliament to better engage with and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists in New South Wales, via exhibitions of high quality artwork.

The Black Rod team has worked closely with the Parliament's Aboriginal Liaison Officer, who commenced in January 2021, to raise awareness of the Reconciliation Wall as an exhibition space. This collaboration has seen a marked increase in the number and variety of applications over the reporting

period. The following exhibitions were hosted:

- Our Past Our Future by Lua Pellegrini, sponsored by Hon Rod Roberts MLC
- Schools Reconciliation Challenge by Reconciliation NSW, sponsored by Hon Trevor Khan MLC
- To make a mark by Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Cooperative, sponsored by Jamie Parker
- This is Where They Travelled by the Gujaga Foundation, sponsored by Leslie Williams MP.

Artists who exhibit on the Reconciliation Wall benefit from the promotional and media support discussed above, including virtual exhibitions, engagement with the media and content hosted virtually on the Parliament's website and promoted across social media. Exhibitions also tie in to other activities taking place across the Parliament – for example, the Gujaga Foundation exhibition was promoted during a radio interview with the Parliament's Aboriginal Liaison Officer during a segment on the new Koori Kitchen Takeover initiative.

EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN COMMITTEE INQUIRIES COURSE

Committee staff continued the very successful program of workshops run in conjunction with the Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS) aimed at improving non-government stakeholders' understanding of parliamentary inquiries and their skills in participating in them.

While the COVID-19 pandemic prevented workshops from being conducted in 2020, workshops resumed during the reporting period, with one held at Parliament House on 11 May 2021.



'Our Past, Our Future' from the exhibition of the same name by Wiradjuri artist Lua Pellegrini, displayed on the Reconciliation Wall from November 2020 – February 2021. This exhibition was sponsored by Hon Rod Roberts MLC



Artists and staff from the Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Cooperative celebrate the launch of their exhibition, entitled 'To Make A Mark', with local member Jamie Parker MP and staff from the Black Rod team.

PARLIAMENT AND DEMOCRACY COURSE

For a number of years both House departments have combined with the University of Sydney to help deliver a course in Parliament and Democracy. The course takes a critical look at how well Australian parliaments carry out their representative, law-making and accountability functions.

Unfortunately due to COVID-19 the course was unable to be delivered in 2020. Both House departments have worked with the University of Sydney to ensure a COVID-safe program of sessions are delivered to the students in the second half of 2021.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN PRACTICE SEMINARS

The Legislative Council in Practice seminar program is aimed at public servants who are looking to develop their knowledge and understanding of the role and functions of the Legislative Council. Unfortunately, the seminar schedule continued to be impacted by COVID-19 restrictions this reporting period, however the department looks forward to the program resuming when circumstances permit. Consideration is also being given to moving content online.

PUBLIC TOURS AND SCHOOL TALKS

Chamber and Support staff deliver talks on the functions and history of the Legislative Council to primary and secondary schools and conduct role plays with special interest groups and visiting dignitaries. During the reporting year, approximately 209 schools and other groups visited the Parliament and undertook tours delivered by Chamber and Support staff. This number was impacted considerably by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, with tours unavailable to members of the public for over half of the months captured by this reporting period, resulting in a drop of some 50 per cent in visitation.

The Chamber and Support team utilised the period to undertake a comprehensive review of the role plays and manuals used to support the tour program, and to refresh the delivery of tour content. Content relating to public tours was completed this reporting period, and a review of school tour content is scheduled for completion later in 2021. The team also recruited two new staff to assist in the delivery of tours and support the work of the Chamber and the Procedure Office.

The team also worked with colleagues in the Legislative Assembly to develop a new tour schedule to meet benchmarks set under the Parliament's Communications, Education and Engagement Strategy. The new schedule will increase the numbers of tours made available to schools and visitors once the Parliament is reopened and tours can resume.



Ruby and Rhys joined the Chamber and Support team in April 2021 and will be involved in the delivery of both public and school tours



PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS



OVERVIEW

The Parliament welcomes official visitors, foreign dignitaries, parliamentary colleagues and delegations from around the world, embracing opportunities to share knowledge and exchange ideas.

The Legislative Council is also a committed participant in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's Twinning Program.

HOSPITALITY AND VISITORS

The closure of international and, periodically, state borders owing to the COVID-19 pandemic continued to significantly impact the opportunity for the President, members and staff to meet with foreign dignitaries or colleagues from other jurisdictions.

No international delegations were hosted during the reporting period.

Former President Ajaka hosted the President of the Victorian Legislative Council, the Honourable Nazih Elasmr and the Acting Clerk, Ms Anne Sergeant, on Tuesday 23 March 2021.

Official visits

Official visits are made to the NSW Parliament. These mainly comprise diplomat of ambassadorial status either presenting their credentials before taking up their duties or at the conclusion of their posting. A list of official calls made during 2020-21 include:

- Ambassador and Consul-General of Japan
- Ambassador and Consul-General of Spain
- Ambassador and Consul-General of France.

COMMONWEALTH DAY LUNCHEON

Commonwealth Day is celebrated every year by 54 Commonwealth countries on the second Monday in March. The aim of commemorating Commonwealth Day is to promote understanding of global issues, international co-operation and the work of the Commonwealth of Nations to improve the lives of its

citizens. The theme for Commonwealth Day 2021 was 'Delivering a Common Future'. The theme highlighted how the 54 member countries in the Commonwealth family are 'innovating, connecting and transforming' to help achieve some of its biggest goals, like protecting natural resources and boosting trade.

While a Commonwealth Day luncheon event is ordinarily celebrated at NSW Parliament, owing to the closure of the dining room for renovation the event was held at the Four Seasons Hotel in 2021. The CPA NSW Branch purchased a table of 10 for the luncheon which was attended by several members including the Assistant President, the Honourable Rod Roberts MLC. This year Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC was present and Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM, Commissioner for Resilience NSW and NSW Australian of the Year (2021) was Guest Speaker.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) is comprised of parliamentarians united by a community of interest, respect for the rule of law and the rights and freedom of individual citizens, and the pursuit of positive ideals of parliamentary democracy. The Association's mission is to promote the advancement of parliamentary democracy by enhancing knowledge and understanding of democratic governance. This mission is achieved through a range of programs and activities for parliamentarians and parliamentary staff.

During this financial year, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (NSW Branch) was supported by the Honorary Secretary/Treasurer, Ms Helen Minnican, in collaboration with the Honorary Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Mr David Blunt. The positions rotate between the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the Clerk of the Parliaments every four years, with changeover taking place after the commencement of a new Parliament and following the CPA NSW Branch Annual General Meeting.



The President meets with the Ambassador and Consul-General of Spain, together with the Assistant President



The President meets with the Ambassador and Consul-General of France, together with the Assistant President

CPA INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In his capacity as an Australian Region Representative and as Vice-Chairperson of the CPA, former President the Hon John Ajaka MLC continued to make a significant contribution to the CPA, including through his participation in various meetings of the International Executive Committee Coordinating Committee and other committees and working groups.

Following his resignation as President and prior to his retirement as a member of the Legislative Council, Mr Ajaka participated in his last international executive committee, standing down from the position of Vice-Chair. The Hon Ian Luddell-Grainger MP (UK) was elected as the new Vice-Chair.

New CPA Secretary-General

The CPA International Executive Committee, including the then Vice Chair, the Hon. John Ajaka, appointed a new Secretary-General for the Association, Mr Stephen Twigg. The new CPA Secretary-General took up his appointment from 1 August 2020 for a fixed term of four years. The CPA Secretary-General is a former UK Parliamentarian, who was elected to the Parliament of the United Kingdom as a Member of Parliament from 1997 to 2005 (Enfield Southgate) and from 2010 to 2019 (Liverpool West Derby).

Passing of Chair of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

In April the CPA Secretariat advised of the death of the Chair of the CPA Executive Committee, Hon. Emilia

Monjowa Lifaka, MP, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Cameroon. The Hon. Emilia Monjowa Lifaka passed away suddenly in Cameroon on Tuesday 20 April 2021. Condolences on her passing were sent by the NSW Branch. The Acting Chair of the CPA Executive Committee, the Hon. Hon. Ian Liddell-Grainger MP of the United Kingdom will act as Chair until the election of a new Chair at the General Assembly in August 2022.

65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) and General Assembly

The CPA International Executive Committee approved the postponement of the 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) and General Assembly due to be hosted by the CPA Canada Region in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada in January 2021. The decision to postpone was the result of ongoing travel restrictions and quarantine restrictions. The CPC was postponed until 20 to 26 August 2022.

CPA Australian Region representation

Following the resignation of the Hon. John Ajaka, the NSW Branch met to appoint a new Regional Representative from their Branch. The Hon Jonathan O'Dea, Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly was endorsed by the Branch. Speaker O'Dea will serve as one of the three Regional Representatives until the completion of the next CPC (to be held in Halifax in August 2022) when the representative role will rotate from the NSW Branch to the Tasmanian Branch.



The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) tribute to the outstanding contribution of former President Ajaka, particularly as Vice-Chairperson from 2019

CPA Parliamentary supported virtual meetings

Date	Virtual meeting	Purpose	Cost
15-16 September 2020	Virtual Conference on 'Assisting and Protecting Survivors of Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Forced Labour'	Virtual conference—participation by the Hon. Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Nil
15-16 March 2021 and 22 to 24 March 2021	Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change	Virtual participation by a member of the Legislative Assembly and two staff from Legislative Council committees, Shu-fang Wei and Monica Loftus	Nil

CWP Australia Region Secretariat

In January 2021 the results of the election for a Chair of the CWP Steering Committee were announced and Senator Nita Green from the Commonwealth of Australia Branch was elected. The NSW Representative on the CWP Australia Region Steering Committee, currently Ms Sonia Hornery, is elected by NSW CWP members for the life of a Parliament. The Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of New South Wales supports the NSW Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Branch Secretariat.

ASPG EVENTS

The Australasian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG) is a politically non-partisan body which was established in 1979 to encourage and stimulate research, writing, teaching and discussion about parliamentary institutions, particularly those in Australasia and the South Pacific.

The National Executive postponed the ASPG 2020 Conference due to the pandemic.

PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

Parliamentary Friendship Groups are established by members of Parliament to provide a forum for a shared cause or interest, or to arrange events and assist delegations associated with countries and regions. At the time of reporting 64 Parliamentary Friendship Groups were in operation, with 10 new groups being established during the reporting period. The Black Rod team in the Procedure Office processes applications from members of the Legislative Council to form a new group and coordinates the annual reports from Parliamentary Friendship Groups which are required by 31 March each year. A list of all groups is provided at Appendix 5.

TWINNING

The twinning program, initiated by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in 2007, is designed to promote collaboration and understanding between parliaments to ensure they fulfil their legislative, representative and oversight roles.

The program links every Australian state and territory parliament with one or more Pacific parliament. The New South Wales Parliament is linked with the parliaments of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville and Solomon Islands

Keeping connected has been a challenge for our twinning program over the past year, because like us, Bougainville and Solomon Islands have been very focussed on dealing with the COVID 19 pandemic.

While we are fortunate to have online access to our twinned parliaments, it is no substitute for the face-to-face communication that we value from our twinning relationship. Under the circumstances, and because we are very keen to maintain our connection, the NSW Parliament Twinning Steering Committee has decided to place a greater focus on social media channels over coming months, as a means of staying in touch.

With that in mind we have developed a regular 'Spotlight on Twinning' series: twinning-related content on our blog which we will share on our Facebook and twitter platforms, and with our twins' social media channels.



'Twin Peeks' – the Department's new series on Twinning, as it appeared in the House in Review blog



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



IMPLEMENTING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PLAN

In the recent People Matters survey 2020, 95% of respondents from the Department of the LC agreed or strongly agreed with the statement that “my organisation respects individual differences (eg cultural background, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender).”

In the same survey 85% of respondents stated that senior managers support the advancement of women, compared with 64% for the comparable public sector result as a whole.

While the culture of an organisation is the most important contributor to diversity, there are formal measures such as the Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Plan 2019-2023 for the Department, which is part of a whole of Parliament strategy. Staff of the Department have also worked with other staff on the development of a whole of parliament Disability Inclusion Strategy. When COVID allows, the next whole of parliament event to be held under the Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Strategy will focus on:

- The contribution of mature aged works, and
- The contribution of persons with a disability

Job advertisements for Department positions now include reference to the Department’s diversity plan.

The Department, jointly with DPS and the Department of the Legislative Assembly, participated in 2020/21 for the first time in the Career Trackers Aboriginal Internship program, with a student from Wollongong University funded by the three departments under the program.

The Department has also participated in the UNSW Co-NNECTIONS program which supports students from regional or disadvantaged areas, with both interns now employed part time in the Black Rod office.

ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE

Code of Conduct

Following the adoption of a revised Code of Conduct for Members earlier in 2020, the Clerk and the Parliamentary Ethics Advisor presented a well-attended briefing to members on the implications of the Code in August 2020. During the year a resource on the Code of Conduct, approved by the Privileges Committees of both Houses, was promoted to members using the phone based app EdApp.

NSW Electoral Commission modules

In June 2021, a further four modules for members of both Houses were released on EdApp, a mobile phone based resource. Developed by the NSW Electoral Commission, with support provided by staff from each House, these modules covered topics such as:

- who is responsible for managing donations and expenditure of Members
- from whom members can accept donations
- how electoral expenditure may be used
- the obligations around disclosures

It is anticipated a formal launch of these modules will be held in the next reporting period, once lockdown restrictions are eased. Other EdApp courses are available for the Members Code of Conduct and Members Entitlements.

Proposal for a Compliance Officer for NSW Parliament

During the year there were major developments in the development of a proposal for the establishment of an independent complaints officer, previously referred to as the Standards Commissioner. In November 2020 both Houses referred to their Privileges Committees a draft resolution for a Compliance Officer empowered to investigate minor breaches of the Code of Conduct and bullying and harassment. The Legislative Council committee reported in May 2021, supporting the resolution with some suggested enhancements, and the Assembly committee reported in July, outside of this reporting period. There are good prospects that agreement may be reached between the Houses on a model framework.

Parliamentary Ethics Advisor

The Parliamentary Ethics Adviser provides a confidential source of advice members and is also required to advise former Ministers on conflicts of interest when accepting post-Parliament employment.

Equal Employment Opportunity

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to providing a workplace that provides equal employment opportunity (EEO). The Department’s commitment is evidenced by:

- Flexible work practices to assist staff in achieving a balance between their professional and personal life
- Merit selection
- Fair work practices and procedures.

Women are well represented in the Department and occupy 6 of the 10 management or supervisory positions the Department has in its establishment. The Department contributes EEO data for the Department of Premier and Cabinet’s Workforce Profile, which measures performance in meeting NSW Government employment benchmarks for employees from EEO minority groups. The Department’s EEO trends are outlined in the table below.

Representation	Benchmark/Target	2021
Women	50%	71.9%
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders	2.6%	1.8%
People whose language first spoken as a child was not English	19%	14.0%
People with a disability	N/A	3.5%
People with a disability requiring work related adjustments	1.5%	0.0%

Public Interest Disclosures

As per Section 31 of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994, all agencies including Parliament are required to report on their Public Interest Disclosures (PIDs).

The Department has a Public Interest Disclosure Policy, which is accessible via the intranet, and ensures that staff are aware of this policy. The Department reviewed and updated its Public Interest Disclosure Policy during 2019-20. The Human Services team delivers a session on PIDs at the induction program for new staff.

No public officials made a PID to the department during this reporting period. No PIDs were received and no PIDs were finalised in the reporting period.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Parliament's Audit and Risk Committee operates in accordance with NSW Treasury Policy Paper 'Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy for the General Government Sector' (TPP20-08). The Committee's Charter states that the objective of the Committee is "to provide independent assistance to the Clerks and the Chief Executive by monitoring, reviewing and providing advice about the Legislature's governance processes, risk management and control frameworks, and its external accountability obligations."

The current Members of the Audit and Risk Committee are Mr Alex Smith (Chair), Ms Carol Holley, Mr Ian Gillespie and Ms Christine Hawkins. Ms Hawkins and Mr Gillespie were appointed to the Committee on 1 June 2021. Mr David Antaw served on the Committee until the conclusion of his term on 31 May 2021. All Members are independent.

The Committee met six times during 2020-21 and Committee Member attendance is shown in the table below.

Audit and Risk Committee Members	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Mr Alex Smith (Chair)	6	6
Ms Carol Holley	6	3
Mr David Antaw (term concluded 31 May 2021)	5	5
Mr Ian Gillespie (appointed 1 June 2021)	1	1
Ms Christine Hawkins (appointed 1 June 2021)	1	1

The Committee oversaw and monitored the following activities in 2020-21:

- Risk assessments including updates to the Parliament's Corporate Risk Register;
- Endorsement of the Parliament's Strategic (three year) and Annual Internal Audit Plan;
- Progress against the Internal Audit Plan;
- Final internal audit reports;
- Status reports on the implementation of internal audit and external audit recommendations;
- Internal Audit Internal Quality Assessment;
- Draft and Final Legislature Annual Financial Statements
- Internal financial performance reports;
- The Parliament's early close procedures;
- The Audit Office of NSW's Client Services Report and Management Letter;
- Management's representation letter to the Audit Office of NSW;
- Annual attestation against the Parliament's Legislative Compliance Register;
- Updates from Department Heads on key issues
- Reports on Work Health and Safety;
- Business Continuity Management implementation; and
- Reports on Fraud and Corruption Control.

The Parliament voluntarily complies with the Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy for the General Government Sector (TPP20-08). It was agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at its March 2021 meeting that an internal attestation should be made to the Audit and Risk Committee. The attestation has been completed and provided to the Audit and Risk Committee at its June meeting.

The share of professional fees for the independent members of the Parliament's Audit and Risk Committee paid by the Department during the reporting period was \$6321.75.

Internal Audit

The Parliament's Internal Audit function is an independent review activity headed by the Chief Audit Executive. The Internal Audit Function, through the Chief Audit Executive, reports functionally to the Audit and Risk Committee on the results of completed audits, and for strategic direction and accountability purposes; and reports administratively to the Clerks and Chief Executive DPS, to facilitate day to day operations.

The Chief Audit Executive manages, through an outsourced audit service provider, an annual plan of risk-based audits. The annual audit plan for 2020-21 was endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee in July 2020. During 2020-21, the following final audit reports were presented to the Audit and Risk Committee:

- Members' Entitlements 2018-19
- Recruitment
- IT Security
- Work From Home Control Environment
- Members Entitlements FY 2019-20.

In addition to the above, a draft report was issued relating to Physical Security prior to 30 June 2021 and fieldwork was substantially progressed on internal audit of Procurement and Contract Management, both of which formed part of the 2020-21 audit plan. Final reports are to be issued in early 2021-22.

Reflecting the agile approach taken to internal audit, an additional engagement to review Project Assurance was brought into the program during the year, with fieldwork completed in 2020-21 and the final report due early in 2021-22.

An updated Audit Universe, Strategic (three year) internal audit program, and annual audit plan for 2021-22 was prepared in consultation with senior management and endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee in June 2021.

Enterprise Risk Management

The Parliament's Enterprise Risk Management Framework incorporates all of the Parliament's policies, processes, and methodologies for identifying and managing risk, and sets out how risk management is embedded in key business processes. The framework was reviewed and updated in 2019-20.

The Parliament maintains a Corporate Risk Register which is subject to quarterly review by the Parliament's Senior Management Group (SMG) and the Audit and Risk Committee.

Departments/Branches maintain operational risk registers which are also reviewed on a quarterly basis. A network of "Risk Champions" was established in 2019-20 to promote best practice in risk management across the Parliament, promote the embedding of risk management in business processes, and coordinate on cross departmental risks. There network met twice in 2020-21.

Insurance

The Parliament's insurance requirements are managed as part of the Treasury Managed Fund (TMF) portfolio. Under the TMF management arrangements, the Parliament's business insurer is Gallagher Bassett for all insurance lines except for workers' compensation insurance, which is provided by Employers Mutual. Deposit premiums paid to the Treasury Managed Fund for all lines of insurance over the past five years are shown in the table below.

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Property	320,971	229,780	203,150	173,230	179,100
Workers' Compensation	538,455	340,804	402,790	483,882	371,277
Motor	935	540	580	750	750
Liability	98,735	52,990	51,090	49,740	52,420
Misc	25,455	7,060	5,230	5,930	9,030
Total	984,542	631,174	662,840	713,532	612,577

Business Continuity Management

The Parliament has continued to implement and maintain its Business Continuity Management System to support operations through business interruption events. The Business Continuity Governance Group met twice in 2020-21, with representation from all three Parliamentary Departments. A key item of business was the structure and effectiveness of the business continuity management system through the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which was an ongoing business interruption event for the Parliament during the year. The system was considered to have operated effectively, particularly in the transition to remote work arrangements. Further gains in business continuity are anticipated from the digital transformation work currently underway.

Late in June 2021 the Parliamentary precinct was attended by a COVID-19 infected person and measures were rapidly put in place to ensure safety and continuity of essential Parliamentary business. Recommendations arising from a review of the response to that incident will drive actions for business continuity in 2021-22.

Fraud and Corruption Prevention

The Parliament's Fraud and Corruption Control Committee met 3 times in 2020-21 to consider matters such as ICAC guidance on managing corruption risk during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Committee oversighted activities from the Fraud and Corruption Control Plan, key of which was the Fraud Health Check Survey released in January 2021. The survey revealed results in the 96-100% range across fundamental areas of importance to fraud control and corruption prevention, including: awareness of the code of conduct; awareness of what to do if offered a bribe or gift; awareness of conflicts of interest and awareness of ethical behaviour policies. The survey results were strongly positive overall.

Following the introduction in June 2020 of an online training module on Ethical Values and Fraud and Corruption Prevention, with support and encouragement led by members of the committee, during 2020-21 the completion rate increased by 27% to over 80% of all staff.

Work Health and Safety

The Department of the Legislative Council is committed to ensuring the workplace health and safety of our employees as well as that of visitors. The Parliament has a Work Health and Safety (WHS) Committee which meets quarterly. During the reporting period, the Department of Legislative Council is represented by Ms Jenelle Moore, Usher of the Black Rod and two staff representatives, Mr Zachary Gillies-Palmer and Mr Sam Griffith.

The Parliament utilises an online WHS reporting system through which members and staff can report injuries, near-misses and hazards in the workplace. The system improves injury management at the Parliament and helps ensure we continue to prioritise WHS for all members, staff and visitors. The Parliament also has a Work Health and Safety Policy with the objective of providing for a pro-active, reasonably practicable risk management approach to identify, assess, control, monitor and review hazards in the workplace, in compliance with work health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice established by SafeWork NSW and other regulators.

The following table indicates that in 2020-21 the number of reported incidents in the Legislative Council was half of that reported last year, with one new claim.

Summary of Workplace Health and Safety Incidents

	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
No. of incidents	2	4	4	7
Near miss/hazards	1	3	1	1
Strains and overuse	0	1	0	1
Slips/trips and falls	0	0	1	3
Other	0	0	2	3
Lost time injuries	0	0	0	0
Claims	1	0	0	0
New claims cost	\$0	\$0	\$801.20	\$0

Cross-Parliamentary Committees

The Department also has representatives on a number of cross Department committees aimed at ensuring effective communication, workflow and governance across the Parliament. These committees are the:

- Engagement Board
- Security Committee
- Capital Works Committee
- Digital Parliament Board
- Training Committee
- Records Management Committee
- Business Continuity Committee
- AV Board.

TRAVEL EXPENDITURE

Owing to restrictions on travel imposed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there was no international or domestic travel by staff of the Department during the reporting period. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic prevented any CPA Parliamentary Supported travel by Members from taking place.

USE OF CONSULTANTS, CONTRACTORS AND LEGAL SERVICES

The Department expended approximately \$86,801 on consultancy, contractor and legal services excluding GST, the detail of which is provided below.

Advices obtained from the Crown Solicitor

During the financial year advice was obtained from the Crown Solicitor's office on one matter, however, as this was classified as core legal work there was no cost to the department.

Legal Services

The Department engaged the Honourable Keith Mason AC QC as an independent legal arbiter to evaluate and report on claims of privilege on documents relating to the following orders for papers for a total of \$31,999 excluding GST.

- TAFE Underpayments
- The Stronger Communities Fund
- Stronger Country Communities Applications
- Payroll tax compliance – Further order
- Rules Based Environment Water
- Floodplain Harvesting No. 2
- Insurance and Care NSW and the State Insurance Regulatory Authority – Interim and Second reports
- Interests and representations of Mr Daryl Maguire
- Mr Daryl Maguire (further order)
- Ministerial Disclosures of Private Benefits of Mr Daryl Maguire – Further order
- Wages Policy Taskforce
- Newcastle Education Precinct
- Resignation of Mr Rodd Staples
- 2021 Budget
- 2020-21 Budget Finances
- Dams Infrastructure Projects
- Narrandera to Tocomwal Rail Line Reopening Feasibility Study
- Revenue NSW Investigations
- Wages Policy Taskforce

The Honourable Joseph Campbell QC was engaged as an independent legal arbiter to evaluate and report on claims of privilege on documents relating to an order for papers regarding the contamination at power station associated sites for a total of \$8550 excluding GST.

Mr Bret Walker SC was engaged as an independent legal arbiter to evaluate and report on claims of privilege on documents relating to an order for papers

regarding the alleged breach of public health order by the Honourable Don Harwin MLC and provided a written advice on standing orders 12 and 13 (regarding the election of the President) for a total of \$1100 excluding GST. As the invoice was not received until the next reporting period, it has not been included in the total expenditure mentioned previously.

Dr Gabrielle Appleby provided a legal opinion regarding the power of committees to summon a witness in another jurisdiction at a cost of \$5700 excluding GST.

Chamber coverage and other filming services

Camera operator services for the Chamber have been delivered by Corporate Technology Services Pty Ltd. The consultancy fees paid by the Department to Corporate Technology Services Pty Ltd was \$36,000 in 2020-21, excluding GST.

Translation services

Translation services were provided by Multicultural NSW during a hearing of the Select Committee on the impact of technological and other change on the future of work and workers in New South Wales in February 2021. The total cost of these services was \$827 excluding GST.

Parliamentary Ethics Adviser

The Parliamentary Ethics Adviser, Mr John Evans PSM, was paid a total of \$3125 excluding GST for services provided during the reporting period.

Annual report

This report is available on the New South Wales Parliament website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au. The 2020 annual report was compiled in house, with design assistance from Studio Rouge and a small print run, with a total cost of \$6,545.



FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The net cost of services of the Legislative Council, including members' programs was \$32.579 million, representing 18.7% of the total net cost of services of the Parliament for the 2020-21 financial year. This compares to a budget of \$33.122 million reflecting a favourable variance against the budget of \$543,000 or 1.64%.

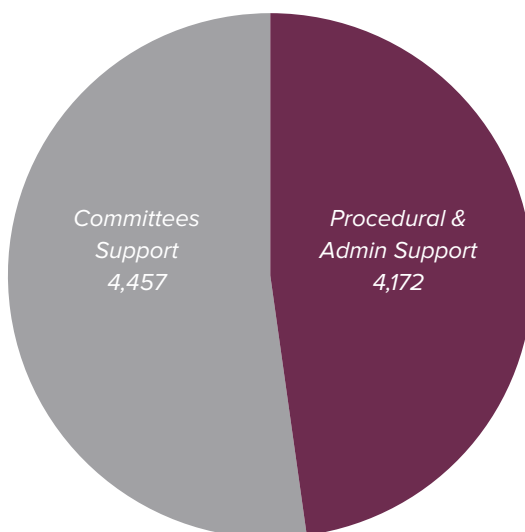
The main components of this variation include:

- Employee related expenses were lower than budget by \$474,000 primarily due to long service leave expenses being significantly lower than budget.
- Operating expenses being lower than budget by \$324,000 mainly due to an underspend in members entitlements: \$215,000 in General Travel Allowance, \$63,000 in Electorate to Sydney Allowance, \$44,000 for Skill Development Allowance.
- Other expenses for Members remuneration increased by \$168,000 over budget from Members and Ministers salaries costs.

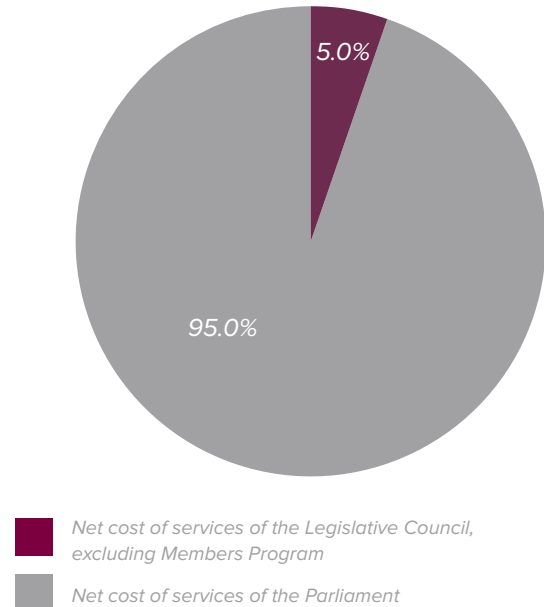
The net cost of services for the Council, excluding direct expenditure on Members, was \$8.629 million which equates to 5.0% of the total net cost of service for the Parliament and 26.5% of the Legislative Council's total net cost of service. The two main operational activities within the Council are Procedural and Administrative Support and Committee Support.

The costs represented in this financial report are unaudited and represented the best known cost distribution for both cash and non-cash items attributable for the Legislative Council.

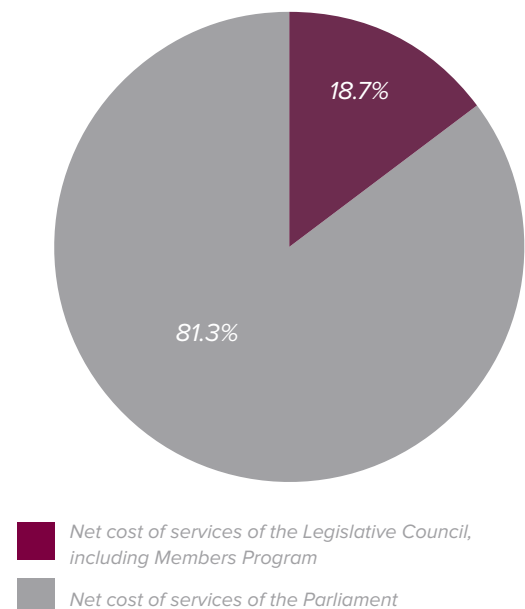
Legislative Council Operations \$'000



Net cost of services of the Legislative Council, excluding Members Program, as a proportion of total cost of services of Parliament



Net cost of services of the Legislative Council, including Members Program, as a proportion of total cost of services of Parliament



Start of unaudited financial statements

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CONSOLIDATED

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Actual 2021 \$'000	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000
Expenses excluding losses			
Employee related expenses	13,701	14,175	13,178
Operating expenses	1,892	2,216	1,817
Depreciation and amortisation	3,171	3,085	2,723
Grants and subsidies	–	–	–
Other expenses (Members' remuneration)	14,512	14,344	14,311
Total Expenses excluding losses	33,276	33,820	32,029
Revenue			
Sale of goods and services	696	696	696
Other income	1	2	14
Total Revenue	697	698	710
Gain / (loss) on disposal	–	–	–
Other Gain / (loss)	–	–	–
Net Cost of Services	32,579	33,122	31,319

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL – PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Actual 2021 \$'000	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000
Expenses excluding losses			
Employee related expenses	6,937	7,133	6,738
Operating expenses	1,179	1,470	1,232
Depreciation and amortisation	2,018	1,963	1,743
Grants and subsidies	–	–	–
Other expenses (Members' remuneration)	14,512	14,344	14,311
Total Expenses excluding losses	24,646	24,910	24,024
Revenue			
Sale of goods and services	696	696	696
Other income	–	–	–
Total Revenue	696	696	696
Gain / (loss) on disposal	–	–	–
Other Gain / (loss)	–	–	–
Net Cost of Services	23,950	24,214	23,328

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL – OPERATIONS

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Actual 2021 \$'000	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2020 \$'000
Expenses excluding losses			
Employee related expenses	6,764	7,042	6,440
Operating expenses	713	746	585
Depreciation and amortisation	1,153	1,122	980
Grants and subsidies	–	–	–
Other expenses (Members' remuneration)	–	–	–
Total Expenses excluding losses	8,630	8,910	8,005
Revenue			
Sale of goods and services	–	–	–
Other income	1	2	14
Total Revenue	1	2	14
Gain / (loss) on disposal	–	–	–
Other Gain / (loss)	–	–	–
Net Cost of Services	8,629	8,908	7,991

End of unaudited financial statements



APPENDICES



APPENDIX 1

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

Amato , The Honourable Lou	LIB	Mason-Cox , The Honourable Matthew Ryan	LIB
Banasiak , The Honourable Mark Jared	SFF	<i>President</i>	
Borsak , The Honourable Robert B Bus FCPA JP	SFF	Mitchell , The Honourable Sarah	NAT
Boyd , Ms Abigail	G	<i>Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning</i>	
Buttigieg , The Honourable Mark BA BEc(Hons)	ALP	Mookhey , The Honourable Daniel	ALP
<i>Opposition Whip</i>		Moriarty , The Honourable Tara	ALP
Cusack , The Honourable Catherine Eileen	LIB	Moselmane , The Honourable Shaoquett Chaher	ALP
BEc(SocSc)		Nile , The Reverend the Honourable	CDP
<i>Temporary Chair of Committees</i>		Frederick John Ed LTh	
D'Adam , The Honourable Anthony	ALP	Pearson , The Honourable Mark	AJP
<i>Deputy Opposition Whip</i>		Poulos , The Honourable Peter John	LIB
Donnelly , The Honourable Gregory John BEc MIR	ALP	Primrose , The Honourable Peter Thomas	ALP
Faehrmann , Ms Cate	G	B SocStud (Syd)	
Fang , The Honourable Wes	NAT	Roberts , The Honourable Rod	PHON
Farlow , The Honourable Scott	LIB	<i>Assistant President</i>	
<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>		Searle , The Honourable Adam	ALP
Farraway , The Honourable Sam Jacob	NAT	Secord , The Honourable Walt	ALP
<i>Deputy Government Whip</i>		Sharpe , The Honourable Penelope Gail	ALP
<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>		Leader of the Opposition in the	
Field , Mr Justin	IND	Legislative Council	
Franklin , The Honourable Ben	NAT	Shoebridge , Mr David	G
<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>		Taylor , The Honourable Bronnie	NAT
Graham , The Honourable John	ALP	<i>Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women</i>	
<i>Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council</i>		Tudehope , The Honourable Damien	LIB
Harwin , The Honourable Donald Thomas	LIB	<i>Minister for Finance and Small Business</i>	
BEc(Hons)		<i>Leader of the House in the Legislative Council</i>	
<i>Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts</i>		Veitch , The Honourable Michael Stanley	ALP
<i>Vice-President of the Executive Council</i>		Ward , The Honourable Natalie Peta	LIB
Houssos , The Honourable Courtney	ALP	<i>Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans</i>	
<i>Temporary Chair of Committees</i>			
Hurst , The Honourable Emma	AJP		
Jackson , The Honourable Rose	ALP		
Khan , The Honourable Trevor John	NAT		
B Juris LLB (UNSW)			
<i>Deputy President</i>			
<i>Chair of Committees</i>			
Latham , The Honourable Mark	PHON		
Maclaren-Jones , The Honourable Natasha	LIB		
BN MHSM			
<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>			
Mallard , The Honourable Shayne	LIB		
<i>Government Whip</i>			
Martin , The Honourable Taylor Mitchell B Com (UoN)	LIB		
<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>			
		Party Representation: House Of 42 Members	
		AJP – Animal Justice Party	2
		ALP – Australian Labor Party	14
		CDP – Christian Democratic Party (Fred Nile Group)	1
		G – The Greens	3
		IND – Independent	1
		LIB – Liberal Party of Australia (NSW Division)	11
		NAT – The Nationals	6
		PHON– Pauline Hanson's One Nation	2
		SFF – Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	2
		Total	42

APPENDIX 2

2020-2021 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1 JULY 2020 TO 30 JUNE 2021

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
John Ajaka	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	0.00			0.00				750.00
	Funds remaining	9,390.00			12,530.00				1,250.00
Lou Amato	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,582.20			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,277.20			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	303.44			0.00				0.00
	Funds remaining	8,973.76			12,530.00				2,000.00
Mark Banasiak	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	3,265.47			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,960.47			12,530.00				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	5,335.13			4,110.54	1,839.58		2,270.96	685.00
	Funds remaining	2,625.34			8,419.46				1,815.00
Robert Borsak	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	3,956.92			135.48				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	8,651.92			6,400.48				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	6,041.27			5,964.10	5,042.09		922.01	0.00
	Funds remaining	2,610.65			436.38				2,500.00
Abigail Boyd	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	908.56			1,041.62				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,603.56			7,306.62				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	488.82		5,777.28	875.45	875.45			1,392.19
	Funds remaining	5,114.74			6,431.17				1,107.81
Mark Buttigieg	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			12,530.00				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	4,114.38			0.00				2,334.37
	Funds remaining	5,275.62			12,530.00				165.63
Catherine Cusack	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			3,578.28				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			19,243.28				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,222.65		14,076.81	14,164.43	5,751.72	8,408.02	4.69	0.00
	Funds remaining	7,167.35			5,078.85				2,000.00
Anthony D'Adam	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	3,125.73			5,299.62				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,820.73			11,564.62				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,412.78			326.16	326.16			598.00
	Funds remaining	5,407.95			11,238.46				1,402.00
Greg Donnelly	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20				6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	4,695.00			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,147.15			322.49	322.49			0.00
	Funds remaining	2,547.85			12,207.51				2,000.00
Cate Faehrmann	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	497.49			0.01				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,192.49			6,265.01				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	3,284.34			3,816.12	2,607.99		1,208.13	0.00
	Funds remaining	1,908.15			2,448.89				2,500.00

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
Wes Fang	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	2,415.72			11,748.90				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,110.72			27,413.90				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	702.68		18,184.71	6,469.92	6,429.92		40.00	0.00
	Funds remaining	6,408.04			20,943.98				2,000.00
Scott Farlow	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,283.07			2,774.47				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	8,978.07			9,039.47				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,542.92			2,018.88	1,788.48		230.40	750.00
	Funds remaining	7,435.15			7,020.59				1,250.00
Sam Farraway	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	318.16			2,821.75				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,013.16			18,486.75				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,836.87		9,684.14	17,941.00	13,467.08		4,473.92	0.00
	Funds remaining	3,176.29			545.75				2,000.00
Justin Field	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			15,167.87				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			30,832.87				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	607.86		9,663.12	3,127.53	2,109.55		1,017.98	0.00
	Funds remaining	8,782.14			27,705.34				2,500.00
Ben Franklin	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	2,027.24			5.52				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	6,722.24			15,670.52				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,876.59		20,227.88	15,670.52	15,420.57	0.00	249.95	0.00
	Funds remaining	3,845.65			0.00				2,000.00
John Graham	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	3,960.42			4,814.83				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	8,655.42			11,079.83				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,832.84			620.95	603.67		17.28	2,000.00
	Funds remaining	4,822.58			10,458.88				0.00
Don Harwin	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,589.74			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,284.74			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	0.00			0.00				0.00
	Funds remaining	9,284.74			12,530.00				2,000.00
Courtney Houssos	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20				4,838.67				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	4,695.00			11,103.67				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	4,186.45	860.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,258.64
	Funds remaining	508.55			11,103.67				741.36
Emma Hurst	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	582.45			3,520.10				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,277.45			9,785.10				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	1,000.57	430.00		2,927.21	2,519.26		407.95	0.00
	Funds remaining	4,276.88			6,857.89				2,500.00
Rose Jackson	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	2,605.25			5,500.52				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,300.25			11,765.52				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	190.07			4,100.36	1,764.77		2,335.59	598.00
	Funds remaining	7,110.18			7,665.16				1,402.00

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
Trevor Khan	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			13,795.33				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			29,460.33				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	628.11		8,883.44	3,221.61	3,221.61			0.00
	Funds remaining	8,761.89			26,238.72				2,000.00
Mark Latham	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	2,748.51			35.81				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,443.51			6,300.81				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	1,788.08		2,790.21	6,300.80	6,300.80			0.00
	Funds remaining	5,655.43			0.01				2,500.00
Natasha Maclaren-Jones	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	2,525.37			10,410.34				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,220.37			26,075.34				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	3,299.83		9,786.24	12,117.38	12,117.38			0.00
	Funds remaining	3,920.54			13,957.96				2,500.00
Shayne Mallard	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	583.13			305.82	305.82			750.00
	Funds remaining	8,806.87			12,224.18				1,250.00
Taylor Martin	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	3,181.44			4,279.21				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,876.44			10,544.21				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	562.86		5,019.84	4,853.86	4,853.86			0.00
	Funds remaining	7,313.58			5,690.35				2,000.00
Matthew Mason-Cox	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			14,935.92				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			30,600.92				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,500.17		18,129.59	4,683.90	4,683.90			0.00
	Funds remaining	5,889.83			25,917.02				2,000.00
Sarah Mitchell	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	1,200.27			15,665.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,895.27			31,330.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	990.11		22,947.70	1,512.73	311.13	1,201.60		0.00
	Funds remaining	4,905.16			29,817.27				2,000.00
Daniel Mookhey	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			5,129.25				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			11,394.25				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,406.10			2,291.08	2,291.08			1,196.00
	Funds remaining	7,983.90			9,103.17				804.00
Tara Moriarty	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,189.28			12,889.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	8,884.28			28,554.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,600.52		1,990.64	4,857.31	4,857.31			0.00
	Funds remaining	7,283.76			23,696.69				2,000.00
Shaoquett Moselmane	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	815.89			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,510.89			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	3,982.99			0.00				0.00
	Funds remaining	1,527.90			12,530.00				2,000.00

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
Fred Nile	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	1,884.41			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	6,579.41			12,530.00				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	3,013.95			1,113.47	1,113.47			0.00
	Funds remaining	3,565.46			11,416.53				2,500.00
Mark Pearson	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	1,777.68			125.78				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	6,472.68			6,390.78				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	2,896.88		469.44	6,390.26	5,126.93	711.17	552.16	0.00
	Funds remaining	3,575.80			0.52				2,500.00
Peter Poulos	Allocation for 2020/21	720.33			961.21				306.85
	C/Forward from 2019/20	0.00							n/a
	Total available 2020/21	720.33			961.21				306.85
	Expended claimed	0.00			66.82	66.82			0.00
	Funds remaining	720.33			894.39				306.85
Peter Primrose	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	1,167.90			5,207.85				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,862.90			11,472.85				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,532.00			826.53	417.94		408.59	0.00
	Funds remaining	4,330.90			10,646.32				2,000.00
Rod Roberts	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	3,279.46			11,494.43				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,974.46			27,159.43				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	2,135.92		8,749.44	3,112.20	1,698.71		1,413.49	0.00
	Funds remaining	5,838.54			24,047.23				2,500.00
Adam Searle	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			1,842.26				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			8,107.26				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	4,451.55			584.96	584.96			2,272.73
	Funds remaining	4,938.45			7,522.30				227.27
Walter Secord	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	2,701.64			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,396.64			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	2,616.83			471.28	451.28	20.00		0.00
	Funds remaining	4,779.81			12,058.72				2,000.00
Penny Sharpe	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	1,369.23			2,455.70				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	6,064.23			8,720.70				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	2,096.39			2,931.63	2,658.03		273.60	0.00
	Funds remaining	3,967.84			5,789.07				2,500.00
David Shoebridge	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,500.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	252.60			302.62				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	4,947.60			6,567.62				2,500.00
	Expended claimed	3,028.32			6,495.59	4,513.61	392.00	1,589.98	2,500.00
	Funds remaining	1,919.28			72.03				0.00
Bronwyn Taylor	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	1,619.06			9,036.79				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	6,314.06			24,701.79				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	1,172.73		21,937.30	5,890.47	5,890.47			0.00
	Funds remaining	5,141.33			18,811.32				2,000.00

Member	Description	Communication Allowance	Committee Allowance	Members' Home to Sydney travel	General Travel Allowance (GTA) total	Members' GTA Travel	Spouse/ approved relative GTA travel	Member's Staff GTA travel	Skills Development Allowance (SDA)
Damien Tudehope	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	4,695.00			6,265.00				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	9,390.00			12,530.00				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	0.00			0.00				0.00
	Funds remaining	9,390.00			12,530.00				2,000.00
Michael Veitch	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			15,665.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	2,478.85			6,870.99				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	7,173.85			22,535.99				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	772.77		6,690.94	7,303.53	7,303.53			450.91
	Funds remaining	6,401.08			15,232.46				1,549.09
Natalie Ward	Allocation for 2020/21	4,695.00			6,265.00				2,000.00
	C/Forward from 2019/20	1,172.27			5,429.20				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	5,867.27			11,694.20				2,000.00
	Expended claimed	5,408.12			8,345.83	8,138.73	38.16	168.94	2,000.00
	Funds remaining	459.15			3,348.37				0.00
LC Total	Allocation for 2020/21	197,910.33			386,291.21				91,806.85
	C/Forward from 2019/20	116,432.28			250,068.12				n/a
	Total available 2020/21	314,342.61			636,359.33				91,806.85
	Expended claimed	90,594.17	1,290.00	185,008.72	166,132.72	137,776.15	10,770.95	17,585.62	19,535.84
	Funds remaining	223,748.44			470,226.61				72,271.01

2019-2020 SYDNEY ALLOWANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO 30 JUNE 2020

Member	Description	Sydney Allowance 2019-20 (may include actual expenses claimed)
Lou Amato	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	17,640.00
	Funds Remaining	26,460.00
Mark Banasiak	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	12,600.00
	Funds Remaining	31,500.00
Niall Blair	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	17,640.00
	Funds Remaining	26,460.00
Abigail Boyd	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	26,460.00
	Funds Remaining	17,640.00
Catherine Cusack	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	32,130.00
	Funds Remaining	11,970.00
Wes Fang	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	35,595.00
	Funds Remaining	8,505.00
Sam Faraway	Allocation for 2019/20	30,870.00
	Expended claimed	18,585.00
	Funds Remaining	12,285.00
Justin Field	Allocation for 2019/20	42,525.00
	Expended claimed	12,253.00
	Funds Remaining	30,272.00
Ben Franklin	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	41,580.00
	Funds Remaining	2,520.00
Don Harwin	Allocation for 2019/20	5,985.00
	Expended claimed	3,780.00
	Funds Remaining	2,205.00
Trevor Khan	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	43,785.00
	Funds Remaining	315.00
Mark Latham	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	315.00
	Funds Remaining	43,785.00
Natasha Maclaren-Jones	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	44,100.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00
Shayne Mallard	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	44,100.00
	Funds Remaining	0.00

Member	Description	Sydney Allowance 2019-20 (may include actual expenses claimed)
Taylor Martin	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	21,420.00
	Funds Remaining	22,680.00
Matthew Mason-Cox	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	17,955.00
	Funds Remaining	26,145.00
Sarah Mitchell	Allocation for 2019/20	56,700.00
	Expended claimed	38,430.00
	Funds Remaining	18,270.00
Tara Moriarty	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	29,925.00
	Funds Remaining	14,175.00
Mark Pearson	Allocation for 2019/20	42,525.00
	Expended claimed	42,509.00
	Funds Remaining	16.00
Rod Roberts	Allocation for 2019/20	42,525.00
	Expended claimed	35,280.00
	Funds Remaining	7,245.00
Adam Searle	Allocation for 2019/20	56,700.00
	Expended claimed	31,500.00
	Funds Remaining	25,200.00
Bronwyn Taylor	Allocation for 2019/20	56,700.00
	Expended claimed	38,115.00
	Funds Remaining	18,585.00
Michael Veitch	Allocation for 2019/20	44,100.00
	Expended claimed	44,092.00
	Funds Remaining	8.00

APPENDIX 3

COMMITTEE TRAVEL EXPENSES 2020-21

Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health

Inquiry into health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales

29 April 2021 – Site visit to Deniliquin Health Service, Deniliquin NSW 2710	Charter flights	\$26,730.00
29 April 2021 – Hearing in Deniliquin NSW 2710	Catering	\$1,666.70
30 April 2021 – Hearing in Cobar NSW 2835	Accommodation	\$1,429.00
	Bus	\$2,550.00
	Cabs	\$1,333.95
	Venue	\$400.00
	Audio	\$9,075.00
18 May 2021 – Site visit to Wellington Hospital, Wellington NSW 2820	Commercial flights	\$5,545.04
18 May 2021 – Hearing in Wellington NSW 2820	Catering	\$1,891.50
19 May 2021 – Hearing in Dubbo NSW 2830	Accommodation	\$2,170.00
	Bus	\$1,980.00
	Cabs	\$1,593.02
	Venue	\$1,360.00
	Audio	\$4,997.00
16 June 2021 – Hearing in Gunnedah NSW 2380	Charter flights	\$27,610.00
16 June 2021 – Hearing in Taree NSW 2430	Catering	\$1,240.40
17 June 2021 – Hearing in Lismore NSW 2480	Accommodation	\$1,780.00
	Bus	\$3,368.00
	Cabs	\$1,312.21
	Venue	\$1,300.00
	Audio	\$4,660.00
	TOTAL	\$103,991.82

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Inquiry into the future development of the New South Wales tertiary education sector

12 August 2020 – Site visit to Country Universities Centre in Goulburn NSW 2580		\$0.00
* Committee members arranged their own travel	TOTAL	\$0.00

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport and Customer Service

Inquiry into acquisition of land in relation to major transport projects

19 May 2021 – Site visit to proposed Orchard Hills Metro Station, Orchard Hills NSW 2748	Bus	\$770.00
	Catering	\$60.00
	TOTAL	\$830.00

Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment

Inquiry into the rationale for, and impacts of, new dams and other water infrastructure in NSW

9 February 2021 – Site visit to Wyangala Dam, Wyangala NSW 2808	Charter flights	\$28,325.00
9 February 2021 – Site visit to Reids Flat NSW 2586	Commercial flights	\$1,128.40
9 February 2021 – Site visit (fly over) to lower Lachlan region NSW	Catering	\$1,427.90
10 February 2021 – Site visit to Pamamaroo Lake Regulator, Menindee Lakes, Menindee NSW 2879	Accommodation	\$1,620.00
10 February 2021 – Site visit to Menindee Lakes lookout and Sunset Strip, Menindee NSW 2879	Bus	\$2,730.80
10 February 2021 – Hearing in Broken Hill NSW 2880	Cabs	\$1,198.95
	Venue	\$660.00
	TOTAL	\$37,091.05

Standing Committee on Social Issues

Inquiry into the State Records Act 1998 and the Policy Paper on its review

27 July 2020 – Site visits to Museum of Sydney, Sydney NSW 2000, Western Sydney Records Centre, Kingswood NSW 2747 and Elizabeth Farm, Rosehill NSW 2142	Bus	\$950.00
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Inquiry into Gay and Transgender hate crimes between 1970 and 2010 – 57th Parliament

30 November 2020 – Site visit – Marks Park and site of the proposed Bondi Memorial, Bondi NSW 2026	Bus	\$484.00
	Catering	\$225.50
	TOTAL	\$1,434.00

Public Works Committee

Inquiry into costs for remediation of sites containing coal ash repositories

6 October 2020 – Site visit to Lake Macquarie NSW (between Myuna Bay/Eraring Power Station and Vales Point Power Station)	Catering	\$90.00
6 October 2020 – Site visit – Vales Point Power Station, Mannering Park NSW 2259	Bus	\$1,670.00
6 October 2020 – Hearing in Speers Point NSW 2284	Venue	\$891.00
	TOTAL	\$2,651.00

Select Committee on the Government's management of the Powerhouse Museum and other museums and cultural projects in NSW

25 September 2020 – Site visit to Willow Grove and the Harwood Building, Parramatta NSW 2150	Bus	\$795.00
	TOTAL	\$795.00

Select Committee on the Impact of Technological and Other Change on the Future of Work and Workers in NSW

17 May 2021 – Site visit to Amazon Distribution Centre, Moorebank NSW 2170	Cabs	\$225.02
	TOTAL	\$225.02

Select Committee on the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission

27 May 2021 – Hearing in Newcastle NSW 2300	Charter flights	\$10,450.00
28 May 2021 – Hearing in Bathurst NSW 2795	Catering	\$1,744.80
	Accommodation	\$2,500.00
	Bus	\$1,450.00
	Cabs	\$1,972.33
	Venue	\$1,355.00
	Audio	\$3,371.77
2 June 2021 – Hearing in Temora NSW 2666	Commercial flights	\$4,310.25
3 June 2021 – Hearing in Goulburn NSW 2580	Catering	\$1,220.88
	Accommodation	\$1,427.00
	Bus	\$3,300.00
	Cabs	\$1,311.85
	Venue	\$400.00
	Audio	\$4,634.85
	TOTAL	\$39,448.73

APPENDIX 4

COMMITTEE INQUIRY STATISTICS 2020-21

Inquiry	Date Referred	Submissions	Questionnaires	Proformas	Hearings	Witnesses	Final Report	Government response
Portfolio Committee No 1 – Premier and Finance								
Budget Estimates 2020-2021	18/11/2020	0	0	0	6	45	12/05/2021	NA
Budget Estimates 2021-2022	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Cybersecurity	6/08/2020	31	0	0	2	23	26/03/2021	
Mutual Recognition (New South Wales) Amendment Bill 2021	23/03/2021	13	0	0	1	14	8/06/2021	
Tax Administration Amendment (Combating Wage Theft) Bill 2021	11/05/2021	7	0	0	1	6	8/06/2021	
Work Health and Safety Amendment (Review) Bill 2019	19/11/2019	0	0	0	0	0	24/03/2020	22/09/2020
Portfolio Committee No 2 – Health								
Budget Estimates 2020-2021	18/11/2020	0	0	0	2	21	18/05/2021	NA
Budget Estimates 2021-2022	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Current and future provision of health services in the South-West Sydney Growth Region	5/02/2020	56	0	0	2	35	30/11/2020	28/05/2021
Health impacts of exposure to poor levels of air quality resulting from bushfires and drought	5/02/2020	0	0	0	1	7	16/09/2020	16/03/2021
Health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales	28/08/2020	733	0	0	8	130		
Operation and management of the Northern Beaches Hospital	6/06/2019	0	0	0	0	0	27/02/2020	27/08/2020
Portfolio Committee No 2 – Education								
Budget Estimates 2020-2021	18/11/2020	0	0	0	2	22	11/05/2021	NA
Budget Estimates 2021-2022	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020	5/08/2020	78	0	0	2	42		
Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector	28/05/2020	43	0	0	2	26	22/01/2021	
Measurement and outcome-based funding in New South Wales schools	3/07/2019	0	0	0	0	0	18/02/2020	18/08/2020
Review of the New South Wales School Curriculum	6/02/2020	96	0	243	2	33	19/04/2021	
Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Industry								
Budget Estimates 2020-2021	18/11/2020	0	0	0	3	36	13/05/2021	NA
Budget Estimates 2021-2022	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Coal and Gas Legislation Amendment (Liverpool Plains Prohibition) Bill 2021	11/05/2021	6	0	0	0	0		
Constitution Amendment (Water Accountability and Transparency) Bill 2020, Water Management Amendment (Transparency of Water Rights) Bill 2020 and Water Management Amendment (Water Allocations - Drought Information) Bill 2020	16/06/2020	20	29	0	2	20	31/07/2020	NA
Long term sustainability and future of the timber and forest products industry	25/03/2021	226	0	0	0	0		
Long-term sustainability of the dairy industry in New South Wales	3/12/2019	82	0	0	2	20	13/05/2021	
Petroleum (Onshore) Amendment (Cancellation of Zombie Petroleum Exploration Licences) Bill 2021	11/05/2021	26	0	0	0	0		

Inquiry	Date Referred	Submissions	Questionnaires	Proformas	Hearings	Witnesses	Final Report	Government response
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment (Restrictions on Stock Animal Procedures) Bill 2019	17/06/2020	32	13076	0	1	17	24/09/2020	NA
The implementation of the recommendations contained in the NSW Chief Scientist's Independent Review of Coal Seam Gas Activities in New South Wales	3/10/2019	0	0	0	0	0	27/02/2020	27/08/2020
Use of exotic animals in circuses and the exhibition of cetaceans in New South Wales	26/09/2019	0	0	0	2	27	14/12/2020	15/06/2021
Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Legal Affairs								
Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Complaint Handling) Bill 2020	27/02/2020	0	0	0	1	2	18/09/2020	18/03/2021
Budget Estimates 2020-2021	18/11/2020	0	0	0	5	34	13/05/2021	NA
Budget Estimates 2021-2022	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Drug Supply Prohibition Order Pilot Scheme Bill 2020	10/11/2020	1	0	0	0	0	17/11/2020	NA
Provisions of the Firearms and Weapons Legislation Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020	24/03/2020	183	0	143	2	17	27/04/2021	NA
Rural Fires Amendment (NSW RFS and Brigades Donations Fund) Bill 2020	16/06/2020	4	162	0	1	6	31/07/2020	29/01/2021
Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport and Customer Service								
Acquisition of land in relation to major transport projects	10/03/2021	54	0	0	1	7		
Budget Estimates 2020-2021	18/11/2020	0	0	0	4	41	18/05/2021	NA
Budget Estimates 2021-2022	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Digital Restart Fund Bill 2019	12/11/2019	0	0	0	0	0	23/03/2020	17/09/2020
Operation of the Point to Point Transport (Taxis and Hire Vehicles) Act 2016	9/04/2020	1	0	0	2	30	8/12/2020	8/06/2021
Road tolling regimes	31/03/2021	45	0	0	0	0		
Sydenham-Bankstown Line conversion	22/08/2019	0	0	0	0	0	9/04/2020	8/10/2020
Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment								
Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Infrastructure Contributions) Bill 2021	24/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Health and wellbeing of kangaroos and other macropods in New South Wales	15/03/2021	421	0	0	2	39		
Integrity of the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Scheme	24/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Koala populations and habitat in New South Wales	20/06/2019	0	0	0	0	0	30/06/2020	11/01/2021
Local Land Services Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2020	19/11/2020	68	1096	99	0	0	8/04/2021	NA
Protection of the Environment Operations Amendment (Clean Air) Bill 2021	11/05/2021	30	0	0	0	0		
Rationale for, and impacts of, new dams and other water infrastructure in NSW	12/08/2020	182	0	0	6	90		
Warnervale Airport (Restrictions) Repeal Bill 2020	13/10/2020	6	442	0	1	12	16/11/2021	NA
Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Amendment (Plastics Reduction) Bill 2021	16/03/2021	95	0	0	2	31		
Law and Justice								
2019 review of the Dust Diseases scheme	8/05/2019	0	0	0	0	0	24/03/2020	24/09/2020
2020 Review of the Compulsory Third Party insurance scheme	21/09/2020	14	0	0	2	20		

Inquiry	Date Referred	Submissions	Questionnaires	Proformas	Hearings	Witnesses	Final Report	Government response
2020 Review of the Lifetime Care and Support scheme	21/09/2020	4	0	0	2	20		
2020 Review of the Workers Compensation Scheme	18/03/2020	26	0	0	8	55	30/04/2021	
Mandatory Disease Testing Bill 2020	17/11/2020	28	0	0	2	28	30/04/2021	
Work Health and Safety Amendment (Information Exchange) Bill 2020	4/08/2020	8	0	0	1	10	11/09/2020	11/03/2021
Public Accountability Committee								
Budget process for independent oversight bodies and the Parliament of New South Wales	14/10/2019	3	0	0	1	2	5/02/2021	
Further inquiry into the regulation of building standards	24/05/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Integrity, efficacy and value for money of NSW Government grant programs	3/07/2020	118	0	0	8	66		
NSW Government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic	27/03/2020	0	0	0	4	51		
Regulation of building standards, building quality and building disputes	4/07/2019	0	0	0	0	0	30/04/2020	30/10/2020
Transport Asset Holding Entity	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Public Works Committee								
Costs for remediation of sites containing coal ash repositories	1/10/2019	3	0	0	3	32	22/03/2021	
Granting of contract number OoS17/18-021 by the Office of Sport	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link	24/03/2021	582	0	0	0	0		
Regulation Committee								
Environmental planning instrument (SEPPs)	24/03/2021	10	0	0	1	12		
Impact and implementation of the Water Management (General) Amendment (Exemptions for Floodplain Harvesting) Regulation 2020	27/02/2020	21	29	0	1	14	22/09/2020	22/03/2021
Making of delegated legislation in New South Wales	26/02/2020	0	0	0	1	8	22/10/2020	19/04/2021
Select Committees								
Select Committee on Animal Cruelty Laws in New South Wales	8/08/2019	0	0	0	0	0	4/06/2020	4/12/2020
Select Committee on Floodplain Harvesting	23/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		
Select Committee on the coronial jurisdiction in New South Wales	6/05/2021	13	0	0	0	0		
Select Committee on the Government's management of the Powerhouse Museum and other museums and cultural projects in New South Wales	27/02/2020	20	0	0	5	65		
Select Committee on the Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission	23/09/2020	83	0	0	5	21		
Select Committee on the High Level of First Nations People in Custody and Oversight and Review of Deaths in Custody	17/06/2020	132	0	0	5	90	15/04/2021	
Select Committee on the impact of technological and other change on the future of work and workers in New South Wales	24/03/2020	50	0	0	6	74		
Select Committee on the Proposal to Raise the Warragamba Dam Wall	20/06/2019	1	0	0	3	32		

Inquiry	Date Referred	Submissions	Questionnaires	Proformas	Hearings	Witnesses	Final Report	Government response
Select Committee on the provisions of the Public Health Amendment (Registered Nurses in Nursing Homes) Bill 2021	21/10/2020	22	94	0	3	30	10/06/2021	
Social Issues								
Gay and Transgender hate crimes between 1970 and 2010 - 57th Parliament	15/10/2019	1	0	0	2	10	4/05/2021	
Modern Slavery Act 2018 and associated matters	6/08/2019	0	0	0	0	0	25/03/2020	24/09/2020
Review of the Heritage Act 1977	13/05/2021	154	0	0	0	0		
State Records Act 1998 and the Policy Paper on its review	11/03/2020	2	0	0	2	17	15/10/2020	14/04/2021
State Development								
Uranium Mining and Nuclear Facilities (Prohibitions) Repeal Bill 2019	6/06/2019	0	0	0	0	0	4/03/2020	7/09/2020
Development of a hydrogen industry in New South Wales	8/12/2020	46	0	0	1	12		
Privileges Committee								
Disputed claim of privilege and independent legal arbiter reports (March 2020)	24/03/2020	0	0	0	0	0		
Execution of search warrants by the Australian Federal Police	11/08/2020	4	0	0	0	0	13/10/2020	
Execution of search warrants by the Australian Federal Police No. 2	29/10/2020	7	0	0	0	0	18/11/2020	
Proposal for a Compliance Officer for the NSW Parliament	17/11/2020	8	0	0	0	0	11/05/2021	
Execution of search warrants by the Australian Federal Police No. 3	19/11/2020	9	0	0	0	0		
Citizen's Right of Reply (RSPCA NSW)	18/02/2021	0	0	0	0	0	16/03/2021	
Procedure Committee								
E-petitions in the Legislative Council	17/06/2020	0	0	0	0	0	26/10/2020	
Review of the Standing and Sessional Orders	09/06/2021	0	0	0	0	0		

JOINT COMMITTEES

Members of the Legislative Council also serve on joint standing, statutory and select committees administered by the Legislative Assembly:

- Joint Select Committee on the Anti-Discrimination Amendment (Religious Freedoms and Equality) Bill 2020 (Select)
- Committee on Children and Young People (Joint Statutory)
- Joint Select Committee on Coercive Control (Select)
- Committee on Electoral Matters (Joint Standing)
- Committee on Health Care Complaints Commission (Joint Statutory)
- Committee on the Independent Commission Against Corruption (Joint Statutory)
- Legislation Review Committee (Joint Statutory)
- Committee on the Ombudsman, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission and the Crime Commission (Joint Statutory)
- Staysafe Committee, also known as the Road Safety Committee (Joint Standing)
- Committee on the Office of the Valuer-General (Joint Standing)

APPENDIX 5

PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

The following Parliamentary Friendship Groups were in operation during the reporting period:

1. Parliamentary Friends of the ABC
2. Parliamentary Friends of Active Transport
3. Parliamentary Friends of AFL
4. Parliamentary Friends of Animals
5. Parliamentary Friends of Aquatic Recreation
6. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Argentina
7. Parliamentary Friends of Baseball and Softball
8. Armenia-Australia Parliamentary Friendship Group
9. Asia Pacific Friendship Group
10. Australasian Study of Parliament Group (NSW Chapter)
11. Parliamentary Friends of an Australian Head of State
12. Parliamentary Friends of Basketball
13. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Brazil
14. Parliamentary Friends of Catholic Schools
15. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Cricket
16. Parliamentary Friends of Defence and Veterans
17. Parliamentary Friends of Dementia
18. Parliamentary Friends of Duke of Edinburgh's Award
19. Parliamentary Friends of Egypt
20. Friends of the European Union
21. Parliamentary Friends of Forestry
22. Parliamentary Friends of France
23. Parliamentary Friends of Greyhound Racing
24. Friends of Hearing Health and Deafness
25. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Ireland
26. Parliamentary Friends of Israel
27. Parliamentary Friends of Italy
28. Parliamentary Friends of Landcare
29. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Lebanon
30. Parliamentary Friends of the LGBTIQ Community and Sydney World Pride 2023
31. Parliamentary Friends of Local Government
32. Parliamentary Friends of Macarthur Football Club
33. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Mental Health
34. Parliamentary Friends of Mining
35. Parliamentary Friends of Music
36. Parliamentary Friends of Nature
37. Parliamentary Friends of Nuclear
38. Parliamentary Friends of Older People
39. Parliamentary Friends of Palestine
40. Parliamentary Auxiliary of St. John
41. Parliamentary Friends of the Olympic and Paralympic Movements in NSW
42. Parliamentary Friends of Palliative Medicine, Nursing and Care
43. Parliamentary Friends of Police and Emergency Services
44. Parliamentary Friends of Poland
45. Parliamentary Friends for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
46. Parliamentary Friends of Public Schools
47. Parliamentary Friends of Racing and Breeding
48. Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation
49. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Religious Freedom
50. Parliamentary Friends of Rotary International
51. Parliamentary Friends of Rugby League
52. Parliamentary Friends of Rugby Union Group
53. Parliamentary Friends of Scotland Group
54. NSW Parliamentary Friends of Scouting
55. Parliamentary Friends of Seafood
56. Parliamentary Friends of Small Business
57. Parliamentary Friends of Surf Lifesaving
58. Parliamentary Friends of the Sydney Swans
59. NSW Parliamentary Taiwan Friendship Group
60. Parliamentary Friends of Turkey
61. Parliamentary Friends of the United Kingdom
62. Parliamentary Friends of the United States of America
63. Parliamentary Friends of Western Sydney Wanderers
64. Parliamentary Friends of Women's Health.







LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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