

Page	Transcript Quote	Correction if allowed/Answers
47	LAURA CHRISTIE: investment decisions made by government and ensure that these risks are being treated in a cohesive way. It is anticipated that the updated AI Assurance Framework will be released in late 2024.	It is anticipated that the AI Assurance Framework will be released in Mid 2024.
50	LAURA CHRISTIE: What I'm talking about is that our intention with the \$5 million is to embed that AI Assurance Framework in our overall assurance of ICT projects, which my team administers on behalf of Treasury. It's the gateway process for ICT investment. That threshold is set at \$5 million because it's kind of the appropriate level of kicking off an assurance—having the scrutiny on a project at that \$5 million level and anything funded by the DRF,	<p>The AI assurance framework use is mandated since March 2022 under circular DCS-2020-01.</p> <p>Projects greater than \$5m or DRF funded go through the NSW ICT Assurance framework. Digital NSW is working to integrate AI assurance into the NSW ICT assurance framework, which will ensure NSW Government increased visibility of its use.</p> <p>The framework still applies to projects less than \$5m or existing operational systems. Agencies have responsibility and accountability for applying the framework to these projects and systems. If after applying the framework and mitigation the risk level is rated mid-range or higher, the agency must submit their assessment to the NSW AI review committee for review and advice.</p>
50	LAURA CHRISTIE: March 2022, thank you. That applies to all New South Wales Government agencies. I couldn't talk to whether councils are using the AI Assurance Framework. But it is publicly available, so they could choose to consider the issues that it has raised as part of that.	The Framework is mandatory for NSW Government agencies when designing, developing, deploying, procuring, or using systems containing AI components. It is not mandatory for Councils however the Framework is publicly available and any organisation looking for guidance on AI usage may use the framework.
53	LAURA CHRISTIE: I would add to that. The Digital Restart Fund has recently released a series of priorities and called for projects to fund. One of those priority areas is AI to support frontline systems to reduce administration of frontline workers specifically, so that's currently being considered.	Clarification – one of the 5 new focus areas for the Digital Restart Fund is “automation to reduce impact on frontline staff”, which encompasses AI solutions.

Question on Notice:

Ms ABIGAIL BOYD: The example I've been giving today, because it disturbed me when I asked the police officials about this during budget estimates—there was a particular facial

recognition technology and an ADM that was using particular technology that was shown to have some racial bias in it in US examples. When I asked about it, they said that they hadn't done any bias testing. For the use of that, would that have just gone through a self-assessment process where the police decided that they were going to use that, and they ticked it off themselves as being not risky?

DCS suggests direct this question directly to NSW Police for response.