



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND WORKS COMMITTEE

## MEDIA RELEASE

# PUBLIC HEARING: INQUIRY INTO NSW GOVERNMENT'S USE AND MANAGEMENT OF CONSULTING SERVICES

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**14 June 2023**

The Upper House Public Accountability and Works Committee will hold the first public hearing for its inquiry into the NSW Government's use and management of consulting services on 15 June 2023.

Committee Chair, Ms Abigail Boyd MLC, said: 'This inquiry is examining whether the NSW Government's use of private consulting firms has been appropriately transparent and accountable, and whether it has provided value for money for the people of New South Wales.'

'A performance audit report from the Auditor-General, released in March 2023, made some concerning findings about the engagement and use of consultants across several government agencies. It noted that different definitions and reporting requirements mean it is difficult to get a complete picture of spending on consultants across NSW government agencies. Questions were raised about whether agencies have a strategic approach to engaging consultants, and whether consultancies are appropriately monitored.'

'At this hearing, the committee will hear from the Auditor-General's office about the performance audit findings, as well as representatives of NSW Procurement about the NSW Government's procurement policy framework. We will also hear from representatives of NSW Health about use of consultants in the health sector, including by Local Health Districts.'

The committee is calling for public submissions until **17 July 2023**. The committee will hold further hearings in late June 2023 and release interim reports throughout the year. A final report is due on 31 May 2024.

The full hearing schedule and information about future hearings can be found using [this link](#). Further information about the inquiry, including the full terms of reference, is also available on the committee's [website](#).

*For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Abigail Boyd, on 9230 3676*

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