




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

Record of Proceedings, 26 November 2020

MOTION

Suspension of Standing Orders, Estimates Hearing

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Leader of the House) (6.27 pm), by leave, without notice:
 I move—

That, for the consideration of the annual appropriation bills for 2020-2021, so much of standing orders be suspended to enable the following:

- (a) portfolio committees may only hold hearings and take evidence on the dates and within the timeframes provided in Table 1 attached;
- (b) questions on notice prior to the hearings are to be provided to the committee secretariat and ministers within the timeframes provided in Table 1 attached;
- (c) answers to questions are to be provided to the committee secretariat within the timeframes provided in Table 1 attached; and
- (d) answers to questions on notice are deemed published upon receipt by the committee secretariat.

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice	
Economics and Governance Committee	Premier and Cabinet Trade	Premier and Minister for Trade	Auditor-General Integrity Commissioner	Monday, 7 December 2020	Speaker 9am—9:45am	Questions to Committee Secretariat: 5PM, Thursday, 3 December	
	Treasury and Investment	Treasurer and Minister for Investment			BREAK: 9:45am—10am		Questions to Ministers: Thursday, 3 December (by 9PM).
	Tourism Industry Development, Innovation and Sport	Minister for Tourism Industry Development and Innovation and Minister for Sport			Premier (Premier / Trade): 10am—11:45am		Questions Answered by Minister to Committee Secretariat: 8AM, Monday, 7 December 2020
					BREAK: 11:45am—12pm		
					Premier (Premier / Trade): 12pm—1:30pm		
					BREAK: 1:30pm—2pm		
					Treasurer (Treasury / Investment): 2pm—4pm	Published no later than 8:30AM, Monday, 7 December	

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice
					BREAK: 4pm—4:15pm Treasurer (Treasury / Investment): 4:15pm—6pm BREAK: 6pm—6:30pm Minister for Tourism Industry Development and Innovation and Minister for Sport: 6:30pm—9pm	

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice
State Development and Regional Industries Committee	State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning	Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning	Independent Assessor	Tuesday, 8 December 2020	Deputy Premier (State Development): 9:30am—10:30am	<p>Questions to Committee Secretariat: 5PM, Thursday, 3 December</p> <p>Questions to Ministers: Thursday, 3 December (by 9PM).</p> <p>Questions Answered by Minister to Committee Secretariat: 12pm, Monday, 7 December 2020</p> <p>Published no later than 12:30pm, Monday, 7 December 2020</p>
	Agricultural Industry Development, Fisheries and Rural Communities	Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities			Deputy Premier (Infrastructure / Planning): 10:30am—11:45am	
	Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water	Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water			Deputy Premier (Local Government): 12pm—1pm	
					BREAK: 11:45am—12pm	
					Deputy Premier (Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water (Water)): 1:45pm—3:15pm	
					BREAK: 1pm—1:45pm	
					Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water (Regional Development and Manufacturing): 3:30pm—4:30pm	
					BREAK: 3:15pm—3:30pm	
					Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water (Regional Development and Manufacturing): 3:30pm—4:30pm	
					BREAK: 4:30pm—4:45pm	
					Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Agricultural Industry Development and Rural Communities): 4:45pm—6:15pm	
					BREAK: 4:45pm—6:15pm	
					Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Fisheries): 6:30pm—8pm	
					BREAK: 6:15pm—6:30pm	
					Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Fisheries): 6:30pm—8pm	

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice
Education, Employment and Training Committee	Education, Industrial Relations and Racing Employment, Small Business, Training and Skills Development	Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development		Wednesday, 9 December 2020	<p>Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Education / QCAA): 9am—10:30am</p> <p>BREAK: 10:30am—10:45am</p> <p>Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Education / QCAA): 10:45am—11:45am</p> <p>BREAK: 11:45am—12:30am</p> <p>Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Racing): 12:30pm—1pm</p> <p>Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Industrial Relations): 1pm—2pm</p> <p>BREAK: 2pm—2:30pm</p> <p>Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development (Employment and Small Business): 2:30pm—4pm</p> <p>BREAK: 4pm—4:15pm</p> <p>Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development (Training and Skills Development): 4:15pm—5:15pm</p>	<p>Questions to Committee Secretariat: 5PM, Thursday, 3 December</p> <p>Questions to Ministers: Thursday, 3 December (by 9PM).</p> <p>Questions Answered by Minister to Committee Secretariat: 12pm, Tuesday, 8 December 2020</p> <p>Published no later than 12:30pm, Tuesday, 8 December 2020</p>

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice
Health and Environment Committee	Health and Ambulance Services	Minister for Health and Ambulance Services	Health Ombudsman	Thursday, 10 December 2020	Minister for Health and Ambulance Services (Department of Health, HHS, Health Ombudsman): 9am—10:30am	Questions to Committee Secretariat: 5PM, Friday, 4 December
	Environment, Great Barrier Reef, Science and Youth Affairs	Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs			BREAK: 10:30am—10:45am Minister for Health and Ambulance Services (Department of Health, HHS, QIMR, QMHC): 10:45am—12:15pm BREAK: 12:15pm—12:30pm Minister for Health and Ambulance Services (Queensland Ambulance Services): 12:30pm—1:30pm BREAK: 1:30pm—2:30pm Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs (Environment and the Great Barrier Reef): 2:30pm—4:15pm BREAK: 4:15pm—4:30pm Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs (Science and Youth Affairs): 4:30pm—5:15pm	Questions to Ministers: Friday, 4 December (by 9PM). Questions Answered by Minister to Committee Secretariat: 12pm, Wednesday, 9 December 2020 Published no later than 12:30pm, Wednesday, 9 December

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice
Transport and Resources Committee	Transport and Main Roads	Minister for Transport and Main Roads		Friday, 11 December 2020	Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Transport and Main Roads): 9am—11am	Questions to Committee Secretariat: 5PM, Friday, 4 December
	Energy, Renewables, Hydrogen, Public Works and Procurement	Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement			BREAK: 11am—11:30am	Questions to Ministers: Friday, 4 December (by 9PM).
	Resources	Minister for Resources			Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Transport and Main Roads): 11:30am—1:15pm BREAK: 1:15pm—2pm	Questions Answered by Minister to Committee Secretariat: 12pm, Thursday, 10 December 2020
					Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement (Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen): 2pm—3:30pm BREAK: 3:30pm—3:45pm	Published no later than 12:30pm, Thursday, 10 December
					Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement (Public Works and Procurement): 3:45pm—5:15pm BREAK: 5:15pm—5:30pm	
					Minister for Resources: 5:30pm—6:45PM BREAK: 6:45pm—7pm	
					Minister for Resources: 7pm—8:45pm	

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice
Legal Affairs and Safety Committee	Justice and Attorney-General, Women and Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Police, Corrective Services, Fire and Emergency Services	Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services	Electoral Commissioner Information Commissioner Ombudsman Queensland Family and Child Commission	Monday, 14 December 2020	Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (DJAG + STAT BODIES): 9am—10:30am BREAK: 10:30am—10:45am Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (DJAG): 10:45am—12:45pm BREAK: 12:45PM—1:30pm Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services (Police): 1:30pm—2:45pm BREAK: 2:45pm—3pm Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services (Corrective Services): 3pm—4pm BREAK: 4pm—4:15pm Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services (Fire and Emergency Services): 4:15pm—5:15pm	Questions to Committee Secretariat: 5PM, Friday, 4 December Questions to Ministers: Friday, 4 December (by 9PM). Questions Answered by Minister to Committee Secretariat: 12pm, Friday, 11 December 2020 Published no later than 12:30pm, Friday, 11 December

Portfolio Committee	Area of Responsibility	Ministers	Oversight Responsibility	Hearing Date	Hearing Times	Questions on Notice
Community Support and Services Committee	Communities, Housing, Digital Economy and the Arts	Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts		Tuesday, 15 December 2020	Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts (Communities, Housing and Digital Economy): 9am—10:45am BREAK: 10:45am—11am	Questions to Committee Secretariat: 9AM, Monday, 7 December Questions to Ministers: Monday, 7 December (by 9:30AM).
	Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships	Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships	Family Responsibilities Commission		Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts (Arts): 11am—11:45am BREAK: 11:45am—12:30pm	Questions Answered by Minister to Committee Secretariat: 12pm, Monday, 14 December 2020 Published no later than 12:30pm, Monday, 14 December
	Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs	Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs			Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (Senior and Disability Services): 12:30pm—1:45pm BREAK: 1:45pm—2pm Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships): 2pm—3:15pm BREAK: 3:15pm—3:30pm Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (Children and Youth Justice): 3.30pm—4:45pm BREAK: 4:45pm—5pm Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (Multicultural Affairs): 5pm—5:45pm	

In speaking to this motion, the Palaszczuk government went to the 2020 election with a promise to Queenslanders that we would deliver a budget by the end of the year, and that is what we will do. My esteemed colleague the honourable the Treasurer, the member for Woodridge, will deliver the Palaszczuk government's budget next Tuesday, 1 December 2020, and what a great budget it will be as we get on with the job of delivering economic recovery for Queensland as we get through COVID-19.

As members would be aware, and for the interests of our new members, after a budget is handed down we have an estimates period where all members of parliament have the opportunity to review the budget and ask questions of ministers of the Crown about the expenditure of public funds. To ensure that this process can occur this year, we will have to have estimates before Christmas. This means that we will have the budget next week and then the week after we will have five days of estimates and then the following week we will have another two days of estimates hearings. That is a full seven days of estimates hearings where those opposite can come in and ask questions of the elected ministers of the Crown about the Queensland budget.

Due to Christmas fast approaching, bespoke sessional orders are needed to ensure that estimates can occur in an orderly manner but a manner that will afford the opportunity for all committees to meet over the full seven days, unlike what those opposite did when they were in government. The motion before the House today outlines the days for estimates for each portfolio committee, the times within and the process for questions on notice. The schedule within the motion has been derived based on previous estimates hearings and the size of the portfolio of the minister.

I look forward as the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services to attend my estimates hearings for four hours to answer the questions of the government and non-government members of the Health and Environment Committee. I am also mindful that shadow ministers usually attend committees and I look forward to hearing questions from the shadow minister for health and ambulance services. I hope she can contain her excitement and behaviour and not get thrown out of estimates, unlike her performance this morning in question time.

The Palaszczuk government stands ready and willing during estimates to answer any questions about our budget. We are proud of our record and the budget we will deliver. The people have put their faith in us to deliver on our election commitments and I am proud of all of them, in particular in the health space, and I look forward to talking more about that not only at estimates but also during budget week.

It is disappointing but not surprising that those opposite have started to attack and spread mistruths about the budget and estimates process already. In particular I mention the Manager of Opposition Business, who I have been advised went on radio and carried on about budget week and estimates, even indicating that we have somehow truncated the budget process. For the benefit of the entire House this is incorrect. The Palaszczuk government will sit for the full four days of budget week. All members of the House will be afforded the opportunity to make a contribution to the budget, just like every other year. The Palaszczuk government is holding estimates for the full seven days to allow the committees to properly scrutinise the budget.

Those opposite might criticise the fact that we are going straight into estimates and the length of time they have to prepare questions on notice, but can I say that it is the ministers who are putting themselves forward at short notice to answer to the people of Queensland and to allow themselves to be scrutinised. If the ministers are willing to do it then the opposition should be willing to do it. Let us pause and reflect on what those opposite did. When they were in government, albeit for a brief period, they attacked not only the Public Service but many government functions.

They changed the rules to hold estimates over three days. That meant that the opposition at the time had to run between hearings to ask questions of ministers and the media had difficulty covering multiple hearings at the same time leading potentially to less public scrutiny. Remember that the opposition at that time was in single digits. As they say, those in glass houses should not throw stones and those opposite should not come in here and go on radio and talk down the estimates process and say that somehow the government is rushing the budget through. We promised the people of Queensland that we would hand down a budget in 2020. Those opposite spent the entire election telling people we were the only state that had not handed down a budget. That is completely untrue and inconsistent with what the national cabinet agreed with all states and territories to do, which was to delay their budget until after the federal budget.

The record of those opposite on democracy is as low as ever. The motion before the House is simple. It sets out the full seven days of estimates, it sets out the time frames within each committee, which is based on previous years as much as possible, and it sets out the method for questions on notice to be asked and answered prior to the committee. As such, the Palaszczuk government is going through a full budget and estimates process and I encourage all members to support this motion.