

Tabled by Ms Sharpe
GWB
Clerk of the Parliaments
19/10/2023

STATE INSURANCE AND CARE GOVERNANCE AMENDMENT (ICNSW GOVERNANCE) BILL 2023 STATEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST

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

The Bill addresses shortcomings in statutory provisions for governance of Insurance and Care NSW (icare) identified in multiple independent reviews, including a comprehensive review of icare undertaken by the Hon. Robert McDougall KC.

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

The Bill establishes statutory objectives for icare. This overcomes a shortcoming in the *State Insurance and Care Governance Act 2015*. The statutory objectives provide a clear statement of what icare should be seeking to achieve when undertaking its statutory functions. The objectives will assist the icare board when setting strategic policy and direction for the organisation and provide accountability measures to measure performance.

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

The Hon Robert McDougall considered a wide range of options for improving governance arrangements for icare, including the option of taking no action.

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

The option of taking no action would continue current arrangements where icare operates without a clear statement of organisational objectives.

The preferred option set out in the Bill provides statutory objectives which clarify what icare should be striving to achieve in undertaking its statutory functions. This option provides a clear direction to assist the icare board in setting policy and strategic directions. It establishes agreed accountability measures to judge organisational performance.

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

The Bill commences on assent and has no administrative requirement.

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

The Bill implements recommendations by the Hon Robert McDougall KC following a review process that involved extensive stakeholder consultation. This included public consultation through the Have You Say website.