# Appendix two – Status of 2019 recommendations

## Recommendation

Agencies should re-visit the recommendations made in last year's report on internal controls and governance and action these recommendations.

### Recommendation

### **Current status**

# Gifts and benefits management

Agencies should:

- ensure their gifts and benefits register includes all key fields specified in the minimum standards, as well as performing regular reviews of the register to ensure completeness
- provide on-going training, awareness and support activities to employees, not just at induction
- establish an annual attestation process for senior management to attest compliance with gifts and benefits policies and procedures
- publish their gifts and benefits registers on their websites to demonstrate their commitment to a transparently ethical environment.

The progress of the implementation of the recommendations are outlined below:

- 13 of the 21 agencies have updated their gifts and benefits register to include all the key fields specified in the minimum standards.
- 7 of the nine agencies have implemented regular review of their gifts and benefits register to ensure compliance with the policy.
- 4 of the nine agencies have commenced providing training to employees.
- 15 of the 40 agencies have implemented an annual attestation process for senior management.
- 1 of the 38 agencies have published their gifts and benefits register on their website.

Agencies should regularly report to the agency executive or other governance committee on trends in the offer and acceptance of gifts and benefits.

Thirteen of the 22 agencies have addressed this recommendation.



## Recommendation

## **Current status**

## Internal audit

Agencies should ensure:

- the reporting lines for the CAE comply with the NSW Treasury policy, and the CAE does not report functionally or administratively to the finance function or other significant recipients of internal audit services
- the CAE's duties are compatible with preserving their independence and where threats to independence exist, safeguards are documented and approved.

All agencies have:



- implemented appropriate functional and administrative reporting lines for the CAE
- approved documented safeguards to ensure the CAE's independence is maintained.

Agencies should ensure there is a documented and operational Quality Assurance and Improvement Program for the internal audit function that covers both internal and external assessments.

Eight of the 14 agencies have addressed this recommendation.



Key



**Fully addressed** 



Partially addressed



Not addressed