



NSW PARLIAMENT STRATEGIC PLAN
2019-2023

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Introduction

The Parliament of New South Wales comprises the Sovereign and two autonomous and distinct Houses: the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. By section 5 of the Constitution Act 1902, the Parliament has power to make laws for the peace, welfare, and good government of New South Wales in all cases whatsoever, subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act. Under the Westminster system, as adopted in New South Wales, the executive government is formed out of the members of the Parliament and is subject to the scrutiny and control of the Parliament according to a system of responsible government. Parliament performs these functions on behalf of the people of New South Wales.

The two Houses of the Parliament are supported by three operational departments: the Department of the Legislative Council, the Department of the Legislative Assembly and the Department of Parliamentary Services. The Departments of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly (the House Departments) provide procedural, analytical and administrative support to the respective Houses and their committees. The Department of Parliamentary Services provides a broad range of corporate and administrative support services to members, their staff and to the House Departments, as well as maintaining the 98 electorate offices across the state.

The departments have a common purpose: to provide the necessary services and support to the Houses to ensure that they can fulfil their constitutional roles as legislative and representative bodies while holding the executive government to account.

This Strategic Plan 2019-2023 provides an overview of the purpose of the NSW Parliament, the building blocks that create the preconditions for an effective Parliament, and the five priority areas that the parliament's administration will collectively focus on in the 57th Parliament of NSW.

The Plan is underpinned by strategic plans for each of the departments, a Masterplan that outlines the 10 year forward capital investment plan for the Parliament and a variety of operational and strategic planning documents focused on particular aspects of the Parliament's functions.

Purpose

The NSW Parliament serves the people of NSW through:

Parliament's Purpose:

1. Making of law
2. Holding the executive to account
3. Representation of electorates and broader constituency

Preconditions for an effective Parliament

- Strength and independence of the institution
- Understanding of the institution (civics education)
- Effective and efficient use of public money
- Productive stakeholder relationships
- Inter-parliamentary connection
- Fit for purpose facilities
- Contemporary and relevant business systems
- Expertise
 - Profession of the Clerk
 - Parliamentary administration

NSW Parliament Strategic Priorities 2019-2023

To enable the Parliament to fulfil its role, the three parliamentary departments provide services to ensure:

1. The effective functioning of the Parliament and its committees;
2. Members of Parliament are supported to fulfil their parliamentary roles; and
3. The community has access to Parliament and is aware of the role and functions of the Parliament.

Underpinning the provision of these services is a commitment by us to ensure the development of a workforce with the capacity to provide professional and high quality service to members, staff and other client groups.

Parliamentary staff take pride in serving the Parliament of New South Wales. We believe in the importance of parliamentary institutions and the democratic process and we work to strengthen and foster respect for them. We preserve the corporate memory and ensure continuity of the institution while innovating our services and service delivery. We work together to provide professional, accountable, responsive and impartial support.



Strategic Priorities of the 57th Parliament

A key driver of the Parliament's strategic priorities is to ensure Members of Parliament and staff are better able to respond to the needs of the NSW community. Throughout the 57th Parliament, the administration is committed to delivering the physical and digital assets essential to a modern parliament, developing the Parliament's engagement with NSW citizens and supporting members to serve the community.

Strategic Priorities 2019-2023	Examples of Joint Initiatives
Priority 1: Modernisation of the Parliament	Strengthened governance framework, procedural innovations plus supporting technology/infrastructure, digital transformation, audiovisual upgrades, integrated service delivery, customer service enhancement, contemporary systems and processes
Priority 2: Strengthening engagement with the public and enhanced trust in Parliament as an institution	Access to the institution, engagement models, institutional integrity initiatives, perceived independence of Parliament
Priority 3: Safeguarding the independence of a strong Parliament	Financial independence from the executive, asserting Parliament's powers, strengthening inter-parliament relationships and administrative collaboration
Priority 4: Support members in their evolving role as elected representatives	Skills development, integrity, wellbeing and security
Priority 5: Develop the capabilities of the Parliament's workforce	Leadership development, further development of profession-specific capability frameworks, adaptive roles, enhanced individualised development plans, succession planning and other workforce planning initiatives



Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
www.parliament.nsw.gov.au