



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 5

Budget Estimates 2020-2021

Report 58

May 2021

5



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Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs

Budget Estimates 2020-2021

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Chair: Hon. Robert Borsak MLC.

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Terms of reference

1. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2020-2021 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report.
2. That, further to the resolution of the House of 11 November 2020 adopting the 2021 sitting calendar¹, the 2020-2021 initial budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Thursday 25 February 2021

PC 6 Transport and Roads

PC 1 Special Minister of State, Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts

Day Two: Friday 26 February 2021

PC 4 Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

PC 5 Families, Communities and Disability Services

Day Three: Monday 1 March 2021

PC 3 Tertiary Education and Skills

PC 4 Water, Property and Housing

PC 1 The Legislature

Day Four: Tuesday 2 March 2021

PC 5 Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence

PC 7 Energy and Environment

Day Five: Wednesday 3 March 2021

PC 3 Education and Early Childhood Learning

PC 4 Agriculture and Western New South Wales

Day Six: Thursday 4 March 2021

PC 2 Health and Medical Research

PC 1 Premier

Day Seven: Friday 5 March 2021

PC 5 Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

PC 6 Better Regulation and Innovation

Day Eight: Monday 8 March 2021

PC 1 Treasury

PC 6 Customer Service

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, p 1563.

Day Nine:	Tuesday 9 March 2021
PC 5	Counter Terrorism and Corrections
PC 7	Planning and Public Spaces
Day Ten:	Wednesday 10 March 2021
PC 1	Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney
PC 6	Regional Transport and Roads
Day Eleven:	Thursday 11 March 2021
PC 7	Local Government
PC 2	Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women
Day Twelve:	Friday 12 March 2021
PC 5	Police and Emergency Services
PC 1	Finance and Small Business

3. That for the purposes of the Budget Estimates inquiry 2020-2021:
 - (a) each scheduled day for the initial round of hearings will begin at 9.30 am and conclude by 8.30 pm,
 - (b) the committees must hear evidence in public,
 - (c) the committees may ask for explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure,
 - (d) witnesses, including ministers, may not make an opening statement before the committee commences questions,
 - (e) members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two business days, following a hearing, and
 - (f) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after they have been circulated to committee members.
4. That the committees present a final report to the House by 30 June 2021.

The terms of reference were referred to the committee by the Legislative Council on Wednesday 18 November 2020.²

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 18 November 2020, pp 1693-1695.

Committee details

Committee members

The Hon Robert Borsak MLC	Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party	<i>Chair</i>
Mr David Shoebridge MLC	The Greens	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Rose Jackson MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Trevor Khan MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Natalie Ward MLC	Liberal Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

The Hon Lou Amato MLC	Liberal Party
Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens
The Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Anthony D'Adam MLC	Australian Labor Party
Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens
The Hon Wes Fang MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Scott Farlow MLC	Liberal Party
Mr Justin Field MLC	Independent
The Hon Mark Latham MLC	Pauline Hanson's One Nation
The Hon Taylor Martin MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Adam Searle MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Penny Sharpe	Australian Labor Party

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Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021. This annual inquiry into the Budget Estimates ensures parliamentary oversight of the Budget, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Legislative Council.

Portfolio Committee No. 5 is responsible for the scrutiny of the following portfolio areas:

- Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence
- Police and Emergency Services
- Counter Terrorism and Corrections
- Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans
- Families, Communities and Disability Services.

The key evidence gathering mechanism of this Inquiry is through the conduct of public hearings. This report lists the key issues raised during the hearings. Transcripts, tabled documents and additional answers provided after the hearings are published on the [Inquiry's webpage](#).

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the ministers and their officers who assisted the committee during this important inquiry. I am grateful to my fellow committee members and the secretariat staff for their contributions to the inquiry process.



Hon Robert Borsak MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

The Inquiry into Budget Estimates is one of the key mechanisms for parliamentary committees to scrutinise government expenditure, performance and effectiveness. It holds ministers and government officials to account and provides a greater level of transparency to the public.

The Inquiry is conducted annually by the Legislative Council's Portfolio Committees. Each committee examines the budget estimates of its responsible portfolios, with ministers and senior public servants as the primary witnesses. The evidence taking process of the Inquiry consists of answers provided during public hearings and answers to post-hearing written questions (known as supplementary questions). There is no provision for written submissions.

Budget Estimates 2020-2021

- 1.1 The Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 ('the Inquiry') was referred to the portfolio committees for inquiry and report on 11 November 2020 by the Legislative Council.³ The budget estimates resolution establishing the Inquiry, which sets out the rules for the Inquiry, is reproduced on pages iv and v.
- 1.2 The resolution authorised the committees to conduct one round of initial hearings, from 9.30 am to 8.30 pm, to examine all portfolios for each minister.⁴
- 1.3 In previous estimates inquiries, three rounds of hearings (initial, supplementary and further) were conducted and portfolios under the same minister were examined for six hours duration per hearing. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, hearings were delayed this year with no provision for supplementary or further hearings.
- 1.4 The budget estimates resolution stated that the committee could seek explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.⁵ Each committee was free to determine the time and allocation of questions for each hearing within the parameters set by the resolution.
- 1.5 Initial hearings were held over 12 days from 25 February to 26 February 2021, 1 March to 5 March 2021, and 8 March to 12 March 2021.⁶

Hearings

- 1.6 The committee held 5 public hearings as follows:
 - Friday 26 February 2021 – Families, Communities and Disability Services
 - Tuesday 2 March 2021 – Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence

³ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, pp 1563.

⁴ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, pp 1563.

⁵ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 18 November 2020, pp 1681-1683.

⁶ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, p 1563.

- Friday 5 March 2021 – Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans
- Tuesday 9 March 2021 – Counter Terrorism and Corrections
- Friday 12 March 2021 – Police and Emergency Services

Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions

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

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

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

Families, Communities and Disability Services

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Families, Communities and Disability Services was held on Friday 26 February 2021. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Child deaths, rates, responses and at-risk assessment processes
- Case workers, number of, accessibility and volume of children seen, qualifications, case management, case closure processes
- Education and at risk children, educational opportunities, school attendance, and educational neglect
- Department restructure, redundancies and savings
- Issues raised by and response to Shearer Report on juvenile justice centre management
- National Rental Affordability Scheme
- Review of Disability Inclusion Act 2014
- Homelessness
- Community Services and First Nations children
- Closure of child death review cases
- Trial of early triage help line
- Mandatory reporting of child protection issues
- Collaborative Support Pathways Project
- Aboriginal children in guardianship
- Homelessness of young people after prison
- Case worker dashboard
- Brighter Futures program data
- Co-located corrections case workers
- Auditor-General's report and the Department's response
- Level of self-harm in youth justice facilities
- Housing and temporary accommodation for homeless people.

Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolio of the Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence was held on Tuesday 2 March 2021. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- ReINVEST clinical trial
- Funding for sexual consent education in schools
- Government response to the NSW Law Reform Commission review into sexual consent laws
- Local court resourcing issues
- Proposals to change the law in relation to drug possession
- Application for legal assistance from Mr Daryl Maguire prior to ICAC appearance in July 2018
- Annulment of two prosecutions under hate speech provisions
- Establishment of the Walama Court
- Support for people with intellectual disability who come in contact with the criminal justice system
- Legal assistance for First Nations people to access the Stolen Generations compensation scheme
- Crown Solicitor's briefing notes to the Premier advising referral of matters to ICAC's Operation Dasha
- Mandatory notification of data breaches
- Reforms regarding cross examination of complainants in sexual assault matters
- Impact of spending on domestic violence measures
- Redundancies arising from restructure of the Department of Justice and Communities
- Financial assistance for bereaved family members attending the Coroner's Court.

Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

2.3 A hearing examining the portfolio of Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans was held on Friday 5 March 2021. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund.
- The funding of female dominated sport
- The provision of multilingual/ translated information and communications during the COVID-19 pandemic
- COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in multicultural communities

- The Active Kids program
- Management of the funds allocated to the Penrith Panthers project
- The Suburban Stadium policy
- ANZAC day services/ marches funding
- Combatting Social Isolation grants
- Unrest in the Indian diaspora community
- 'Return to Play' protocols
- Economic support for multicultural small businesses
- Addressing racism
- Community Sport Recovery Package
- 'Her Sport, Her Way' campaign
- Language interpreting services
- Hunter Sport and Entertainment Precinct
- Seniors Strategy and Action Plan
- Veteran wellbeing, including suicide prevention.

Counter Terrorism and Corrections

2.4 A hearing examining the portfolio of Corrections and Counter Terrorism was held on Tuesday 9 March 2021. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA) report on an investigation into three Corrective Services workers compensation claims, dated 12 October 2020
- Operation of Clarence Correctional Centre and budgetary matters pertaining to other privately run prisons
- Prison visitation under COVID and vaccine rollout to prison population
- Right wing extremist activity
- Medical and psychological welfare of prisoners
- Corrective Services NSW COVID-19 response and resulting long-term initiatives
- Corrective Services NSW infrastructure and capital works
- Corrective Services NSW offender programs and policies, including those related to Digital Services for Offenders, imprisoned mothers, intensive corrective orders, and education and training programs

- Deaths in Custody, including deaths to date this financial year, recent incidents, funeral costs, public notification, risk assessment and harm management policies, and minor works projects to eliminate hanging points
- Recidivism rates, including reoffending targets and programs, and the Premier's priorities and directives strategy
- Counter Terrorism programs and policies.

Police and Emergency Services

2.5 A hearing examining the portfolio of Police and Emergency Services was held on Friday 12 March 2021. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Strike Force Wyndarra investigation
- Whether the consent laws should be strengthened, given the difficulty in obtaining successful prosecutions
- The circumstances that led to Police Commissioner Fuller not taking a position on the board of the Australian Rugby League Commission
- The Government's progress in responding to the 76 recommendations of the 'Final Report of the NSW Bushfire Inquiry'
- The performance of the Firearms Registry in being both efficient but also promoting public safety in its review of firearm licence applications
- The status of various Crime Commission investigations into claims of match-fixing claims in the National Rugby League, and allegations of organised crime activities at the Star Casino
- The Government's progress in meeting its 2018 commitment of having 1,500 new police officers sworn in by 2022
- The response of police staff to the implementation of the new police promotions system
- The role of NSW Police in hotel quarantine
- The NSW Police response to the Broderick report in relation to recruitment of women and sexual harassment in the organisation
- Bullying and harassment complaints in local area commands
- Call out times for Fire and Rescue NSW.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Families, Communities and Disability Services – Friday 26 February 2021

Name	Position and Organisation
Hon Gareth Ward MP	Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
Ms Simone Walker	Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
Ms Simone Czech	Deputy Secretary, Child Protection and Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services, Department of Communities and Justice
Mr Paul Vevers	Deputy Secretary, Housing, Disability and District Services and Emergency Management, Department of Communities and Justice
Mr Paul O'Reilly	Executive Director, Youth Justice, Department of Communities and Justice

Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence – Tuesday 2 March 2021

Name	Position and Organisation
Hon Mark Speakman MP	Attorney General and Minister for Prevention of Domestic Violence
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
Ms Simone Walker	Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
Ms Catherine D'Elia	Deputy Secretary, Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery, Department of Communities and Justice
Mr Paul McKnight	Deputy Secretary, Law Reform and Legal Services, Department of Communities and Justice
Mr Brendan Thomas	Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid NSW
Ms Karen Smith	NSW Crown Solicitor, Crown Solicitor's Office

Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans – Friday 5 March 2021

Name	Position and Organisation
Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP	Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
Ms Caroline Mackaness	Director, Office of Veterans Affairs
Mr Joseph La Posta	Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
Ms Karen Jones	Chief Executive Officer, Office of Sport
Mr Simon Draper	Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW
Ms Kerrie Mather	Chief Executive Officer, Venues NSW

Counter Terrorism and Corrections - Tuesday 9 March 2021

Name	Position and Organisation
Hon Anthony Roberts MP	Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
Ms Simone Walker	Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
Mr Peter Severin	Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW, Department of Communities and Justice

Police and Emergency Services - Friday 12 March 2021

Name	Position and Organisation
Hon David Elliott MP	Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
Commissioner Michael Fuller APM	Commissioner, NSW Police Force
Commissioner Paul Baxter	Commissioner, NSW Fire and Rescue
Commissioner Carlene York APM	Commissioner, NSW State Emergency Service
Commissioner Rob Rogers AFSM	Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service
Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM	Commissioner, Resilience NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Assistant Commissioner Scott Cook APM	Commander, Police Prosecutions and Licensing Enforcement Command, NSW Police Force

Name	Position and Organisation
Mr Cameron Smith	Director, Security Licensing and Enforcement Directorate, NSW Police Force
Commissioner Michael Barnes	Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 34

Tuesday 2 February 2021
Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs
Room 1254, Parliament House, Sydney at 1.01 pm

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*
Mr Shoebridge, *Deputy Chair*
Ms Jackson
Mr Khan
Mr Martin (substituting for Mrs Maclaren-Jones via Webex)
Mr Moselmane
Mrs Ward

2. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft minutes no. 33 be confirmed.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted the Budget Estimates timetable for 2020-2021 agreed to by the House, with hearings commencing at 9.30 am and concluding by 8.30 pm, for Portfolio Committee No. 5:

Date	Portfolio
Friday 26 February 2021	Families, Communities and Disability Services (Ward)
Tuesday 2 March 2021	Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence (Speakman)
Friday 5 March 2021	Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans (Lee)
Tuesday 9 March 2021	Counter Terrorism and Corrections (Roberts)
Friday 12 March 2021	Police and Emergency Services (Elliott)

3.1 Allocation of question time and total hearing time

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Moselmane: That with no government questions being asked:

- the Families, Communities and Disability Services portfolios be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions.
- the Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence portfolios be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions.
- the Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans portfolios be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions.

- the Counter Terrorism and Corrections portfolios be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions.
- the Police and Emergency Services portfolios be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions.

3.2 Order for examination of portfolios

Mr Shoebridge moved: That:

the Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans portfolios be examined concurrently
the Counter Terrorism and Corrections portfolios be examined concurrently.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Borsak, Ms Jackson, Mr Moselmane, Mr Shoebridge.

Noes: Mr Khan, Mr Martin, Mrs Ward.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

3.3 Witness requests

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That the committee nominate witnesses to be invited by 12 pm, Thursday 4 February 2021.

3.4 Witness appearance time

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That in correspondence to the Ministers, the committee advise that: Ministers will be invited to appear from 9.30 am until 12.30 pm,
Departmental staff will be invited to appear from 9.30 am until 5.15 pm.

4. ***

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 1.18 pm, until Friday 26 February 2021, Jubilee Room, at 9.15 am (Families, Communities and Disability Services hearing).

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 35

Friday 26 February 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.20 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Mr Shoebridge, *Deputy Chair* (from 9.30 am until 4.28 pm)

Mr Farraway

Ms Jackson (from 9.24 am)

Mr Martin (substituting for Mrs Maclaren-Jones, until 4.10 pm)

Mrs Ward (from 9.33 am until 2.19 pm)
Ms Sharpe (substituting for Mr Moselmane)

2. Apologies

Ms Boyd (participating)

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft minutes no. 34 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 29 January 2021 - Email from Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Government Whip to secretariat, advising of Government substitutions for Budget Estimates 2020-2021 initial meetings
- 13 January 2021 - Letter from Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Government Whip to secretariat, advising that Hon Scott Farlow MLC is substituting for Hon Natalie Ward MLC in the Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing on 2 March 2021
- 9 February 2021 - Email from Ms Astrid Pedersen, Office of Attorney General Speakman to secretariat, confirming witness attendance for the Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing on 2 March 2021
- 10 February 2021 - Email from Ms Ellie Stamatelatos, Office of Minister Lee to secretariat, confirming witness attendance for the Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans hearing on 5 March 2021
- 12 February 2021 - Email from Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Government Whip to secretariat, advising of Government substitutions for Budget Estimates 2020-2021 initial hearings
- 15 February 2021 - Email from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC to secretariat, advising of Greens Crossbench substitutions and participating members for Budget Estimates 2020-2021 initial hearings
- 16 February 2021 - Email from Ms Adelaide Cuneo, Office of Minister Ward to secretariat, confirming witness attendance for the Families, Communities and Disability Services hearing on 26 February 2021
- 17 February 2021 - Email from Mr Dom Bondar, Office of Minister Elliot to secretariat, confirming witness attendance for the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021
- 17 February 2021 - Email from Mr Justin Field MLC to secretariat, advising he will be a participating member for the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021
- 17 February 2021 - Email from Ms Emily Nisbet, Office of Minister Roberts to secretariat, confirming witness attendance for the Counter Terrorism and Corrections hearing on 9 March 2021
- 18 February 2021 - Email from Ms Bethany Gibbins, Executive Officer, Corporate Services, NSW Crime Commission to secretariat, confirming attendance of Commissioner Michael Barnes, NSW Crime Commissioner for the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021
- 19 February 2021 - Letter from Ms Janet Schorer, Office of the Children's Guardian, to secretariat, declining witness invitation to attend Families, Communities and Disability Services hearing on 26 February 2021
- 26 February 2021 - Email from Ms Alysha Hardy, Office of Ms Abigail Boyd MLC, to secretariat, advising Ms Boyd will be an apology for the PC 5 Families, Communities and Disability Services hearing on Friday 26 February 2021 and PC 4 Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing on Friday 26 February 2021.

Sent

- 4 February 2021 - Email from secretariat to Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services, attaching witness invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 - 2021 initial hearings
- 4 February 2021 - Email from secretariat to Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections, attaching witness invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 - 2021 initial hearings
- 4 February 2021 - Email from secretariat to Hon Geoff Lee MP, Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans, attaching witness invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 - 2021 initial hearings
- 4 February 2021 - Email from secretariat to Hon Mark Speakman MP, Attorney General and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, attaching witness invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 - 2021 initial hearings
- 4 February 2021 - Email from secretariat to Hon Gareth Ward MP, Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, attaching witness invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 - 2021 initial hearings
- 16 February 2021 - Letter from secretariat to Ms Janet Schorer, NSW Children's Guardian, attaching invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 – 2021 initial hearings
- 18 February 2021 – Letter from secretariat to Commissioner Barnes, NSW Crime Commissioner, attaching invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 – 2021 initial hearings
- 22 February 2021 – Email from secretariat to Mr Dom Bondar, Office of Minister Elliott, requesting attendance of certain witnesses for the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – initial hearings

1.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Families, Communities and Disability Services be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions for each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

5.1 Public hearing: Families, Communities and Disability Services

Minister, departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Hon Gareth Ward MP, Minister Families, Communities and Disability Services, was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Simone Walker, Secretary Strategy Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Simone Czech, Acting Deputy Secretary Child Protection and Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Paul Ververs, Deputy Secretary Housing, Disability and District Services and Emergency Management, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Paul O'Reilly, Executive Director, Youth Justice, Department of Communities and Justice.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Families, Communities and Disability Services open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Shoebridge tendered the following document:

- Email from Eleri Morgan-Thomas, Executive Director, Department of Communities and Justice, to the PSP Service Provider, regarding the ACWA – Information concerning PSP Provider 2018-2019 Reconciliations, dated 24 February 2021.

The Minister withdrew at 12.35 pm.

The public hearing continued.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.35 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.35 pm, until 9.15 am, Tuesday 2 March 2021, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates hearing — Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence.

Allison Stowe and Susan Want

Committee Clerks

Minutes no. 36

Tuesday 2 March 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.16 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Mr Shoebridge, *Deputy Chair* (from 9.30 am until 10.57 am, and from 11.47 am)

Mr Amato (substituting for Mrs Maclaren-Jones)

Ms Boyd (participating until 11.50 am)

Mr Farlow (substituting for Mrs Ward)

Ms Jackson (from 9.18 am)

Mr Khan (until 3.27 pm)

Mr Latham (participating until 3.40 pm)

Mr Moselmane

Mr Searle (participating from 2.00 pm until 2.31 pm)

Ms Sharpe (participating from 11.26 am until 11.43 am)

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 24 February 2021 – Email from Mr Dom Bondar, Office of Minister Elliott to secretariat, confirming attendance of certain witnesses for the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021
- 24 February 2021 – Email from Mr Dom Bondar, Office of Minister Elliott to secretariat, providing advice of a position change and alternative witness nomination for the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021
- 26 February 2021 – Email from Ms Karen Smith, NSW Crown Solicitor to secretariat, providing response to invitation to appear at Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing on 2 March 2021

- 26 February 2021 – Email from Ms Nella Hall, Office of Hon Mark Latham MLC to secretariat, advising Mr Latham will be a participating member for the PC5 Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing on Tuesday 2 March 2021
- 2 March 2021 – Email from Ms Cara Punch, Office of Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC, Opposition Whip to secretariat, advising that Hon Penny Sharpe MLC will be a participating member for the PC5 Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing on Tuesday 2 March 2021
- 2 March 2021 – Email from Ms Cara Punch, Office of Hon Mark Buttigieg MLC, Opposition Whip to secretariat, advising that Hon Adam Searle MLC will be a participating member for the PC5 Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing on Tuesday 2 March 2021.

Sent

- 25 February 2021- Email from secretariat to Astrid Pederson, Office of Hon Mark Speakman, requesting attendance of Ms Karen Smith, NSW Crown Solicitor at the Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing on 2 March 2021.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – initial hearings**3.1 Order for examination of portfolios**

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions for each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

3.2 Public hearing: Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence

Minister, departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Hon Mark Speakman MP, Attorney General and Minister for Prevention of Domestic Violence, was admitted.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Simone Walker, Deputy Secretary, Strategy Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Catherine D'Elia, Deputy Secretary, Courts, Tribunals and Service Delivery, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Paul McKnight, Deputy Secretary, Law Reform and Legal Services, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Brendan Thomas, Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid NSW.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence open for examination.

The Attorney General and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Attorney General withdrew at 12.30 pm.

The public hearing continued.

The following witness was sworn and examined:

- Ms Karen Smith, NSW Crown Solicitor, Crown Solicitor's Office.

Mr Searle tendered the following documents:

- Briefing for the Premier: Provision of information to the ICAC, File no. A2635833, authored by Karen Smith, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet and Legal, 27 July 2018
- Briefing for the Premier: Provision of information to the ICAC, File no. A2629601, authored by Ms Karen Smith, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet and Legal, 23 July 2018.

Mr Latham tendered the following document:

- Correspondence from Mr Daryl Maguire MP to the Premier relating to the Ministerial Code of Conduct – Continuous updating, dated 9 October 2017.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.55 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

3.3 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tabled during the Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence hearing held on Tuesday 2 March 2021:

- Briefing for the Premier: Provision of information to the ICAC, File no. A2635833, authored by Karen Smith, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet and Legal, 27 July 2018, tendered by Mr Adam Searle MLC
- Briefing for the Premier: Provision of information to the ICAC, File no. A2629601, authored by Ms Karen Smith, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet and Legal, 23 July 2018, tendered by Mr Adam Searle MLC
- Correspondence from Mr Daryl Maguire MP to the Premier relating to the Ministerial Code of Conduct – Continuous updating, dated 9 October 2017, tendered by Mr Mark Latham MLC.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.56 pm, until 9.15 am, Friday 5 March 2021, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates hearing — Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans.

Shaza Barbar and Merrin Thompson

Committee Clerks

Minutes no. 37

Friday 5 March 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.17 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair* (until 10.12 am, and from 10.50 am)

Mr Shoebridge, *Deputy Chair* (until 9.21am, and from 10.57 am until 12.30 pm)

Mr Khan

Ms Jackson (from 9.21 am)

Mrs Maclaren-Jones (until 10.43 am, and from 2.00 pm)

Mr Moselmane

Mrs Ward (until 12.30 pm, and from 2.38 pm)

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 4 March 2021 - Email from Ms Ellie Stamatelatos, Office of Minister Lee to secretariat, requesting the early departure of Mr Simon Draper, Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW from the Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans hearing on 5 March 2021.

3. ***

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – initial hearings

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions for each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

4.2 Election of Acting Deputy Chair for the duration of the hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That, in the absence of the Deputy Chair, Ms Jackson be elected as Acting Deputy Chair for the duration of the hearing on 5 March 2021, at any time when the Deputy Chair is not present.

4.3 Public hearing: Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

Minister, departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP, Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans, was admitted.

The Chair also reminded Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, that he did not need to be sworn, as he had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Caroline Mackaness, Director, Office of Veterans Affairs
- Mr Joseph La Posta, Chief Executive Officer, Multicultural NSW
- Ms Karen Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Office of Sport
- Mr Simon Draper, Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW
- Ms Kerrie Mather, Chief Executive Officer, Venues NSW

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Minister Lee tendered the following document:

- Joint Statement Indian Community in NSW stands united for harmony

The Minister and Mr Draper withdrew at 12.30 pm.

The public hearing continued.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.45 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

4.4 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Ward: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans hearing held on Friday 5 March 2021:

- Joint Statement Indian Community in NSW stands united for harmony, tendered by Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.45 pm, until 9.15 am, Tuesday 9 March 2021, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates hearing — Counter Terrorism and Corrections.

Vanessa OLoan and Rhia Victorino
Committee Clerks

Minutes no. 38

Tuesday 9 March 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.17 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Mr Shoebridge, *Deputy Chair* (from 9.25 am until 12.30 pm, and from 2.16 pm)

Mr Amato (substituting for Mrs Ward via Webex)

Mr Khan

Ms Jackson

Mrs Maclaren-Jones

Mr Moselmane

Mr Mookhey (participating from 9.26 am until 10.37 am, and from 2.00 pm until 3.00 pm)

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 3 March 2021 - Email from Mr Randall Stewart, Office of the Police Commissioner, to secretariat advising of position title corrections for witnesses appearing at the Police and Emergency Services hearing on Friday 12 March 2021
- 8 March 2021 - Email from Ms Kaelee Aboud, Office of Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Government Whip to secretariat, advising Hon Lou Amato MLC will substitute for Hon Natalie Ward MLC for the Counter Terrorism and Corrections Hearing on 9 March 2021 via Webex.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – initial hearings

3.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Counter Terrorism and Corrections be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions for each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

3.2 Public hearing: Counter Terrorism and Corrections

Minister, departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections, was admitted.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice
- Ms Simone Walker, Deputy Secretary, Strategy Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice.

The following witness was sworn:

- Mr Peter Severin, Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW, Department of Communities and Justice.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Counter Terrorism and Corrections open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister withdrew at 12.30 pm.

The public hearing continued.

Mr Shoebridge tendered the following document:

- Memo from Sue Wilson, General Manager MRRC to Assistant Commissioner Wilson, dated 26 May 2015.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.09 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

3.3 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Counter Terrorism and Corrections hearing held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 after 24 hours unless the Commissioner or the Department advises that the document should not be made public:

- Memo from Sue Wilson, General Manager MRRC to Assistant Commissioner Wilson, dated 26 May 2015, tendered by Mr David Shoebridge MLC.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.11 pm, until 9.15 am, Friday 12 March 2021, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates hearing — Police and Emergency Services.

Allison Stowe and Jenelle Moore

Committee Clerks

Minutes no. 39

Friday 12 March 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.16 am

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair* (until 12.40 pm)
Mr Shoebridge, *Deputy Chair* (from 9.17 am)
Mr D'Adam (substituting for Mr Moselmane)
Mr Fang (substituting for Mrs Ward)
Mr Khan
Ms Jackson
Mrs Maclaren-Jones (until 3.56 pm)
Mr Buttigieg (participating from 11.35 am until 12.40 pm)

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Sent

- 9 March 2021 – Letter from Chair to Commissioner Peter Severin, Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW regarding a document tabled at the Counter Terrorism and Corrections hearing on Tuesday 9 March 2021.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – initial hearings

3.1 Election of Acting Deputy Chair

Resolved, on the motion of Mr D'Adam: That Ms Jackson be elected as Acting Deputy Chair for the purposes of the second session of the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021, at any time when the Deputy Chair is not present.

3.2 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Police and Emergency Services be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions for each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

3.3 Public hearing: Police and Emergency Services

Minister, departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that Members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services, was admitted.

The Chair also reminded the following witness that he did not need to be sworn, as he had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Commissioner Michael Fuller APM, Commissioner, NSW Police Force
- Commissioner Paul Baxter, Commissioner, NSW Fire and Rescue
- Commissioner Carlene York APM, Commissioner, NSW State Emergency Service
- Commissioner Rob Rogers AFSM, Commissioner, NSW Rural Fire Service
- Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM, Commissioner Resilience NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Assistant Commissioner Scott Cook APM, Commander, Police Prosecutions and Licensing Enforcement Command
- Mr Cameron Smith, Director, Security Licensing and Enforcement Directorate, NSW Police Force
- Commissioner Michael Barnes, Commissioner, NSW Crime Commission.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Police and Emergency Services open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Questions taken on notice

During the first session of the hearing, Commissioner Fuller took a series of questions on notice. At the committee's request (notwithstanding the committee's resolution that questions taken on notice must be responded to within 21 days), Commissioner Fuller advised that he would attempt to provide answers to some of the questions taken on notice later in the day. The committee secretariat provided the Office of the Minister for Police and Emergency Services with a written copy of the questions taken on notice by Commissioner Fuller.

Mr Shoebridge tendered the following document:

- Statement by Police Bank entitled 'Police Bank announces departure of Mick Fuller from the Board', dated 12 February 2021.

The Minister and Mr Coutts-Trotter withdrew at 12.40 pm.

The public hearing continued.

In the absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair took the Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

Mr Shoebridge tendered the following documents:

- Article entitled 'Ex-boyfriend of Christian Porter's accuser reveals new details about alleged rape discussions', dated 12 March 2021
- Media statement by Mr James Hooke, ex-partner of alleged victim.

Mr Smith withdrew at 2.47 pm.

Commissioner Barnes withdrew at 3.11 pm.

Commissioner Fuller tendered the following documents:

- Answers to questions on notice regarding 'Strike Force Wyndarra' – redacted version
- Answers to questions on notice regarding 'Strike Force Wyndarra' – unredacted version.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee accept and publish the answers to questions on notice regarding 'Strike Force Wyndarra' – redacted version.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons withdrew at 4.25 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.01 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

3.4 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Jackson: That the committee accept and publish the following document tendered during the Police and Emergency Services hearing held on Friday 12 March 2021:

- Statement by Police Bank entitled 'Police Bank announces departure of Mick Fuller from the Board', dated 12 February 2021, tendered by Mr David Shoebridge MLC.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Police and Emergency Services hearing held on Friday 12 March 2021:

- Article titled 'Ex-boyfriend of Christian Porter's accuser reveals new details about alleged rape discussions', dated 12 March 2021, tendered by Mr David Shoebridge MLC
- Media statement by Mr James Hooke, ex-partner of alleged victim, tendered by Mr David Shoebridge MLC.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee accept and keep confidential the following document tendered during the Police and Emergency Services hearing held on Friday 12 March 2021:

- Answers to questions on notice regarding 'Strike Force Wyndarra' – unredacted version, tendered by Commissioner Michael Fuller, Commissioner, NSW Police Force.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.04 pm, *Sine die*.

Alex Stedman and Shaza Barbar

Committee Clerks

Draft minutes no. 41

Tuesday 11 May 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Legal Affairs

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, 2.27 pm

1. Members present

Mr Borsak, *Chair*

Ms Jackson

Mr Khan

Mrs Maclaren-Jones

Mrs Ward (from 2.28 pm)

2. Apologies

Mr Shoebridge, *Deputy Chair*
Mr Moselmane

3. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Maclaren-Jones: That draft minutes no. 40 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 10 March 2021 - Email from Ms Gayle Robson, Office of the Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW, to secretariat, advising document tabled by Mr Shoebridge during the Counter Terrorism and Corrections hearing on 9 March 2021 can be published
- 25 March 2021 – Letter from Mr Paul O'Reilly, Executive Director, Youth Justice NSW to secretariat, clarifying evidence given during the Families, Communities and Disability Services hearing on 26 February 2021
- 6 April 2021 – Letter from the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections to secretariat, clarifying evidence given during the Counter Terrorism and Corrections hearing on 9 March 2021
- 6 April 2021 – Letter from Commissioner Peter Severin, Commissioner, Corrective Services NSW to secretariat, clarifying evidence given during the Counter Terrorism and Corrections hearing on 9 March 2021
- 14 April 2021 – Letter from the Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services to secretariat, clarifying evidence given during the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021
- 30 April 2021 – Email from Ms Patricia Wild, Policy Advisor, Office of Minister Elliott to secretariat, providing clarified response to question on notice put to Commissioner Fuller during Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021

Sent:

- 3 March 2021 – Email from secretariat, to Hon Gareth Ward MP, Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 5 March 2021 - Email from secretariat, to Hon Mark Speakman MP, Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 10 March 2021 - Email from secretariat, to Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 11 March 2021 - Email from secretariat, to Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 12 March 2021 - Email from secretariat to Mr Dom Bondar, Office of Minister Elliott MP, providing list of questions from Ms Jackson raised in Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021
- 12 March 2021 - Email from secretariat, to the Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 8 April 2021 – Email from secretariat to Mr Dom Bondar, Office of Minister Elliott, seeking formal letter from the Minister clarifying evidence given at the Police and Emergency Services hearing on 12 March 2021

- 19 April 2021 – Email from secretariat to Mr Dom Bondar, Office of Minister Elliott, requesting the provision of further information to answers to questions on notice from the Police and Emergency Services hearing held 12 March 2021.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021

5.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions

The committee noted that the following answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution appointing the Inquiry:

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Gareth Ward MP, Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, received 24 March 2021
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Mark Speakman MP, Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence, received 26 March 2021
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans, received 31 March 2021
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections, received 6 April 2021
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon David Elliott MP, Minister for Police and Emergency Services, received 7 April 2021.

5.2 Clarification to answers to questions on notice

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee authorise the publication of correspondence from Ms Patricia Wild, Policy Advisor, Office of Minister Elliott as a clarification to answers to questions on notice received for the Budget Estimates 2020-2021 Police and Emergency Services hearing.

5.3 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Chair submitted his draft report, entitled *Budget Estimates 2020-2021*, which, having been previously circulated, was taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That:

- a) The draft report be the report of the committee and that the committee present the report to the House;
- b) The transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry be tabled in the House with the report;
- c) Upon tabling, all unpublished transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry, be published by the committee, except for those documents kept confidential by resolution of the committee;
- d) The committee secretariat correct any typographical, grammatical and formatting errors prior to tabling;
- e) That the report be tabled on Thursday 13 May 2021.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 2.28 pm, *sine die*.

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

