

NSW AI Assessment Framework — A Mandatory 16-Question Risk Gate for Every State AI System, and What the Auditor Found

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Australia

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Since Circular DCS-2024-04, NSW agencies must apply a 16-question AI Assessment Framework, with high-risk systems going to an AI Review Committee. An August 2026 audit of 10 agencies found 13 of 15 projects assessed but wide governance gaps.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	2/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-09-29

NSW Department of Customer Service (Digital NSW); AI Review Committee — accessed 2026-09-29

Digital NSW — AI Assessment Framework — accessed 2026-09-29

NSW Circular DCS-2024-04 — accessed 2026-09-29

Information & Data Manager — audit coverage — accessed 2026-09-29

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