

Public Schools - Secondary schools

- Survey period: 18 August to 12 September 2025
- Completed surveys: 12,343







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# High level results

Discover key employee experience insights

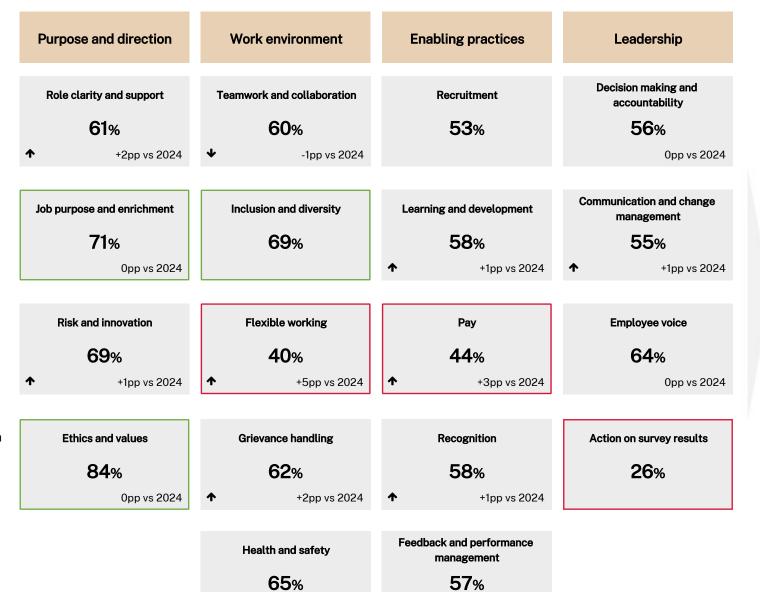
### Headline results for key topics

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

**Outcomes** 

**Employee engagement** 

63

Job satisfaction

67%

Wellbeing

45%

**Customer service** 

67%

+2 vs 2024

+2pp vs 2024

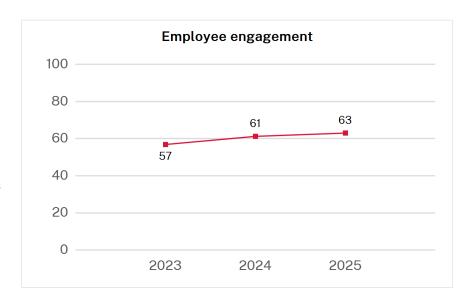
+2pp vs 2024

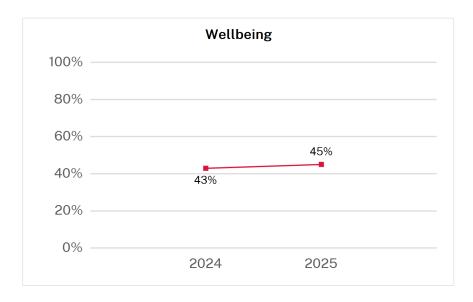
-2pp vs 2024

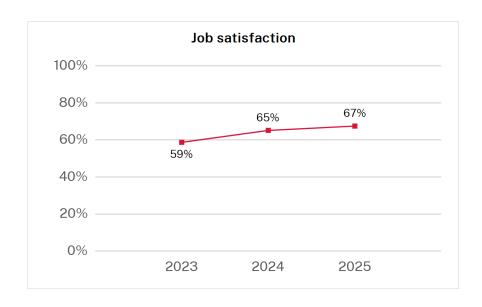
### Long-term trend

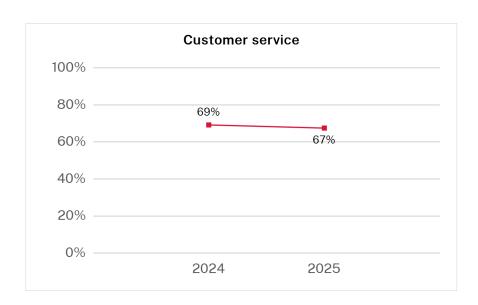
This page shows results for the past three years (2023-2025) for the key outcomes.

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 que	estions		<b>2025</b> % favourable	difference from <b>2024</b>
Flexible working	8h	My manager supports flexible working in my team	45%	+6
Flexible working	8g	How satisfied are you with your ability to access and use flexible working arrangements?	36%	+4
Role clarity and support	1d	I have the time to do my job well	34%	+3
Pay	4	I am paid fairly for the work I do	44%	+3
Learning and development	1j	I have the opportunity to develop the skills that I need to do my job well	62%	+3

Least improved qu	uestions		<b>2025</b> % favourable	difference from <b>2024</b>
Customer service	2c	My workgroup considers customer needs when planning our work	75%	-5
Teamwork and collaboration	2a	My workgroup works collaboratively to achieve its goals	<b>71</b> %	-3
Action on survey results	9b	I am confident my organisation will act on the results of this survey	31%	-3
Inclusion and diversity	2b	People in my workgroup treat each other with respect	<b>74</b> %	-2
Customer service	6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work	71%	-2

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 highest favourable scores				difference from <b>2024</b>
Ethics and values	7v	I am aware of my obligations under the Code of Ethics and Conduct in my organisation	97%	+1
Ethics and values	7r	I understand what ethical behaviour means within my workplace	95%	+1
Ethics and values	7s	I would know how to report unethical behaviour if I became aware of it	91%	0
Other wellbeing	1m	I am able to adapt when changes occur	86%	+1
Role clarity and support	1a	I understand what is expected of me to do well in my job	85%	+1

Questions with the	ne lowest	favourable scores	<b>2025</b> % favourable	difference from <b>2024</b>
Action on survey results	9a	My organisation has made improvements based on the survey results from last year	20%	-
Other wellbeing	1p	I feel mentally exhausted by my work on most days (disagree)	21%	0
Other wellbeing	10	I feel burned out by my work (disagree)	23%	+2
Action on survey results	9b	I am confident my organisation will act on the results of this survey	31%	-3
Role clarity and support	1d	I have the time to do my job well	34%	+3

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	Eng	agement key driver questions	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Action
Wellbeing	7t	I am satisfied with current workplace practices to help me manage my wellbeing	44	24	32	44%	
Communication and change management	7p	I am supported through changes that affect my work	52	2	7 21	<b>52</b> %	
Communication and change management	7b	Change is managed well in my organisation	41	30	28	41%	
Employee voice	6e	My senior executives listen to employees	54	2	1 24	54%	
Risk and innovation	7a	My organisation is making improvements to meet future challenges	57		26 17	<b>57</b> %	
Role clarity and support	1b	I get the support I need to do my job well	58	2	20 22	58%	

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	Ques	stions related to manager	Favourable Neutral	Unfavourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Risk and innovation	5а	My manager encourages people in my workgroup to keep improving the work they do	73	16 11	73%	0	-2
Employee voice	5c	My manager encourages and values employee input	72	15 13	<b>72</b> %	-1	-3
Communication and change management	5b	My manager communicates effectively with me	72	14 14	<b>72</b> %	-1	-2
Recognition	5f	My manager provides recognition for the work I do	68	17 15	68%	0	-3
Employee voice	5d	My manager involves my workgroup in decisions about our work	67	17 15	67%	-1	-2
Job purpose and enrichment	5h	My manager communicates how my role contributes to my organisation's purpose	65	20 15	65%	-1	-3
Inclusion and diversity	5i	My manager supports my career advancement	63	26 11	63%	-	-3
Flexible working	8h	My manager supports flexible working in my team	45	36 19	45%	+6	-23

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	Unfavo	urable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Customer service	6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work	71	18	11	<b>71</b> %	-2	+8
Ethics and values	6b	My senior executives model the values of my organisation	63	19	18	63%	+1	+10
Communication and change management	6a	My senior executives provide clear direction for the future of the organisation	60	22	18	60%	+1	+11
Teamwork and collaboration	6c	My senior executives promote collaboration between my organisation and other organisations we work with	58	26	16	58%	+2	+7
Employee voice	6e	My senior executives listen to employees	54	21	24	54%	+2	+11

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 Neutra	unfavourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Employee engagement (total score)*			63	+2	-1
7i I am proud to tell others I work for my organisation	65	23 12	65%	+2	-2
7j I feel a strong personal attachment to my organisation	63	23 14	63%	+2	+4
7h I would recommend my organisation as a great place to work	56	26 18	56%	+3	-4
7l My organisation inspires me to do the best in my job	51	29 19	51%	+3	-2
7k My organisation motivates me to help it achieve its goals	50	30 20	50%	+2	-2

<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	Unfavour	able	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Job satisfaction (total score)					<b>67</b> %	+2	-3
1g My job gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment		72	15	12	<b>72</b> %	+2	0
1h I am satisfied with my job	6	3	19	18	63%	+3	-5

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	Unfavourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Well	being (total score)				45%	+2	-12
7w	There are effective resources in my organisation to support employee wellbeing	50	24	27	50%	+2	-12
1l	In general, my sense of wellbeing is	49	3	34 17	49%	+1	-9
7t	I am satisfied with current workplace practices to help me manage my wellbeing	44	24	32	44%	+2	-12
1i	The amount of stress in my job is manageable	38	23	39	38%	+3	-16

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 I am able to adapt when changes occur	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Strongly disagree	1%	0	0
Disagree	2%	0	0
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	0	+1
Agree	65%	-2	0
Strongly agree	21%	+3	-2
1n What best describes your current workload?			
Well above capacity - too much work	30%	_	+10
Slightly above capacity - lots of work to do	40%	_	+4
At capacity - about the right amount of work to do	25%	<u>-</u>	-9
Slightly below capacity - available for more work	3%		-3
Well below capacity - not enough work	1%	<u>-</u>	-1
10 I feel burned out by my work			
Strongly disagree	4%	+1	-3
Disagree	19%	+1	-9
Neither agree nor disagree	25%	+4	-3
Agree	33%	-2	+8
Strongly agree	18%	-3	+7

## 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>
Strongly disagree	4%	0	-3
Disagree	17%	-1	-11
Neither agree nor disagree	20%	+2	-4
Agree	37%	0	+9
Strongly agree	21%	-2	+10
1q I am struggling to maintain enthusiasm for my work			
Strongly disagree	8%	+2	-2
Disagree	29%	0	-5
Neither agree nor disagree	23%	+2	0
Agree	26%	-2	+4
Strongly agree	14%	-2	+4
1r I feel I am not as effective in my role as I used to be			
Strongly disagree	10%	+1	-4
Disagree	30%	0	-7
Neither agree nor disagree	22%	+2	+1
Agree	24%	-1	+5
Strongly agree	13%	-2	+5
% respondents who experienced all three dimensions of burnout	26%	-3	+9

#### **Customer service**

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

		Favourable	Neutral	Unfavour	able	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Cust	omer service (total score)					<b>67</b> %	-2	+2
2c	My workgroup considers customer needs when planning our work		75	17	8	75%	-5	-3
6d	My senior executives communicate the importance of customers in our work		71	18	11	71%	-2	+8
7g	My organisation meets the needs of the communities, people, and/or businesses of NSW	6	55	26	10	65%	+1	+1
7f	The processes in my organisation are designed to support the best experience for customers	59	)	28	13	59%	0	+2

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 N	Neutral Unfa	avourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Role clarity and support (total score)				61%	+2	-7
1a I understand what is expected of me to do well in my job	8	5	9	85%	+1	+1
1c I have the tools and technology to do my job well	66	16	17	66%	+3	-2
1b   I get the support I need to do my job well	58	20	22	58%	+2	-7
1d I have the time to do my job well	34 2	20 4	6	34%	+3	-20

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	Unfavo	urable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Job p	ourpose and enrichment (total score)					<b>71</b> %	0	-3
1e	My job gives me opportunities to use a variety of skills		83		10 7	83%	0	+3
5h	My manager communicates how my role contributes to my organisation's purpose	6	5	20	15	65%	-1	-3
1f	I have a choice in deciding how I carry out day to day work tasks	6	4	19	17	64%	+2	-8

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	Unfavo	urable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Risk	and innovation (total score)					<b>69</b> %	+1	-1
1k	I know how to manage risks related to my role		76	1	6 8	76%	+2	-7
5a	My manager encourages people in my workgroup to keep improving the work they do		73	16	11	73%	0	-2
7a	My organisation is making improvements to meet future challenges	57		26	17	57%	+2	+4

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	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Ethics and values (total score)				84%	0	+2
7v I am aware of my obligations under the Code of Ethics and Cond organisation	luct in my	97		97%	+1	+2
7r I understand what ethical behaviour means within my workplace		95		95%	+1	+1
7s I would know how to report unethical behaviour if I became awar	re of it	91		91%	0	+3
7o I support my organisation's values		84	13	84%	0	-4
7n My organisation shows a commitment to ethical behaviours		72	17 11	72%	0	+1
6b My senior executives model the values of my organisation	6	3	19 18	63%	+1	+10

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	Unfav	ourable	<b>2025</b> % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Tean	nwork and collaboration (total score)					<b>60</b> %	-1	-1
2a	My workgroup works collaboratively to achieve its goals	7	1	16	13	71%	-3	-5
6c	My senior executives promote collaboration between my organisation and other organisations we work with	58		26	16	58%	+2	+7
7d	There is good co-operation between teams across my organisation	50		29	21	50%	-1	-5

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	Neutral	Unfavou	rable	2025 % favourable	Difference from 2024	Sector
Inclusion and diversity (total score)					69%	-	-2
8c I feel culturally safe at work		76	15	9	76%	+1	0
2b People in my workgroup treat each other with respect		74	13	13	74%	-2	-3
8b I feel that I belong in my organisation		67	20	13	67%	+1	0
8d If I chose to, I would feel safe sharing personal aspects about myself at work		67	18	15	67%	+1	-1
5i My manager supports my career advancement	6	3	26	11	63%	-	-3

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>
Flexible working (total score)				40%	+5	-24
8h My manager supports flexible working in my team	45	3	6 19	45%	+6	-23
How satisfied are you with your ability to access and use arrangements?	e flexible working 36	36	28	36%	+4	-25

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 2024	Sector
I did not use any flexible working arrangements	60%	0	+31
Leave without pay	16%	+1	+7
Part-time work	14%	+2	+1
Flexible start and finish times	11%	0	-33
Working additional hours to make up for time off	5%	-1	-12
Job sharing	5%	0	+1
Working from home	3%	0	-38
Other	3%	0	0
Working from different locations	2%	0	-18
Working more hours over fewer days	2%	0	-8
Purchasing annual leave	1%	0	0
Study leave	1%	0	-3
Flexible scheduling for rostered workers	1%	0	-6

### **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.



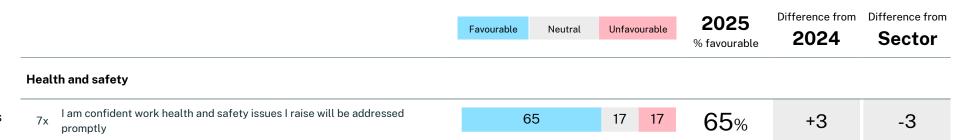
Difference from (percentage point)

+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)

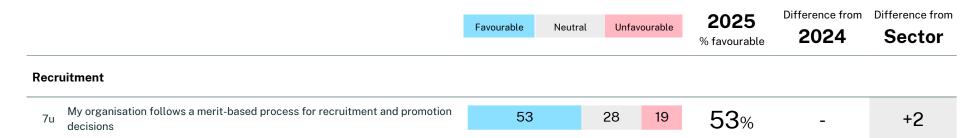
+5 or more +4 to -4 -5 or less

People Matter Employee Survey HAVE YOUR SAY

#### Recruitment

#### **Enabling practices**

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



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>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Learning and development (total score)					<b>58</b> %	+1	-2
1j I have the opportunity to develop the skills that I need to do my job well	62	2	19	19	62%	+3	-4
3f I have received the training and development I need to do my job well	60		24	16	60%	0	-3
I am satisfied with the opportunities available for professional development my organisation	in 52	;	22	26	52%	+1	+1

Difference from (percentage point)

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

## **Mobility**

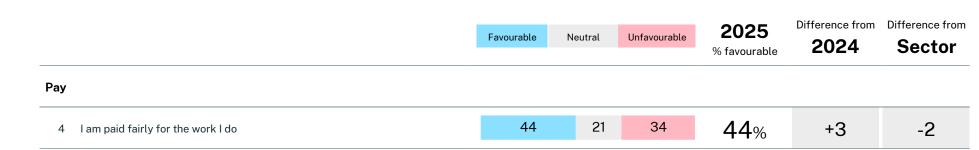
#### **Enabling practices**

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
Personal / family considerations	34%	-6	+7
Lack of visible opportunities	29%	-1	-2
Lack of promotion opportunities	29%	+4	-4
There are no major barriers to my career progression	26%	+1	-2
The application / recruitment process is too cumbersome or time consuming	25%	-2	+3
Geographic location considerations	23%	-8	+1
Insufficient training and development	14%	+1	-1
Lack of support from my manager / supervisor	13%	+2	+1
Other	12%	+1	+2
Lack of support for temporary assignments / secondments	11%	0	-4
Lack of required capabilities or experience	10%	0	-1

# 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	Unfavourabl	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Difference from <b>Sector</b>
Recognition (total score)				<b>58</b> %	+1	-3
5f My manager provides recognition for the work I do	(	8	17 15	68%	0	-3
7m I receive adequate recognition for my contributions from my organisation	47	26	<u>27</u>	47%	+1	-3

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	Unfav	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Feed	back and performance management (total score)					<b>57</b> %	-	-3
3d	In the last 12 months, I have received feedback to help me improve my work	63		20	17	63%	+1	-1
5g	I am confident my manager would appropriately deal with employees who perform poorly	58		20	22	58%	-	-4
3e	My performance is assessed against clear criteria	50		30	19	50%	0	-4

Performance management process	2025 % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
3a I have a performance and development plan that sets out my individual goal	89%	-1	+13
3b I have informal feedback conversations with my manager	84%	0	+4
3c I have scheduled feedback conversations with my manager	68%	+1	+1

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>	Sector
Decision making and accountability (total score)				56%	0	-4
5e I have confidence in the decisions my manager makes	(	88	17 14	68%	0	-3
7e People in my organisation take responsibility for their own actions	44	32	2 24	44%	0	-5

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	Neutral	Unfav	ourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Comi	munication and change management (total score)					55%	+1	+1
5b	My manager communicates effectively with me		72	14	1 14	<b>72</b> %	-1	-2
6a	My senior executives provide clear direction for the future of the organisation	60		22	18	60%	+1	+11
7p	I am supported through changes that affect my work	52		27	21	<b>52</b> %	+1	-4
7q	I have the opportunity to provide feedback on change processes that directly affect me	49		24	26	49%	+1	-7
7b	Change is managed well in my organisation	41	30	)	28	41%	+1	+6

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 Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>	Sector
Employee voice (total score)			64%	0	0
5c My manager encourages and values employee input	72	15 13	<b>72</b> %	-1	-3
5d My manager involves my workgroup in decisions about our work	67	17 15	67%	-1	-2
8a I am comfortable sharing a different view to others in my organisation	60	19 21	60%	-1	-6
6e My senior executives listen to employees	54	21 24	54%	+2	+11

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
been aware of any misconduct in your organisation	17%	0	+3
witnessed bullying	25%	0	+6
experienced bullying	16%	-1	+3
witnessed sexual harassment	5%	0	+3
experienced sexual harassment	8%	-1	+3
experienced threats or physical harm	7%	-12	+4
witnessed discrimination	12%	-4	+3
experienced discrimination	7%	-2	+1
witnessed racism	10%	-10	+4
experienced racism	3%	-2	+1

#### **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>
Actio	on on survey results (total score)				26%	-	-9
9b	I am confident my organisation will act on the results of this survey	31	38	31	31%	-3	-8
9a	My organisation has made improvements based on the survey results from last year	20	57	23	20%	-	-11

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>
Less than 1 year	5%	-1	-2
1 year to less than 2 years	8%	-1	-1
2 years to less than 5 years	19%	-2	0
5 years to less than 10 years	25%	+1	0
10 years to less than 20 years	25%	+2	+1
More than 20 years	17%	+1	+2
What best describes your plans involved with leaving your current organisation?			
I am planning to retire	24%	+4	+9
I am applying for/intend to apply for new roles in another NSW public sector organisation	20%	0	-10
I am applying for/intend to apply for roles in the private sector	24%	-3	+7
I am applying for/intend to apply for new roles in the not for profit / community sector	2%	0	-1
It is the end of my non-ongoing, casual or contracted employment	7%	-1	-2
Other	23%	+1	-4

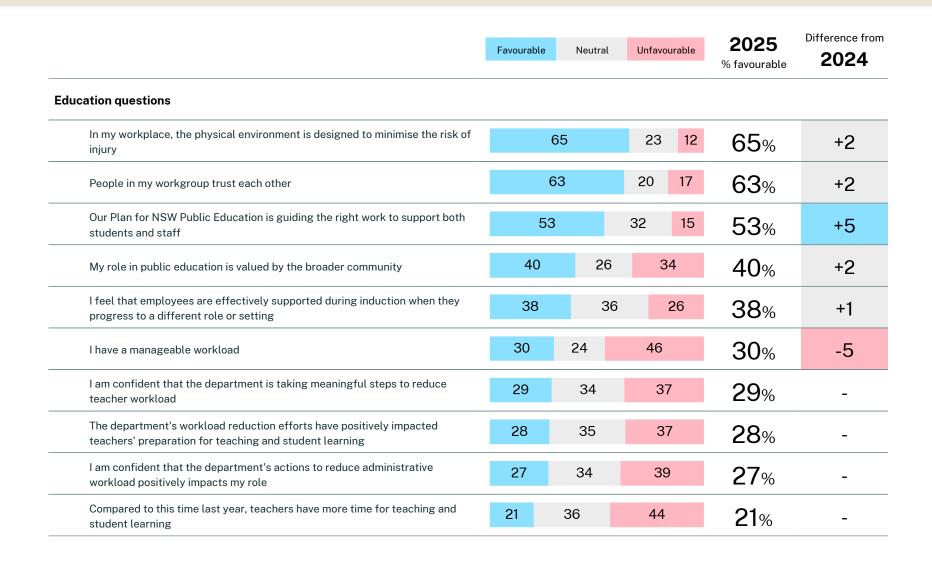
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Intention to stay is a leading indicator for turnover. However, intention doesn't always translate into action.

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
I am emotionally exhausted		31%	-3	+13
Senior leadership is of a poor quality		29%	+1	+4
I am expected to do more work than I reasonably can		27%	0	+9
The emotional demands of my work are too high		20%	-2	+11
There are a lack of future career opportunities in my organisation		19%	0	-16

### **Education questions**



Difference from (percentage point)

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

## **Education questions**

	Favourable	Neutral	Unfavourable	2025 % favourable	Difference from <b>2024</b>
Education questions					
Working in a remote location or in isolation negatively impacts my wellbeing (disagree)*	14	61	25	14%	0

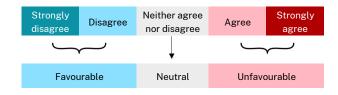
### Note on interpretation:

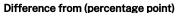
\*This question is negatively worded.

For consistency with other survey questions the results are displayed as follows:

The favourable score (blue bar) shows the % of respondents that did not feel their wellbeing was negatively impacted.

The unfavourable score (red bar) shows the % of respondents that did feel their wellbeing was negatively impacted.





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

## **Education questions**

hich category of staff are you?	2025 % respondents	Difference from 2024
Public Service Senior Executive (PSSE)	r	-
School Executive	19%	0
Teaching Staff	59%	+1
School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS)	17%	0
Other Non-Teaching Staff in Schools	4%	0
Education Support Staff (previously referred to as Corporate Staff)	r	-
his survey asks questions about Senior Executives. How do you define your Senior Executive?		
Secretary	5%	-
Group Deputy Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Chief People Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Executive	10%	-
Executive Director	9%	-
Director	10%	-
Director, Educational Leadership	20%	_

## **Education questions**

you been exposed to traumatic situations in the workplace? [Multiple Response]	<b>2025</b> % respondents	Difference from <b>2024</b>
Yes, experiencing, witnessing or investigating traumatic incidents (e.g. fatalities, injuries, abuse or neglect)	35%	+1
Yes, responding to emergencies or crises	27%	+1
Yes, providing support to others who have experienced a traumatic event	40%	+1
Yes, being exposed to distressing material	19%	0
No, I am not exposed to traumatic situations in the workplace	43%	+2

## Results by 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	64
Man or male	27
Non-binary	0.4
Use a different term	0.1
Prefer not to answer	9
Age	
15-34 years	21
35-54 years	45
55+ years	20
Prefer not to answer	13
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	
Yes	4
No	88
Prefer not to answer	9
LOTE spoken at home	
Yes	16
No	77
Prefer not to answer	7
Cultural minority	
Yes	13
No	75
Prefer not to answer	12
Disability	
Yes	9
No	84
Prefer not to answer	8

LGBQA+	% respondents	Frontline / Non-frontline	% respondents
Yes	6	Frontline	80
No	78	Non-frontline	20
l don't know	1		
Prefer not to answer	15	Type of work	
Trans or gender diverse		Service delivery involving direct contact with the public	80
Yes	1	Other service delivery work	1
No	88	Administrative support	9
I don't know	0.4	Corporate services	0.4
Prefer not to answer	11	Policy	ŗ
		Research	ŗ
Person with an intersex variation		Program and project management	r
Yes	0.1	support	•
No	89	Legal	r
Prefer not to answer	11	Other	9
Working arrangement		Salary	
Full-time	81	\$97,026 and below	29
Part-time	19	\$97,027 - \$125,692	35
		\$125,693 - \$168,129	21
Caring responsibilities		\$168,130 and above	4
Yes	51	Prefer not to answer	11
No	41		
Prefer not to answer	8	Employment status	
		Senior executive	6
Organisation tenure	_	Ongoing / permanent	70
Less than 1 year	7	Temporary	16
1 year to less than 2 years	7	Casual	3
2 years to less than 5 years	18	Contract-non-executive	3
5 years to less than 10 years	22	Labour hire	r
10 years to less than 20 years	25	Other	r
More than 20 years	22	Don't know	2

## 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	63	65	63	50	66	57	60	66	65	64	67	64	65
Wellbeing	45%	48%	45%	24%	48%	31%	34%	50%	45%	46%	54%	45%	47%
Role clarity and support	61%	64%	60%	47%	65%	51%	54%	66%	61%	61%	67%	61%	63%
Inclusion and diversity	69%	71%	73%	54%	65%	60%	66%	71%	77%	71%	70%	71%	69%
Teamwork and collaboration	60%	62%	63%	54%	58%	53%	58%	65%	63%	62%	64%	61%	63%
Learning and development	58%	61%	60%	47%	58%	49%	57%	64%	64%	59%	62%	58%	62%
Communication and change management	55%	57%	58%	38%	58%	45%	49%	63%	59%	57%	59%	56%	60%
Employee voice	64%	65%	69%	53%	64%	57%	63%	68%	70%	66%	66%	65%	66%

At least 5 percentage points higher than report unit

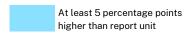
Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

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	63	62	67	62	60	69	71	r	r	r	r	65
Wellbeing	45%	41%	58%	41%	50%	65%	53%	r	r	r	r	52%
Role clarity and support	61%	58%	69%	58%	63%	75%	65%	r	r	r	r	65%
Inclusion and diversity	69%	70%	67%	70%	57%	70%	65%	r	r	r	r	66%
Teamwork and collaboration	60%	61%	59%	61%	49%	61%	56%	r	r	r	r	58%
Learning and development	58%	58%	59%	58%	44%	62%	41%	r	r	r	r	59%
Communication and change management	55%	54%	58%	54%	48%	61%	57%	r	r	r	r	56%
Employee voice	64%	65%	63%	65%	58%	65%	67%	r	r	r	r	61%

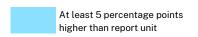


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

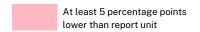
At least 5 percentage points lower than report unit

## 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	63	70	68	65	61	61	62
Wellbeing	45%	60%	55%	49%	41%	41%	43%
Role clarity and support	61%	73%	68%	63%	58%	57%	60%
Inclusion and diversity	69%	78%	75%	73%	68%	67%	68%
Teamwork and collaboration	60%	71%	66%	61%	56%	58%	62%
Learning and development	58%	67%	66%	62%	57%	55%	57%
Communication and change management	55%	69%	63%	58%	52%	52%	54%
Employee voice	64%	75%	71%	67%	62%	61%	64%

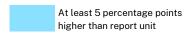


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit



## 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	63	64	62	64	64	60	67	62	62	62	61
Wellbeing	45%	46%	45%	45%	46%	38%	48%	43%	45%	46%	42%
Role clarity and support	61%	63%	59%	61%	64%	59%	61%	59%	57%	62%	59%
Inclusion and diversity	69%	71%	70%	71%	71%	67%	77%	66%	69%	65%	67%
Teamwork and collaboration	60%	63%	59%	61%	63%	55%	67%	55%	57%	57%	54%
Learning and development	58%	61%	57%	60%	62%	57%	60%	57%	50%	59%	58%
Communication and change management	55%	58%	54%	56%	59%	50%	62%	51%	51%	53%	50%
Employee voice	64%	66%	64%	65%	66%	63%	71%	60%	63%	66%	59%

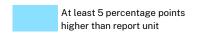


Within 5 percentage points of the report unit

At least 5 percentage points lower than 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	63	63	58	61	60	65	59	64	r	r
Wellbeing	45%	45%	41%	46%	43%	48%	38%	50%	r	r
Role clarity and support	61%	58%	56%	59%	58%	61%	55%	63%	r	r
Inclusion and diversity	69%	72%	67%	68%	63%	72%	63%	72%	r	r
Teamwork and collaboration	60%	62%	55%	54%	52%	63%	56%	60%	r	r
Learning and development	58%	59%	51%	55%	55%	59%	47%	59%	r	r
Communication and change management	55%	55%	48%	51%	47%	59%	49%	52%	r	r
Employee voice	64%	66%	60%	64%	59%	67%	59%	62%	r	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	Outcom	ies
Role clarity and support	Teamwork and collaboration	Recruitment	Decision making and accountability	Employe engagem	
Job purpose and enrichment	Inclusion and diversity	Learning and development	Communication and change management	Job satisfa	ection
Risk and innovation	Flexible working	Pay	Employee voice	Wellbei	ng
Ethics and values	Grievance handling	Recognition	Action on survey results	Customer s	ervice
	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.

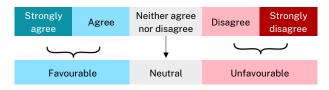
#### Headline Results - Key topics

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.

### 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>P</b>	CELEBRATE	2	INVESTIGATE FURTHER WITH OUR TEAMS		4	OPPORTUNITIES
The things we do wel	t:		any other opportunities coming out of the twe want to explore further?		Areas we need t	o focus on and turn into action plans:
				-		
				-		
Think about how we can l what we are good at.	build on our strengths and learn from		re investigate? Through looking at the data in in or through discussions with staff?		What are the key the here better?	nings we need to improve to make working

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