



Tabled by Mr Graham
1/16/23

STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICES REMUNERATION AMENDMENT BILL 2023 STATEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Need: Why is the policy needed based on factual evidence and stakeholder input?

The Statutory and Other Officers Remuneration Amendment Bill 2023 (**Bill**) amends the *Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Act 1975 (SOOR Act)*, and the regulations made under that Act, to freeze the pay of public sector executives, including judicial and non-judicial office holders.

The Government made a commitment to the people of NSW to implement this policy if it were to win the 2023 State election.

Objectives: What is the policy's objective couched in terms of the public interest?

The Government has uncovered approximately \$7 billion in hidden costs in the budget and there are likely to be further budget pressures that it is not yet aware of. The Government is committed to spending funds on essential workers and essential services and the savings achieved by an executive pay freeze will help fund this commitment. It is in the public interest that essential workers and essential services are adequately resourced.

Options: What alternative policies and mechanisms were considered in advance of the bill?

The Government considers that the policy is best implemented by legislative amendment.

Analysis: What were the pros/cons and benefits/costs of each option considered?

The savings achieved by the executive pay freeze will help fund the resourcing of critical essential workers providing essential services.

Pathway: What are the timetable and steps for the policy's rollout and who will administer it?

Once the Bill is assented to, the Bill will be taken to have commenced on the day that the Bill was introduced to the Parliament. The Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal will then be bound by the requirements in the *Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration (Judicial and Other Office Holders) Regulation 2013* and proposed *Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration (Executive Office Holders and Senior Executives) Regulation 2023* regarding freezing remuneration. The relevant sections of both regulations expire at the end of the day on 30 June 2025.

Consultation: Were the views of affected stakeholders sought and considered in making the policy?

The policy was taken by the Government to the State election in March 2023.