

#### **Agency Report**

Corrective Services NSW

- Survey period: 18 August to 12 September 2025
- Completed surveys: 3,978
- Response rate: 42% -10 compared to 2024
- Portfolio: Communities and Justice







# **Organisational hierarchy**

This shows where the report unit sits in the survey's organisational hierarchy.

# **NSW** public sector

- Communities and Justice
  - Corrective Services NSW

# **Contents**

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# High level results

Discover key employee experience insights

#### Headline results for key topics

These are the % favourable scores for key survey topics. Each topic relates to an area of employee experience.



We've flagged the top 3 and bottom 3 topics. Use these topics as a starting point for exploring your results.

See 'Additional information about the survey' for interpretation guidance and details about the survey model.



+3pp vs 2024



r = below privacy cut-off

**Customer service** 

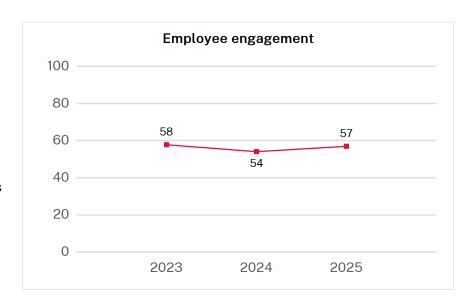
53%

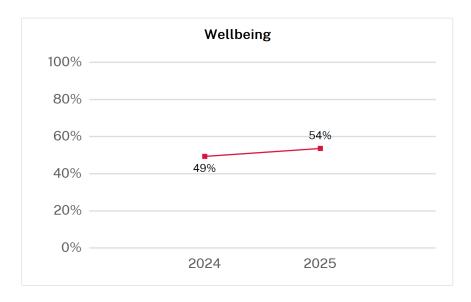
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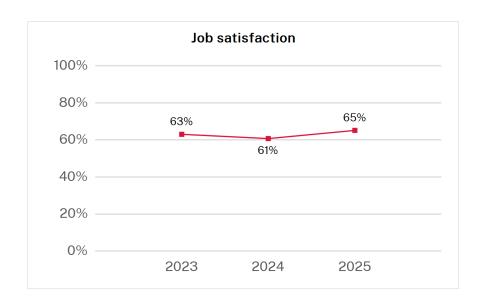
#### Long-term trend

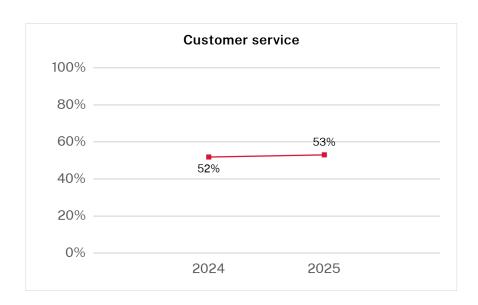
This page shows results for the past three years (2023-2025) for the key outcomes.

Comparing results side by side highlights changes over time, showing where progress has been made, where outcomes are stable, and where further focus may be needed.









# Most and least improved questions

These are the most and least improved questions by difference from the previous year.

Consider why these scores have shifted. Was it due to actions taken in response to last year's survey results or something else?

Most improved questi	ons		2025 % favourable	difference from <b>2024</b>
Communication and change management	5b	My manager communicates effectively with me	67%	+7
Employee voice	5c	My manager encourages and values employee input	66%	+7
Recognition	5f	My manager provides recognition for the work I do	63%	+7
Grievance handling	10	If I experienced a grievance at work, I would be comfortable in raising it with my organisation	55%	+7
Job purpose and enrichment	1f	I have a choice in deciding how I carry out day to day work tasks	71%	+6

Least improved of	questions		2025 % favourable	difference from <b>2024</b>
Risk and innovation	7a	My organisation is making improvements to meet future challenges	42%	0

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Highest and lowest scoring questions

These are the questions with the highest and lowest % favourable scores. % favourable is based on the respondents who selected 'strongly agree' or 'agree'.

Questions with the	Questions with the highest favourable scores						
Ethics and values	7v	I am aware of my obligations under the Code of Ethics and Conduct in my organisation	94%	+3			
Ethics and values	7r	I understand what ethical behaviour means within my workplace	93%	+2			
Ethics and values	7s	I would know how to report unethical behaviour if I became aware of it	89%	+3			
Other wellbeing	1m	I am able to adapt when changes occur	87%	+3			
Ethics and values	70	I support my organisation's values	84%	+3			

Questions with the low	Questions with the lowest favourable scores						
Communication and change management	7b	Change is managed well in my organisation	25%	+1			
Action on survey results	9a	My organisation has made improvements based on the survey results from last year	26%	-			
Decision making and accountability	7e	People in my organisation take responsibility for their own actions	30%	+3			
Action on survey results	9b	I am confident my organisation will act on the results of this survey	31%	+1			
Recruitment	7u	My organisation follows a merit-based process for recruitment and promotion decisions	35%	-			

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### Key drivers of engagement

The key driver analysis identifies questions with the strongest influence on your employees' engagement.

Key drivers are split into strengths (high correlation, high score) and priorities (high correlation, low score). Look for ways to maintain your strengths and improve your priorities.

Topic	ic Engagement key driver questions		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Action
Communication and change management	7p	I am supported through changes that affect my work	48	28	24	48%	Improve
Wellbeing	7t	I am satisfied with current workplace practices to help me manage my wellbeing	51	22	27	51%	Improve
Risk and innovation	7a	My organisation is making improvements to meet future challenges	42	35	23	<b>42</b> %	Improve
Ethics and values	7n	My organisation shows a commitment to ethical behaviours	52	2	4 23	<b>52</b> %	Improve
Recognition	7m	I receive adequate recognition for my contributions from my organisation	43	27	30	43%	Improve
Communication and change management	7q	I have the opportunity to provide feedback on change processes that directly affect me	48	24	28	48%	Improve

Maintain (high correlation, high score) - Questions that have a high correlation with engagement and also have a high favourable score.

Improve (high correlation, low score) - Questions that have a high correlation with engagement but a low favourable score.

Monitor (low correlation, low score) - Questions that have a low correlation with engagement and a low favourable score.

Review (low correlation, high score) - Questions that have a low correlation with engagement but a high favourable score.

#### Manager

Managers are key in translating strategy into action, driving day-today performance, fostering engagement, and ensuring a safe, inclusive, and productive team environment.

This page shows all survey questions related to employees' managers, drawn from various thematic topics.

The term 'manager' refers to the person in the workgroup, team or project that the employee reports to.

Topic	Que	stions related to manager	Favourable Neu	tral Unfavourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from 2024	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Risk and innovation	5а	My manager encourages people in my workgroup to keep improving the work they do	67	18 15	67%	+6	-7	-6
Communication and change management	5b	My manager communicates effectively with me	67	16 17	67%	+7	-7	-6
Employee voice	5c	My manager encourages and values employee input	66	17 16	66%	+7	-9	-7
Recognition	5f	My manager provides recognition for the work I do	63	18 19	63%	+7	-8	-7
Flexible working	8h	My manager supports flexible working in my team	62	23 15	62%	+6	-5	-8
Employee voice	5d	My manager involves my workgroup in decisions about our work	61	19 19	61%	+6	-8	-6
Job purpose and enrichment	5h	My manager communicates how my role contributes to my organisation's purpose	60	22 18	60%	+5	-8	-6
Inclusion and diversity	5i	My manager supports my career advancement	60	25 15	60%	-	-6	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### **Senior executives**

Leadership is key in setting direction, executing strategy, shaping culture and capability, inspiring purpose, and delivering results.

The term 'senior executives' refers to the group of senior executives in your organisation, not an individual manager.

Topic	Ques	stions related to senior executives	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Customer service	6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work	49	3	2 19	49%	+1	-13	-12
Teamwork and collaboration	6c	My senior executives promote collaboration between my organisation and other organisations we work with	45	35	5 20	45%	+4	-6	-7
Ethics and values	6b	My senior executives model the values of my organisation	45	32	23	45%	+4	-8	-7
Communication and change management	6a	My senior executives provide clear direction for the future of the organisation	39	33	29	39%	+3	-10	-7
Employee voice	6e	My senior executives listen to employees	37	32	31	37%	+3	-7	-4

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Results by topic

Discover more about your results

### **Employee engagement**

Employee engagement is about a person's connection to their organisation. It is a global measure of employee experience.

Many factors influence engagement: leadership, a positive and inclusive work culture, wellbeing, manager support, accountability, and flexible work to name a few.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavo	ourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Employee engagement (total score)	*					57	+3	-7	-5
7i I am proud to tell others I wor	k for my organisation	55		28	17	55%	+4	-12	-9
7h I would recommend my organ	isation as a great place to	49	3	80	22	49%	+5	-11	-7
7j I feel a strong personal attach	nment to my organisation	48	3	0	22	48%	+3	-10	-10
7l My organisation inspires me t	o do the best in my job	43	33		25	43%	+4	-11	-8
7k My organisation motivates me	e to help it achieve its goals	43	33		25	43%	+4	-10	-7

<sup>\*</sup>The 'Additional information about the survey' section explains how the engagement score is calculated

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### Job satisfaction

Like employee engagement, job satisfaction is a global measure of employee experience. While employee engagement operates at the organisational level, job satisfaction operates at the job or role level.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavou	ırable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Job satisfaction (total score)					<b>65</b> %	+4	-5	-4
1h I am satisfied with my job	65		18	16	65%	+5	-2	-3
1g My job gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment	65		18	17	65%	+4	-8	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Wellbeing - overall

Wellbeing means feeling good, functioning well, and experiencing satisfaction and fulfilment in work and life.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfa	vourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Wellk	peing (total score)					54%	+4	-4	-5
7w	There are effective resources in my organisation to support employee wellbeing	57		21	22	57%	+4	-5	-8
1l	In general, my sense of wellbeing is	53		32	15	53%	+4	-4	-4
1i	The amount of stress in my job is manageable	53	2	23	24	53%	+4	-1	-1
7t	I am satisfied with current workplace practices to help me manage my wellbeing	51	2	2	27	51%	+5	-5	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Other wellbeing questions

Wellbeing means feeling good, functioning well, and experiencing satisfaction and fulfilment in work and life.

1m. Lam able to adent when abanges accur		2025	Difference from	Difference from	Difference from				
1m I am able to adapt when changes occur		% respondents	2024	Sector	Portfolio				
Strongly disagree		1%	0	0	0				
Disagree		2%	-1	0	0				
Neither agree nor disagree		10%	-2	+1	+1				
Agree		65%	-1	0	-1				
Strongly agree		22%	+4	-1	0				
1n What best describes your current workload?									
Well above capacity - too much work		15%	-	-6	-4				
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do		34%	_	-3	-1				
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do		39%	_	+5	+4				
Slightly below capacity - available for more work		11%	-	+4	+2				
Well below capacity - not enough work		2%	_	0	0				
1o I feel burned out by my work									
Strongly disagree		<b>7</b> %	+1	-1	-2				
Disagree		29%	+2	+1	-1				
Neither agree nor disagree		31%	+3	+2	+2				
Agree		24%	-2	-1	+1				
Strongly agree		9%	-3	-2	0				

# Other wellbeing questions

The World Health Organisation has defined burnout as a syndrome resulting from chronic workplace stress which has not been properly managed.

These questions relate to the three dimensions of burnout: exhaustion, cynicism and reduced professional efficacy.

1p I feel mentally exhausted by my work on most days	<b>2025</b> % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Strongly disagree	5%	0	-2	-2
Disagree	30%	+1	+2	0
Neither agree nor disagree	26%	0	+2	+1
Agree	29%	+1	+1	+2
Strongly agree	9%	-3	-3	-1
1q I am struggling to maintain enthusiasm for my work				
Strongly disagree	10%	+2	-1	-1
Disagree	32%	+1	-2	-3
Neither agree nor disagree	22%	0	-1	0
Agree	25%	0	+3	+3
Strongly agree	12%	-3	+1	+1
1r I feel I am not as effective in my role as I used to be				
Strongly disagree	13%	+2	-1	-2
Disagree	38%	+1	0	0
Neither agree nor disagree	22%	0	+1	+2
Agree	19%	0	0	+1
Strongly agree	9%	-2	0	0
% respondents who experienced all three dimensions of burnout	17%	-2	0	+1

#### **Customer service**

Customer means the people who you or your organisation provide a service to.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavo	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Custo	omer service (total score)					<b>53</b> %	+1	-12	-9
2c	My workgroup considers customer needs when planning our work	66		22	11	66%	+1	-12	-9
7g	My organisation meets the needs of the communities, people, and/or businesses of NSW	53		33	14	53%	+2	-11	-8
6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work	49	;	32	19	49%	+1	-13	-12
7f	The processes in my organisation are designed to support the best experience for customers	43	3	8	19	43%	+1	-13	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

### Role clarity and support

#### **Purpose and direction**

An employee has role clarity when they understand their goals, how to achieve these goals, and how the goals link to broader strategy.

Employees also need the right support to deliver what is expected in their role such as time to do their job well, tools and technology, and training.

	Favourable Neutra	Unfavourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Role clarity and support (total score)			<b>67</b> %	+4	-1	0
1a I understand what is expected of me to do well in my job	81	11 8	81%	+4	-3	-1
1c I have the tools and technology to do my job well	68	16 15	68%	+4	0	+1
1b I get the support I need to do my job well	60	19 21	60%	+5	-5	-3
1d I have the time to do my job well	57	20 22	57%	+3	+4	+3

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

### Job purpose and enrichment

#### **Purpose and direction**

In addition to role clarity and support, employees are likely to feel more satisfied with their job when there is a clear sense of purpose and when it is enriched with characteristics such as skill variety, autonomy, and feedback.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourab		<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Job p	urpose and enrichment (total score)					69%	+5	-4	-3
1e	My job gives me opportunities to use a variety of skills		76	14	10	76%	+3	-4	-3
1f	I have a choice in deciding how I carry out day to day work tasks		71		14	71%	+6	-1	-1
5h	My manager communicates how my role contributes to my organisation's purpose	60	0	22 18	8	60%	+5	-8	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### Risk and innovation

#### **Purpose and direction**

Risk refers to the effect of uncertainty in achieving work goals and organisational objectives. Workplace risks can have negative or positive effects on your objectives.

Innovation means creating new and better products, processes services, and technologies to improve outcomes for the people of NSW.

A healthy risk appetite can help foster innovation.

		Favourable Neutral		Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Risk a	and innovation (total score)				64%	+4	-6	-4
1k	I know how to manage risks related to my role	82		13	82%	+4	0	0
5a	My manager encourages people in my workgroup to keep improving the work they do	(	67	18 15	67%	+6	-7	-6
7a	My organisation is making improvements to meet future challenges	42	35	23	42%	0	-11	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### **Ethics and values**

#### **Purpose and direction**

Ethics refer to the standards for morally right and wrong conduct. Ethical behaviours means behaving in ways that are ethical, lawful, build trust, and demonstrate the sector's core values.

Values are beliefs that guide and motivate attitudes and actions. An organisation's values are a set of guiding beliefs upon which the organisation is based. They help people function together as one and shape the way employees should operate and achieve outcomes.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Ethic	s and values (total score)				<b>76</b> %	+3	-5	-5
7v	I am aware of my obligations under the Code of Ethics and Conduct in my organisation		94		94%	+3	-1	-1
7r	I understand what ethical behaviour means within my workplace		93		93%	+2	-1	-1
7s	I would know how to report unethical behaviour if I became aware of it		89	7	89%	+3	0	0
70	I support my organisation's values		84	13	84%	+3	-4	-4
7n	My organisation shows a commitment to ethical behaviours	52		24 23	52%	+2	-19	-15
6b	My senior executives model the values of my organisation	45	;	32 23	45%	+4	-8	-7

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### **Teamwork and collaboration**

#### Work environment

Delivering for the people of NSW requires agencies to work together and share knowledge internally and with other sectors.

Well executed collaboration enables agencies to share knowledge ideas, resources, skills, networks, and assets, leading to better outcomes for customers.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Team	work and collaboration (total score)				51%	+3	-10	-9
2a	My workgroup works collaboratively to achieve its goals	6	5	18 17	65%	+1	-11	-10
6c	My senior executives promote collaboration between my organisation and other organisations we work with	45	3!	5 20	45%	+4	-6	-7
7d	There is good co-operation between teams across my organisation	43	29	28	43%	+2	-13	-9

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# **Inclusion and diversity**

#### Work environment

An inclusive workplace is one where all employees can participate and contribute. It is one where everyone feels valued, accepted, and supported to thrive at work.

		Favourable Ne	eutral	Unfav	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Inclus	sion and diversity (total score)					<b>59</b> %	-	-12	-10
2b	People in my workgroup treat each other with respect	63		17	21	63%	+3	-15	-15
8c	I feel culturally safe at work	61		23	16	61%	+1	-15	-10
5i	My manager supports my career advancement	60		25	15	60%	-	-6	-6
8b	I feel that I belong in my organisation	56		28	16	56%	+2	-11	-8
8d	If I chose to, I would feel safe sharing personal aspects about myself at work	53	22	2	25	53%	+3	-15	-11

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Flexible working

#### Work environment

Flexible working is about rethinking where, when, and how people work, in ways that maintain or improve service delivery for the people of NSW.

	Favourable Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Flexible working (total score)			61%	+5	-4	-6
8h My manager supports flexible working in my team	62	23 15	62%	+6	-5	-8
How satisfied are you with your ability to access and use flexible working arrangements?	59	25 16	59%	+5	-2	-4

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Use of flexible working

#### Work environment

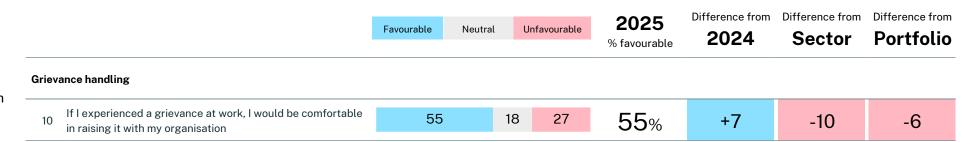
Flexible working is about rethinking where, when, and how people work, in ways that maintain or improve service delivery for the people of NSW.

8f Type of flexible working	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Flexible start and finish times	62%	+7	+18	+5
Working from home	49%	+10	+7	-5
I did not use any flexible working arrangements	27%	-7	-2	+2
Working from different locations	21%	+4	+1	-4
Working additional hours to make up for time off	17%	+2	0	+1
Working more hours over fewer days	11%	+2	+2	+1
Part-time work	<b>7</b> %	+2	-6	0
Flexible scheduling for rostered workers	5%	-1	-2	-2
Leave without pay	5%	+1	-4	0
Other	3%	0	0	0
Study leave	2%	0	-3	0
Purchasing annual leave	2%	0	0	0
Job sharing	1%	0	-2	0

#### **Grievance handling**

#### Work environment

A grievance is any type of problem, concern, dispute, or complaint related to work or the work environment which cannot be resolved through usual communication.



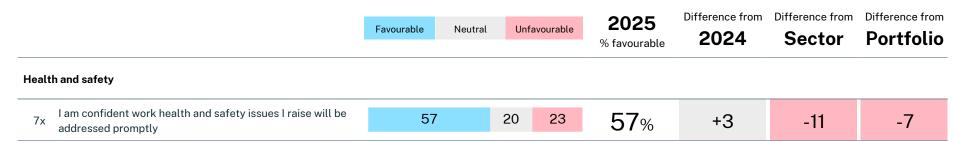
Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### Health and safety

#### Work environment

Work health and safety (WHS) involves the management of risks to the health and safety of everyone in your workplace. Health refers to both physical and psychological health.



Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

#### Recruitment

#### **Enabling practices**

Recruitment refers to the process of attracting, screening, and onboarding people.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Recruitment							
7u My organisation follows a merit-based process for recruitment and promotion decisions	35	25	40	35%	-	-15	-9

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Learning and development

#### **Enabling practices**

Access to learning and development programs helps employees achieve their performance and career goals. Learning and development also help agencies to grow the right employee capabilities to deliver business outcomes.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfav	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Learn	ing and development (total score)					<b>56</b> %	+3	-4	0
1j	I have the opportunity to develop the skills that I need to do my job well	64		19	17	64%	+4	-3	0
3f	I have received the training and development I need to do my job well	58		24	18	58%	+3	-5	0
3g	I am satisfied with the opportunities available for professional development in my organisation	45	23		32	45%	+2	-6	-1

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# **Mobility**

#### **Enabling practices**

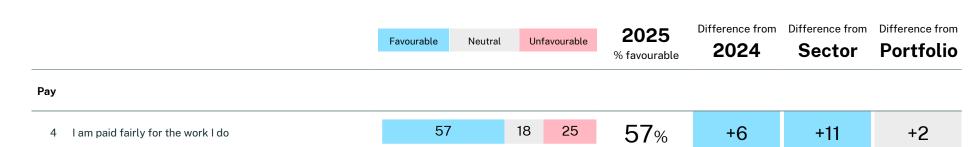
Having a mobile workforce makes it easier to redeploy resources to match priorities and respond to emerging issues.

Mobility is regarded as one of the best ways to develop leadership capability, provide enriching careers, and build and retain 'know how' in an organisation and the NSW public sector more broadly.

3h Are there barriers preventing you from moving to another role? If so, what are they?	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Geographic location considerations	40%	-1	+17	+9
Personal / family considerations	36%	-3	+8	+5
Lack of promotion opportunities	35%	+3	+2	+2
Lack of visible opportunities	33%	+2	+2	+2
The application / recruitment process is too cumbersome or time consuming	25%	0	+4	+1
Lack of support for temporary assignments / secondments	22%	+1	+7	+2
There are no major barriers to my career progression	22%	+1	-6	-3
Insufficient training and development	18%	0	+3	0
Lack of support from my manager / supervisor	17%	-2	+5	+3
Other	12%	+1	+2	+1
Lack of required capabilities or experience	11%	0	0	-1

People Matter Employee Survey HAVE YOUR SAY

# Pay Enabling practices



Difference from (percentage point)
+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Recognition

#### **Enabling practices**

Recognition involves recognising employees' contributions and achievements in the workplace through formal and informal channels.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Reco	gnition (total score)				<b>53</b> %	+6	-8	-6
5f	My manager provides recognition for the work I do	63		18 19	63%	+7	-8	-7
7m	I receive adequate recognition for my contributions from my organisation	43	27	30	43%	+6	-7	-5

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

# Feedback and performance management

#### **Enabling practices**

Underpinning a high performance culture is an effective system for managing individual, team, and organisational performance.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Feedl	pack and performance management (total score)				<b>50</b> %	-	-10	-6
3d	In the last 12 months, I have received feedback to help me improve my work	57	1	8 25	57%	+5	-7	-3
5g	I am confident my manager would appropriately deal with employees who perform poorly	49	21	30	49%	-	-12	-10
3e	My performance is assessed against clear criteria	44	30	26	44%	+2	-11	-4

Perfo	rmance management process	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
3a	I have a performance and development plan that sets out my individual goals	66%	+4	-10	+7
3b	I have informal feedback conversations with my manager	69%	+5	-11	-7
3c	I have scheduled feedback conversations with my manager	52%	+7	-15	-6

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

### **Decision making and accountability**

#### Leadership

Decision making is the process of making choices by identifying a decision, gathering information, and assessing alternative resolutions.

Accountability is one of the four core NSW public sector values. It is about taking responsibility for decisions and actions. Accountability can add meaning to work and foster engagement.

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Decision making and accountability (total score)				46%	+4	-14	-9
5e I have confidence in the decisions my manager makes	6	62		62%	+6	-9	-8
People in my organisation take responsibility for their own actions	30	31	40	30%	+3	-19	-11

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

People Matter Employee Survey HAVE YOUR SAY

# **Communication and change management**

#### Leadership

Effective communication is proactive and timely and focuses on the most important points. What do employees need to know and how does it affect them?

		Favourable	Neutr	ral	Jnfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Comr	nunication and change management (total score)					<b>45</b> %	+4	-9	-4
5b	My manager communicates effectively with me		67		16 17	67%	+7	-7	-6
7q	I have the opportunity to provide feedback on change processes that directly affect me	48		24	28	48%	+5	-8	-2
7р	I am supported through changes that affect my work	48		28	24	48%	+5	-8	-3
6a	My senior executives provide clear direction for the future of the organisation	39		33	29	39%	+3	-10	-7
7b	Change is managed well in my organisation	25	32		43	25%	+1	-11	-4

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

### **Employee voice**

### Leadership

Ensuring employees feel like they can share a different view to others and be heard shifts the employee-employer relationship from a transactional one to an effective, dynamic one.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfav	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Empl	oyee voice (total score)					<b>57</b> %	+5	-7	-5
5c	My manager encourages and values employee input	66	6	17	16	66%	+7	-9	-7
8a	I am comfortable sharing a different view to others in my organisation	62		18	20	62%	+3	-4	-3
5d	My manager involves my workgroup in decisions about our work	61		19	19	61%	+6	-8	-6
6e	My senior executives listen to employees	37	32		31	37%	+3	-7	-4

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

### Negative workplace behaviours

In NSW public sector, we are committed to reducing and preventing negative workplace behaviours such as misconduct, bullying, sexual harassment, threats or physical harm, discrimination, and racism.

In the last 12 months, have you	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
been aware of any misconduct in your organisation	27%	-4	+14	+9
witnessed bullying	32%	-3	+13	+12
experienced bullying	23%	-3	+11	+9
witnessed sexual harassment	<b>7</b> %	0	+4	+3
experienced sexual harassment	7%	-2	+3	+3
experienced threats or physical harm	3%	-10	0	+1
witnessed discrimination	16%	-5	+8	+7
experienced discrimination	11%	-7	+5	+4
witnessed racism	12%	-3	+6	+5
experienced racism	5%	-4	+2	+2

#### **Definitions**

- Misconduct: behaviour that is unethical, illegal, corrupt, or that breaches your organisation's code of conduct
- Bullying: repeated unreasonable behaviour directed towards a worker or group of workers
- Sexual harassment: unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature that would offend, humiliate or intimidate someone
- Discrimination: when a person, or a group of people, is treated less favourably than another person or group because of their background or certain personal characteristics
- Racism: prejudice, discrimination or hatred directed at someone because of their colour, ethnicity or national origin

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

### Action on survey results

### Leadership

To improve employee experience, leaders at all levels should take on board employee feedback and act on the survey results.

Employees can become disengaged if they are asked their opinion and then no action takes place as a result.

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Portfolio
Actio	n on survey results (total score)				28%	-	-7	-5
9b	I am confident my organisation will act on the results of this survey	31	33	36	31%	+1	-8	-5
9a	My organisation has made improvements based on the survey results from last year	26	44	30	26%	-	-5	-5

Difference from (percentage point)

+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

### Intention to stay

Intention to stay refers to an employee's desire and willingness to remain with their current organisation. Intention to stay can be influenced by many aspects of employee experience, including engagement.

Intention to stay is a leading indicator for turnover. However, intention doesn't always translate into action.

k How long do you think you will continue to work in your current organisation?	<b>2025</b> % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Less than 1 year	4%	-2	-3	-1
1 year to less than 2 years	6%	0	-3	-1
2 years to less than 5 years	16%	+1	-4	-2
5 years to less than 10 years	23%	-2	-2	-2
10 years to less than 20 years	29%	+3	+5	+3
More than 20 years	22%	0	+6	+4
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current organisation?				
I am planning to retire	20%	+4	+5	+7
I am applying for/intend to apply for new roles in another  NSW public sector organisation	37%	-1	+7	-1
I am applying for/intend to apply for roles in the private sector	14%	-4	-3	-3
I am applying for/intend to apply for new roles in the not for profit / community sector	4%	0	+1	-1
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	5%	+1	-4	-2
Other	22%	+1	-5	-1

### Intention to stay

Intention to stay refers to an employee's desire and willingness to remain with their current organisation. Intention to stay can be influenced by many aspects of employee experience, including engagement.

Intention to stay is a leading indicator for turnover. However, intention doesn't always translate into action.

21m What is the primary reason behind your desire to leave your current	organisation? (top 5 reasons)	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector	Portfolio
Senior leadership is of a poor quality		40%	+5	+15	+10
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my organisation		34%	+1	-1	-1
I am emotionally exhausted		23%	+1	+4	+1
I am not satisfied with the work		21%	-4	+4	+4
I have experienced unacceptable behaviours (such as bullying or harassment)		17%	+1	+9	+7

# **Communities and Justice questions**

	Favourable Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Communities and Justice questions					
I understand how my work links to the strategic outcomes in my organisation	73	19 7	73%	+3	-6
I am equipped to provide advice and service that helps empower the people to whom we deliver our services	70	21 8	70%	+3	-7
My manager is committed to, and supportive of, diverse workgroups	67	23 10	67%	+4	-10
Our workplace respects different cultures and adapts its services accordingly	67	24 10	67%	+4	-8
My manager communicates the importance of the people to whom we provide a service in achieving our objectives	65	23 11	65%	+4	-10
My manager demonstrates commitment to meeting the needs of employees with disability that require a workplace adjustment	61	31 8	61%	+4	-10
All things considered, I feel my organisation provides good support for my mental health and well-being	50	24 26	50%	+4	-10



# **Communities and Justice questions**

What is your role?	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Administration	13%	+1	0
Business Enabler (Legal, IT, Finance, HR, Procurement, Training & other corporate services)	1%	0	-8
Custodial Officer	30%	-10	+24
Youth Worker	r	-	-
Sheriff's Officer	r	-	_
Community Corrections Officer	24%	+7	+20
Caseworker - Child Protection & Permanency	r	-	-
Community Worker	0%	0	0
Caseworker - Helpline	r	-	-
Contact Centre Operator	r	-	-
Contact Centre Manager	r	-	-
Casework Support Worker	1%	0	0
Casework Specialist	1%	0	0

# **Communities and Justice questions**

What is your role?	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Portfolio</b>
Manager Child Protection & Permanency (inc Districts, OSP, CSSS)	r	-	-
Permanency Co-ordinator	r	-	-
Asset or Property Management	r	-	-
Client Liaison Officer / Client Service Officer (field and HCC)	r	_	-
Housing Manager / Housing Team Leader	r	-	_
Disability Case Manager	r	-	-
Registered Nurse / Enrolled Nurse / Assistant in Nursing (AIN)	r	-	-
Legal officer or other legal professional (Legal support,Paralegal)	r	_	_
Policy/Program/Project/Research Officer	4%	0	-3
Policy/Program/Project/Research Manager	1%	0	-1
Analyst	1%	0	-1
Analyst Manager	r	-	-
Psychologist	2%	0	+1

# **Communities and Justice questions**

What is your role?	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Portfolio
Teacher	1%	0	0
Senior Manager	3%	0	0
Senior Executive Band 1	1%	0	-1
Senior Executive Band 2 and 3	r	_	
Permanent Fire fighter	r	_	
Retained Fire fighter	r	_	_
Tradesperson (e.g. engineer, mechanic, technician)	2%	+1	+1
NSW SES Zone Commander/Deputy Zone Commander	r	_	
Guardian	r	-	-
Client Service Officer (EM and EP&A)	r	-	-
Other	15%	+1	0

## Results by child unit and demographic group

Discover if employees in different groups have different views

# Respondent profile

This section provides a snapshot of survey respondents. Use it to assess whether the respondent group reflects your broader organisation or team.

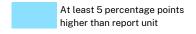
Gender	% respondents
Woman or female	49
Man or male	37
Non-binary	1
Use a different term	0.3
Prefer not to answer	14
Age	
15-34 years	19
35-54 years	43
55+ years	19
Prefer not to answer	19
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	_
Yes	6
No	79
Prefer not to answer	15
LOTE spoken at home	
Yes	17
No	72
Prefer not to answer	11
Cultural minority	
Yes	15
No	69
Prefer not to answer	17
Disability	
Yes	9
No	80
Prefer not to answer	12

LGBQA+	% respondents	Frontline / Non-frontline	% respondents
Yes	8	Frontline	36
No	72	Non-frontline	64
I don't know	0.4		
Prefer not to answer	20	Type of work	
Trans or gender diverse		Service delivery involving direct contact with the public	36
Yes	0.4	Other service delivery work	7
No	84	Administrative support	10
I don't know	1	Corporate services	1
Prefer not to answer	15	Policy	1
		Research	0.4
Person with an intersex variation		Program and project management	6
Yes	r	support	-
No	85	Legal	1
Prefer not to answer	r	Other	36
Working arrangement		Salary	
Full-time	93	\$97,026 and below	26
Part-time	7	\$97,027 - \$125,692	44
		\$125,693 - \$168,129	15
Caring responsibilities		\$168,130 and above	3
Yes	50	Prefer not to answer	12
No	38		
Prefer not to answer	12	Employment status	
•		Senior executive	2
Organisation tenure	_	Ongoing / permanent	91
Less than 1 year	8	Temporary	4
1 year to less than 2 years	6	Casual	1
2 years to less than 5 years	20	Contract-non-executive	0.4
5 years to less than 10 years	28	Labour hire	r
10 years to less than 20 years	21	Other	r
More than 20 years	17	Don't know	2

### Selected key topic results by child unit

This shows some key topic scores for the organisational units that sit one level below the report unit. These units are called child units.

	Report total	Commercial Management	Community, Industry & Capacity	CSNSW Executive & Support (Commissioner, Dep Com and Asst Co	Security & Custody	Strategy & Governance
Employee engagement	57	69	62	75	50	62
Wellbeing	54%	73%	59%	83%	44%	67%
Role clarity and support	67%	79%	70%	85%	59%	80%
Inclusion and diversity	59%	83%	67%	76%	46%	72%
Teamwork and collaboration	51%	71%	57%	72%	41%	63%
Learning and development	56%	62%	65%	61%	44%	66%
Communication and change management	45%	63%	54%	63%	34%	53%
Employee voice	57%	78%	63%	78%	46%	71%



Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

# Selected key topic results by select demographics

	Report total	Woman or female	Man or male	Non-binary	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	People with disability	People who identify as LGBTIQA+	People who speak a language other than English	15-34 years	35-54 years	55+ years	Caring responsibilities*	Cultural minority
Employee engagement	57	61	56	42	57	54	59	63	61	59	58	57	59
Wellbeing	54%	60%	54%	32%	51%	43%	53%	59%	59%	57%	57%	54%	55%
Role clarity and support	67%	72%	66%	43%	65%	59%	65%	73%	71%	70%	68%	67%	69%
Inclusion and diversity	59%	66%	57%	34%	56%	54%	61%	63%	68%	62%	57%	60%	58%
Teamwork and collaboration	51%	57%	50%	23%	50%	46%	53%	56%	57%	54%	51%	51%	53%
Learning and development	56%	64%	54%	28%	58%	48%	58%	61%	64%	59%	56%	57%	57%
Communication and change management	45%	52%	44%	23%	49%	39%	46%	54%	55%	48%	44%	46%	48%
Employee voice	57%	63%	56%	35%	59%	50%	59%	61%	65%	61%	55%	59%	58%

At least 5 percentage points higher than report unit

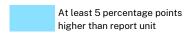
Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

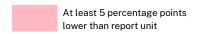
<sup>\*</sup> See interpretation guide for the definition of who is included in this group

# Selected key topic results by type of work

	Report total	Frontline	Non-frontline	Service delivery involving direct contact with the public	Other service delivery work	Administrative support	Corporate services	Policy	Research	Program and project management support	Legal (including developing and/or reviewing legislation)	Other
Employee engagement	57	57	57	57	57	67	62	61	54	61	61	53
Wellbeing	54%	54%	55%	54%	56%	70%	62%	72%	64%	68%	59%	47%
Role clarity and support	67%	66%	68%	66%	66%	82%	77%	79%	73%	80%	74%	61%
Inclusion and diversity	59%	62%	58%	62%	59%	72%	64%	71%	67%	73%	64%	50%
Teamwork and collaboration	51%	53%	51%	53%	52%	67%	62%	60%	47%	60%	61%	43%
Learning and development	56%	61%	55%	61%	53%	66%	55%	71%	41%	69%	57%	49%
Communication and change management	45%	48%	45%	48%	46%	63%	53%	53%	46%	49%	43%	38%
Employee voice	57%	59%	56%	59%	59%	69%	59%	76%	72%	71%	59%	49%

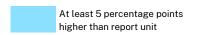


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit



# Selected key topic results by organisation tenure

	Report total	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to less than 5 years	5 years to less than 10 years	10 years to less than 20 years	More than 20 years
Employee engagement	57	72	67	60	54	53	54
Wellbeing	54%	78%	66%	56%	49%	51%	49%
Role clarity and support	67%	81%	75%	68%	65%	65%	64%
Inclusion and diversity	59%	77%	72%	61%	55%	55%	54%
Teamwork and collaboration	51%	70%	61%	53%	46%	49%	47%
Learning and development	56%	75%	64%	59%	53%	55%	52%
Communication and change management	45%	68%	59%	49%	41%	41%	40%
Employee voice	57%	74%	67%	58%	53%	56%	53%

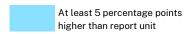


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

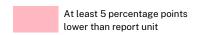
At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

# Selected key topic results by geographic region (continued)

	Report total	Metro	Regional	Sydney East	Sydney West	Capital Region	Central Coast	Central West	Coffs Harbour - Grafton	Far West and Orana	Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle
Employee engagement	57	60	55	61	59	58	67	47	59	55	53
Wellbeing	54%	58%	52%	62%	56%	60%	64%	41%	56%	49%	50%
Role clarity and support	67%	71%	64%	74%	70%	71%	70%	55%	67%	64%	62%
Inclusion and diversity	59%	65%	56%	69%	63%	59%	70%	51%	62%	50%	56%
Teamwork and collaboration	51%	56%	48%	58%	55%	54%	58%	38%	54%	46%	47%
Learning and development	56%	62%	54%	63%	61%	58%	73%	42%	59%	48%	53%
Communication and change management	45%	50%	43%	53%	48%	46%	65%	31%	40%	41%	41%
Employee voice	57%	63%	54%	67%	60%	58%	66%	45%	53%	54%	53%

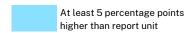


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit



# Selected key topic results by geographic region

	Report total	Illawarra	Mid North Coast	Murray	New England and North West	Newcastle and Lake Macquarie	Richmond - Tweed	Riverina	Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven	Outside of NSW
Employee engagement	57	58	58	r	53	59	66	58	52	r
Wellbeing	54%	53%	54%	r	44%	55%	59%	57%	52%	r
Role clarity and support	67%	64%	64%	r	62%	69%	66%	68%	64%	r
Inclusion and diversity	59%	64%	57%	r	46%	65%	61%	58%	52%	r
Teamwork and collaboration	51%	48%	49%	r	41%	49%	55%	53%	50%	r
Learning and development	56%	64%	57%	r	49%	68%	67%	58%	48%	r
Communication and change management	45%	50%	45%	r	41%	52%	50%	46%	41%	r
Employee voice	57%	63%	54%	r	55%	52%	64%	55%	52%	r



Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

# Additional information about the survey

Discover more about how the survey works and how to act on results

### Survey model

The People Matter Employee Survey provides an important opportunity for more than 400,000 people to have a say about their workplace and to help make the public sector a better place to work.

The survey asks employees about their experiences with their work, workgroup, managers, and organisation. Their experiences are grouped into management practices and reported under 4 domains:

- · Purpose and direction
- Work environment
- Enabling practices
- Leadership

All of these practices positively contribute towards employee and organisational outcomes, including employee engagement, job satisfaction, wellbeing, and customer service.

Purpose and direction	Work environment	Enabling practices	Leadership	Outcomes
Role clarity and support	Teamwork and collaboration	Recruitment	Decision making and accountability	Employee engagement
Job purpose and enrichment	Inclusion and diversity	Learning and development	Communication and change management	Job satisfaction
Risk and innovation	Flexible working	Pay	Employee voice	Wellbeing
Ethics and values	Grievance handling	Recognition	Action on survey results	Customer service
	Health and safety	Feedback and performance management		

### Interpretation guide

#### **Privacy**

Responses from individual employees are confidential. Strict rules protect privacy at every stage of the survey process. These reports only show the results for a group of employees (i.e. a workgroup or demographic group) when there are 10 or more responses for the group.

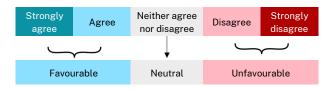
#### Headline Results - Key topics

Due to changes in the survey questions some topics do not have a comparison to the previous year. Where a comparison is available, the change is displayed in the box.

To improve clarity, survey questions that previously sat under multiple topics have now been assigned to a single, most relevant thematic topic. As a result, previous years' topic scores have been recalculated and may differ slightly from past reports.

#### % favourable calculation

Most scores are shown as % favourable, which is the sum of the 'strongly agree' and 'agree' percentages.



% favourable scores are colour coded based on these ranges:



#### Rounding

Results are presented as whole numbers for ease of reading. Values are rounded down if their first decimal number is less than 5. Values are rounded up if their first decimal number is equal to or greater than 5. Due to rounding, results will not always add up to 100%. Difference scores may appear to be slightly different to values derived from subtracting rounded numbers, usually within 1%.

#### Methodology - Burnout questions (disagree)

Burnout (disagree) questions are reported using a 5-point Likert scale from 'strongly disagree' to 'strongly agree'. For negatively framed questions, lower scores ('strongly disagree' and 'disagree') indicate more favourable responses (less burnout), while higher scores ('agree' and 'strongly agree') indicate less favourable scores (more burnout). To interpret the results, the further responses are towards 'strongly disagree', the less burnout is reported; the further towards 'strongly agree', the more burnout is reported.

#### **Employee engagement score calculation**

Each person who answered all five employee engagement questions gets an employee engagement score. Each answer is assigned a score as follows:

100 to 'strongly agree'

75 to 'agree'

50 to 'neither agree nor disagree'

25 to 'disagree'

0 to 'strongly disagree'

The employee's engagement score is calculated as the average of the 5 question scores. Employees' scores are then averaged to calculate a team or organisation engagement score.

#### Difference scores

Difference scores are displayed as a percentage point where available. Differences are colour coded based on these ranges:



A '-' represents there is no applicable comparison available.

**Sector**: The NSW public sector as a whole, including all NSW Government employees who participated in the survey.

**Portfolio:** NSW Government departments and organisations are grouped into 12 portfolios. See cover page for details.

### Interpretation guide

#### Key driver analysis

Key drivers are split into strengths (high correlation, high score) and priorities (high correlation, low score). We recommend looking for ways to maintain your strengths and improve your priority areas.

Experience tells us that a successful response to survey results requires focus on key priorities. The key driver analysis, which uses statistical techniques including Pearson's correlation analysis, identifies individual questions with the strongest influence on your employee engagement score.

#### Metro and Regional

The survey collects suburb and postcode data which is mapped to the Statistical Areas 4 (SA4) geographical from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) geographical framework. They are the largest sub-state regions in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard.

Metro includes all Sydney SA4s and is divided into Sydney East and Sydney West.

**Sydney East** includes Sydney - City and Inner South, Sydney - Eastern Suburbs, Sydney - Inner South West, Sydney - Inner West, Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby, Sydney - Northern Beaches, Sydney - Ryde and Sydney - Sutherland SA4s.

**Sydney West** includes Sydney – Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury, Sydney – Blacktown, Sydney – Outer South West, Sydney – Outer West and Blue Mountains, Sydney – Parramatta and Sydney – South West SA4s.

Regional includes Capital Region; Central Coast; Central West; Coffs Harbour–Grafton, Far West and Orana; Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle; Illawarra; Mid North Coast; Murray; New England and North West; Newcastle and Lake Macquarie; Richmond – Tweed; Riverina; and Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven SA4s.

#### Frontline and Non-frontline

Frontline roles are those where employees spend at least 70% of their time delivering services directly to members of the public. In the PMES, frontline and non-frontline status is determined by responses to the question: "Which of the following best describes the work you do?"

Frontline is defined as 'Service delivery involving direct contact with the public (e.g., teaching, nursing, policing, shopfront / counter service, train driver, customer service)'.

Non-frontline includes all other types of work:

- Other service delivery work (work that does not involve contact with the public, but it is critical to the delivery of a service, e.g., maintenance, technical support catering, cleaning, laundry)
- Administrative support (e.g., executive / personal assistant, receptionist)
- Corporate services (e.g., HR, finance, IT, ministerial or parliamentary processes)
- Policy
- Research
- Program and project management support
- Legal (including developing and/or reviewing legislation) or
- Other

#### Caring responsibilities

These are employees who selected at least one of the below options from the question; 'Do you have caring responsibilities outside of work?'

- Yes, for a child
- Yes, for a child who needs support due to disability, chronic illness, mental illness or other circumstances
- Yes, for an adult who needs support due to disability, chronic illness, mental illness, dementia, frail age or other circumstances

### **Action planning**

We are all responsible for building a world class public service. Improving employee experience is one way to work towards this goal.

**Survey communication and action planning:** Leaders are encouraged to share and discuss survey results with employees, and start thinking about actions using the template below. In addition to PMES results, you should consider work context and internal business data (e.g. turnover data). You should implement and monitor your plan, either on its own or as part of a broader organisational improvement strategy.

<b>T</b>	CELEBRATE	2	INVESTIGATE FURTHEF WITH OUR TEAMS	२	4	OPPORTUNITIES
The things we do well:			y other opportunities coming out o we want to explore further?	f the	Areas we need to	o focus on and turn into action plans:
Think about how we can build or what we are good at.	our strengths and learn from		investigate? Through looking at the data through discussions with staff?	a in in	What are the key th here better?	ings we need to improve to make working

PRIORITISE 3 AREAS FOR ACTION	TIMESCALES	OWNER	RESOURCES REQUIRED	TARGET / SUCCESS MEASURE
01.				
02.				
03.				