

Measuring what matters

Attachment A: Measuring What Matters: Consultation Feedback form

Consult hub

Response received at:

25 May 2023, 8:39am

Response ID:

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1 Meeting Host Name

Sharee McCammon

2 Organisation (if individual please enter N/A)

Tasmanian Climate Collective

3 Email

[REDACTED]

4 Phone

[REDACTED]

5 Meeting host

Academic

6 Other

Not answered

7 Meeting date

22 May 2023

8 Meeting location

Virtual

- 9 Location/City/Town
Not answered
- 10 State
Not answered
- 11 Participants attending
Individuals
- 12 Other
Not answered
- 13 Number of participants
18
- 14 1. Did the five emerging policy themes Prosperous, Inclusive, Sustainable, Cohesive and Healthy resonate with meeting participants?
No
- 15 If not, why not (200 words)
While these categories were seen as important and relevant, participants were frustrated by the failure to recognise the interdependence of these policy themes. Sustainable underpins all others.
- 16 2. Which of the following themes are most important to you? (Select 3)
Inclusive: A society that shares opportunities and enables people to fully participate
Sustainable: A natural environment that is valued and sustainably managed in the face of a changing climate for current and future generations
Healthy: A society in which people feel well and are in good physical and mental health now and into the future
- 17 3. Which themes or descriptions were most frequently discussed?
(Select 3)
Sustainable: A natural environment that is valued and sustainably managed in the face of

a changing climate for current and future generations

Healthy: A society in which people feel well and are in good physical and mental health now and into the future

Cohesive: A safe and cohesive society that celebrates culture and encourages participation

18 4. What do you see as the most important issues for future wellbeing? Are these captured by the emerging policy themes?

Issues of sustainability were the most important to most participants. In particular, “A healthy natural environment for current and future generations, protected from the damage being caused by climate change.” was the most popular measure highlighted by 12 of the 18 participants. Also important to many people is “A society that allows all people to afford life’s essentials.”

Other important issues were:

- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Value natural environment
- Support diversity and equality
- Trust in government (eg. Participants were universally pessimistic about the ability of this survey to improve any outcomes)
- Participation in democracy
- Closing the Gap
- Climate Resilience
- Good mental and physical health

These issues are partly captured by the 5 policy themes. One issue that doesn’t appear to be captured is discussion on the importance of good democratic processes.

19 5. How might the descriptions be amended to best reflect our priorities?

Participants quickly moved past concerns about the 5 policy themes to concerns about poor democratic processes that work against measuring what matters. These include state capture, corporate lobbying, stronger ICAC, lack of media diversity and political donation law reform. The group felt that the descriptions should include improvements in democratic processes if any of these measures are to be successful.

The descriptions also need to have the explicit aim for a sustainable climate and environment, as well as an equitable and diverse society. Anything less will fail the current and future Australian population.

20 6. Are there any indicators and existing data sources that will be critical

to inform the emerging policy themes?

Participants want to see climate and environment indicators embedded into all policy and decision making at all levels of government and public service. We support the use of the following indicators in this endeavour:

- Domestic GHG emissions in real time (excluding offsets)
- GHG emissions of Australian exports in real time (excluding offsets)
- Atmospheric GHG concentrations
- Domestic GHG sequestration
- Public subsidies to GHG emitting industries and activities
- Political donations declarations in real time
- Publication of ministers diaries, listing meetings with lobbyists
- Energy efficiency targets
- Severity and exposure to natural disasters measures
- Natural disaster preparedness measures
- Land clearing rates
- Reforestation rates
- A range of meaningful health measures, as recommended by the Climate and Health Alliance in their submission.

21 7. Is there any additional information you would like to see in the Measuring What Matters Statement? If so, please outline.

The omission of housing (as a basic right) in the policy themes is unfortunate.

We would also like to see the concept of a circular economy included.

The importance of improved democratic processes is underestimated.

Sustainability must be a core consideration of the necessary transition to a low carbon society. We cannot allow the switch to renewables cause further environmental damage.