

**NORFOLK ISLAND
THIRTEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2010**

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THERTIINTH LEJESLIETEW 'SEMBLE
WEDNESDAY 16 JUUN 2010**

- 1 The Legislative Assembly met at 10.06 am, the Speaker, Hon Robin Adams MLA, took the Chair and read Prayers
- 2 **LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR MRS GRIFFITHS MLA**
Leave of absence unanimously extended to Mrs Griffiths
- 3 **CONDOLENCES**
Mr Snell recorded the passing of –

**Peter Grainger Clark
Owen Rowland Evans OAM
Raymonde Paulette Eastwood
Irene Marjorie Christian**

- 4 **QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**
- 5 **ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**
Responses were provided to :

Question No 11 from Mrs Griffiths to Mr Buffett, Chief Minister asking –
How is the Chief Minister planning to increase the knowledge and participation of the Assembly in Norfolk's political processes for enhanced performance?

Question No 15 from Mr King to Mr Anderson, Minister for Finance and The Attorney-General asking –
Section 38 of the Employment Act provides in relation to rehabilitation services for a person approved for workers compensation: "The Medical Superintendent shall advise and assist a person suffering incapacity for the purpose of restoring the person, as quickly as possible, to the fullest physical and mental fitness of which the person is reasonably capable", Will the Minister advise what can reasonably be expected in relation to rehabilitation services?

Question No 16 from Mr King to Mr Anderson, Minister for Finance and The Attorney-General asking –
Given that workers compensation benefits under the Employment Act continue for 2 years or until a relevant incapacity ceases can the Minister advise just what is necessary to reach a conclusion that incapacity no longer exists?

Question No 17 from Mr King to Mr Sheridan, Minister for Community Services asking –
Can the Minister inform the House of the estimated cost of maintaining the road verges and footpaths inside the Burnt Pine cattlestops and how much this expense increased as a result of the repositioning of the cattlestops in recent times?

Question No 18 from Mr King to Mr Nobbs, Minister for Tourism, Industry & Development asking –

1. Is it not a fact that the powers and functions of the Tourist Bureau are established by law and that it is not open to the Minister to arbitrarily interfere?
2. Isn't it also a fact that any attempt to "freeze" the functions of the Bureau, such as the Minister's recent attempt to withdraw the Bureau's ability to contract, is unlawful and of no effect?
3. Does the Minister recognise the lawful requirement to table in the Assembly any direction given by him to the Bureau?

Question No 19 from Mr King to Mr Buffett, Chief Minister asking –

Can the Chief Minister inform the House the cost to the public account associated with the recent visit by the Norfolk Island Government delegation to Canberra including separately, travel costs, accommodation costs, per diem allowances, miscellaneous costs and consultancy costs paid to the lobbyist firm Crosby/Textor?

Question No 20 from Mrs Ward to Mr Anderson, Minister for Finance and The Attorney-General –

1. What financial and economic indicators is the Minister seeking from the public service, financial institutions, commercial sector and community in order to accurately gauge economic activity on the island?
2. What arrangements will the Minister put in place to have the indicators analysed and provided to the Assembly?

Question No 21 from Mrs Ward to Mr Nobbs, Minister for Tourism, Industry & Development asking –

1. Will the Minister inform the community how much public money has been directed at harbour feasibility studies, reports and conferences over the last 20 years including specific detailed expenditure since 2006?
2. What outcomes have been achieved for the community as a result of such expenditure of the public purse?

6 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

- 1) Mr Sheridan, Minister for Community Services – Road Traffic (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2010
- 2) Mr Sheridan, Minister for Community Services – Road Traffic (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2010
- 3) Mr Sheridan, Minister for Community Services – Planning (Amendment) Regulations 2010
- 4) Mr Anderson, Minister for Finance and The Attorney-General – Immigration (Amendment) Regulations 2010
- 5) Mr Anderson, Minister for Finance and The Attorney-General – Financial Indicators for April 2010
- 6) Mr Anderson, Minister for Finance and The Attorney-General – Public Moneys Act 1979 – Virements
- 7) Mr Buffett, Chief Minister – Effect of Determination of Public Sector Remuneration Tribunal – Application 1 of 2010 – the Non contracted General Staff of the NI Hospital Enterprise and Application 2 of 2010 – Nursing Staff of the NI Hospital Enterprise
- 8) Mr Buffett, Chief Minister – NI Annual Report of the Administration
- 9) Mr Buffett, Chief Minister – Governance Review of KAVHA

7 STATEMENTS

Mr Sheridan, Minister for Community Services, made a statement on the importation of apples referring to the Norfolk Island Plant and Fruit Diseases Amendment Regulations 2010 which had not been approved

8 MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR – NO 5

The Speaker reported **Message No. 5** from the Administrator advising that on 6 May 2010 Her Excellency the Governor-General withheld assent to the Valuation of land Bill 2009
Mr Sheridan moved -

THAT the House take note of the Message

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

9 MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR – NO 6

The Speaker reported Message No. 6 from the Administrator dated 15 June 2010 recommending to the Legislative Assembly the enactment of the proposed law entitled “An Act to authorise expenditure from the Public Account for the year ending on 30 June 2011”

10 APPROPRIATION BILL 2007-2008

Mr Anderson, Minister for Finance, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to authorise expenditure from the Public Account for the year ending on 30 June 2011 and moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to in principle

Paper: Mr Anderson tabled the Budget related paper – Program Budget Narratives and moved -

THAT the Paper be noted and printed

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

Debate ensued

Mr Anderson moved –

THAT debate be adjourned and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of sitting

Question put and agreed to on the voices

Sitting suspended at 1.15pm until 2.30 pm

The House resume at 2.30 pm, the Speaker taking the Chair

11 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Buffett, Chief Minister, as a mark of respect to the Deputy Speaker Mr Snell, following the passing of his brother Keith Snell in New Zealand, reported during the luncheon break, moved –

THAT the House do now adjourn until Wednesday 23 June 2010 at 10 am

Question put and agreed to on the voices

AND THEN the House at 2.35 pm adjourned until Wednesday 23 June 2010 at 10 am

Gaye Evans

Clerk to the Legislative Assembly

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present except Mrs Griffiths by leave