

2025 Review Discussion Paper – Proposed approach and work program

NSW Treasury submission

March 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the First Peoples and Traditional Custodians of Australia, and the oldest continuing culture in human history. We pay respect to Elders past and present and commit to respecting the lands we walk on, and the communities we walk with.

Artwork:
Regeneration by Josie Rose



1 Proposed approach

- NSW Treasury welcomes the proposed approach because it is practical and efficient yet rigorous.
- We strongly support the proposed framework for reviewing the assessments. That is, to first identify if there has been a change in circumstances since the 2020 Review that may affect the suitability of the existing methods or that suggest an improvement could be made.
- This provides a consistent starting point and focuses attention on new evidence that may have come to light since the 2020 Review.
- We support the proposal that, should states identify that a method is no longer appropriate, they need to propose ways it could be improved. This will focus efforts on developing solutions-oriented and evidence-based arguments.
- NSW Treasury welcomes the Commission’s open and flexible approach to consultation, both bilaterally and multilaterally. Having the opportunity to test ideas and new data sources with Commission staff and/or Commissioners in advance of making submissions will lead to more productive outcomes.

2 Proposed work program

- NSW Treasury supports the staged release of consultation papers as this will spread the workload more evenly over the Review period.
- Having said this, Tranche 1 appears to cover a shorter period than Tranche 2, and yet includes the most substantial assessments. It is requested that the Tranche 1 consultation period be extended by a month, and the Tranche 2 consultation period be reduced by a month to better reflect the respective workloads.
- While supported, the staged release of consultation papers could prevent the development of a cohesive narrative across all the assessments. To mitigate this, it is requested that there be some flexibility in allowing adjustments to Tranche 1 submissions after they are submitted, up until Tranche 2 submissions are made, should the need arise.
- A due date for the consultation paper on the ‘Case for changes between method reviews’ has not been listed in the Work Program. This should be included to assist with planning.
- The Work Program should also include the 2024 Update given the same personnel are likely to be involved in this work too.

2.1 State Visit

- NSW Treasury welcomes the opportunity to host a visit by the Commission in Sydney.
- Our preferred timing for this visit is around the time the Tranche 2 submissions are due (~March 2024). However, given the NSW Election on 25 March 2023, we are unable to confirm an exact date at this stage.

NSW position

- Supports the proposed framework for reviewing the assessments.
- Proposes that the consultation period for Tranche 1 be extended by a month and the period for Tranche 2 be reduced by a month to better reflect the workload distribution.
- Provide some flexibility to allow states to make adjustments to their Tranche 1 submissions up until Tranche 2 submissions are submitted, to provide the opportunity to develop a cohesive narrative across all the assessments.
- NSW's preferred date to host a visit by the Commission in Sydney is around when the Tranche 2 submissions are due (~March 2024), however, we will need to wait until after the State election to provide a definitive response.

Further information and contacts

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