

NEW SOUTH WALES

CHARLES THE THIRD By the Grace of God King of Australia and His other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO

Mr Richard Beasley SC

GREETING

WHEREAS, by Letters Patent, made and issued in the name of His Majesty King Charles the Third by Our Governor of Our State of New South Wales under the authority of the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983* (NSW) with the advice of the Executive Council on 23 August 2023, We authorised you as sole Commissioner to inquire into and report to Our Governor of the said State on the matters set out therein,

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the Letters Patent of 23 August 2023 be altered and varied to amend the date by which you are to report under the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983* (NSW), to amend the terms of reference, and to apply sections 22 and 23 of that Act to and in respect of the Special Commission issued to you,

NOW THEREFORE, by these Our Letters Patent, made and issued in Our name by Our Governor on the advice of the Executive Council and under the authority of the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983* (NSW) and every other enabling power, We hereby alter and vary the Letters Patent of 23 August 2023 by

- a) removing the text at paragraph A and inserting instead “The funding models used to provide health services in NSW and whether they most effectively support the safe delivery of high quality, timely, equitable and accessible patient-centred care and health services to the people of NSW, now and into the future;”
- b) removing the text at paragraph B and inserting instead “The existing governance and accountability structure of NSW Health, including whether:
 - i. it provides the best balance between central oversight and locally devolved decision making (including the current operating model of Local Health Districts);
 - ii. local communities are appropriately engaged in health service development and delivery;
 - iii. the governance structures best support efficient implementation of state-wide reform programs;

ENTERED on the Record by me in Register of Patents No. 93 Page 430, this 21st day of February 2024.

THE CABINET OFFICE
SECRETARY



- iv. privatisation and outsourcing has adversely impacted on the delivery of health services and health outcomes to the people of NSW or otherwise;
 - v. governance structures support a sustainable workforce and delivery of high quality, timely, equitable and accessible patient-centred care to improve the health of the NSW population;”
- c) removing the text at paragraph C and inserting instead “Whether the funding models for health services or the way NSW Health funds health services delivered in public hospitals and community settings:
- i. incentivises the delivery of health services that provide the overall best health outcomes for the people of NSW;
 - ii. provides the best value for the costs incurred in providing such health services;
 - iii. best supports (and does not obstruct) access to preventive and community health initiatives that provide the best overall health outcomes;
 - iv. maintains a financially sustainable healthcare system;”
- d) removing the text at paragraph D and inserting instead “Whether the strategies of NSW Health that are in place or in the process of implementation best manage escalating costs, the limitation of wastage, minimise overservicing and appropriately identify gaps and improvements in financial accountability and efficiency;”
- e) removing the text at paragraph E and inserting instead “Whether the current procurement strategies and processes of NSW Health are appropriate and enhance support for operational decision making, service planning and delivery of quality and timely health care, including consideration of supply chain disruptions;”
- f) removing the text at paragraph F and inserting instead “The current capacity and capability of the NSW Health workforce to meet the current needs of patients and staff, and its sustainability to meet future demands and deliver efficient, equitable and effective health services, including inquiry into:
- i. the existing skills and distribution of health workers in NSW, including whether there are shortages of workers and particular skill sets in any locations;

- ii. the financial and non-financial factors impacting on the retention and attraction of staff;
 - iii. existing employment standards;
 - iv. the role and scope of workforce accreditation and registration;
 - v. the use of locums, Visiting Medical Officers, agency staff and other temporary staff arrangements;
 - vi. the relationship between NSW Health agencies and medical practitioners;
 - vii. whether there are opportunities for an expanded (or working to full) scope of practice for the health workforce including paramedics, pharmacists, community and allied health workers, nurses and midwives;
 - viii. the role of multi-disciplinary community health services in meeting current and future demand and reducing pressure on the hospital system;
 - ix. opportunities and quality of care outcomes in maintaining direct employment arrangements with health workers;”
- g) removing the words “section 24” in the paragraph commencing “AND pursuant to section 21 of the *Special Commissions of Inquiry Act 1983* (NSW)” and inserting instead the words “sections 22, 23 and 24”
- i. Omitting “24 August 2024” in the paragraph beginning “AND OUR further will” and inserting instead “26 March 2025”.

AND IT IS FURTHER DECLARED that these Letters Patent are to be read with the Letters Patent constituting your Commission.

IN WITNESS, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Public Seal of Our State to be hereunto affixed.



WITNESS Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley,
Companion of the Order of Australia, King's Counsel, Governor of the
State of New South Wales in the Commonwealth of Australia.

Dated this 21st day of February 2024.

Margaret Beazley
Governor

By Her Excellency's Command,

[Signature]
Premier