



Actuaries Institute names Sarah Johnson Actuary of the Year 2016

29 September 2016

The Actuaries Institute today named Sarah Johnson 2016 Actuary of the Year in recognition of her innovative and pioneering work in establishing the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Sarah has been the Foundation Scheme Actuary of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) since its inception in 2013. As a critical contributor to the Executive Management Group of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), she reports directly to the CEO and the Board.

Sarah has led the development of an in-house actuarial and sustainability capability within the NDIA, which will expand to an annual expenditure of \$22 billion over the next three years, embedding the actuarial control cycle into day-to-day operations of the agency and overall governance.

The President of the Actuaries Institute, Lindsay Smartt, said: "The NDIS is one of the most important social initiatives in Australia since the introduction of Medicare. This award recognises Sarah's major contribution to the success of the NDIS and the introduction of actuarial techniques into a new area. In her pioneering work for the NDIS, Sarah has taken the actuarial profession into a new and exciting area of social policy."

Prior to taking up this role Sarah spent 10 years at PwC working closely with governments across Australia in the areas of disability and social policy.

She was instrumental in securing an additional \$2 billion in funding for disability in NSW under Stronger Together 2, an initiative of the NSW Department of Family and Community services. Through her work with the COAG Disability Investment Group and the Productivity Commission inquiry, Sarah helped lay the foundations for the establishment of the NDIS.

"Sarah has become, with distinction, the face of the actuarial profession in many public forums, highlighting the important role of our profession and skillset in this unique initiative and it's potential to contribute to broader social and economic decision-making," said Mr Smartt.

Sarah will be presented with the award at the Actuaries Institute Celebration and Networking Dinner being held in Sydney on Tuesday 29 November 2016.

Media Contacts

Ian Pemberton P&L Corporate Communications
m 0402 256 576

Matthew Russell P&L Corporate Communications
m 0419 805 838

About the Actuaries Institute

As the sole professional body for Members in Australia and overseas, the Actuaries Institute represents the interests of the profession to government, business and the community. Actuaries assess risks through long-term analyses, modelling and scenario planning across a wide range of business problems. This unrivalled expertise enables the profession to comment on a range of business-related issues including enterprise risk management and prudential regulation, retirement income policy, finance and investment, general insurance, life insurance and health financing.