

# Measuring what matters

## Attachment A: Measuring What Matters: Consultation Feedback form

Consult hub

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Response received at:

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1 Meeting Host Name

Tasmanian Public Health Research and Action Coalition

2 Organisation (if individual please enter N/A)

Menzies Institute Of Medical Research

3 Email

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4 Phone

[REDACTED]

5 Meeting host

Academic

6 Other

Not answered

7 Meeting date

23 May 2023

8 Meeting location

Virtual

- 9 Location/City/Town  
Not answered
- 10 State  
Not answered
- 11 Participants attending  
Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
- 12 Other  
Policy makers and academics
- 13 Number of participants  
15
- 14 1. Did the five emerging policy themes Prosperous, Inclusive, Sustainable, Cohesive and Healthy resonate with meeting participants?  
Yes
- 15 If not, why not (200 words)  
Not answered
- 16 2. Which of the following themes are most important to you? (Select 3)  
Healthy: A society in which people feel well and are in good physical and mental health now and into the future  
Sustainable: A natural environment that is valued and sustainably managed in the face of a changing climate for current and future generations  
Inclusive: A society that shares opportunities and enables people to fully participate
- 17 3. Which themes or descriptions were most frequently discussed?  
(Select 3)  
Healthy: A society in which people feel well and are in good physical and mental health now and into the future  
Sustainable: A natural environment that is valued and sustainably managed in the face of

a changing climate for current and future generations  
Prosperous: A growing, productive and resilient economy

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

The key themes do capture the important ways to measure wellbeing. We would like the descriptions to be more active than passive. We have provided examples in the next question.

It is important to acknowledge that our health and wellbeing is determined by a multitude of influences – it is not only individual choices so theme descriptions that heavily burden individuals should be avoided. Many of the factors that impact our health lie outside of the health system, for example. To address the root determinants of our wellbeing outcomes means we need to collaborate widely and take action across sectors, the final indicators should reflect this.

We know there is a close relationship between people's wellbeing and the environments in which they live, work and play. Systems thinking is an approach to solving problems that views 'problems' as part of a wider and dynamic system. It is the process of understanding how things influence one another as part of a whole. It is important to recognise the many interdependent systems that directly and indirectly impact on our health and wellbeing, including individuals, communities, food systems, traffic and urban planning, education, the natural environment and workplaces. The government adopting a systems approach will help to consider how these wider systems interact to impact our health and wellbeing, including through the proposed themes and descriptions.

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

Our proposed amendments to the themes and descriptions are to move from a passive to active voice, acknowledge the wider determinants of health and increase the inclusiveness.

Sustainable – a healthy natural environment and stable climate for current and future generations

A healthy natural environment for current and future generations, where the damage caused by climate change and human impacts is prevented and mitigated.

A society that inherently values our natural environment

A society and economy that is resilient

A society that values planetary health which enables human health

Healthy

A society that ensures the health and development of its children and young people.

A society that values the contributions of all people regardless of health, age, gender or ability.

Add - A society where the physical and mental health of all people across the life course are supported through care and sustainable systems that respond to their needs

Add - A society where people live in regions, towns, suburbs, and/or neighbourhoods that support their health and wellbeing

Prosperous – a sustainable, productive and resilient economy

An economy that equitably provides for Australians enabling all people to fully participate

An economy that is resilient and protects against shocks

An economy that provides access to the necessary services and amenities for Australian's health and wellbeing

An economy that delivers net zero emissions

People are financially secure and have autonomy over their own resources

Inclusive

A society that provides people with secure, well-paying and fulfilling work

A society that celebrates, respects and supports equality, diversity and equity including at school, work and in the community.

A society that welcomes people from across the world

Delete : a society that supports social and economic accessibility and intergenerational mobility

Cohesive

A society where the gap is closed for First Nations people

A society that supports and values engagement and connection in the community through volunteering or other means

## 20 6. Are there any indicators and existing data sources that will be critical to inform the emerging policy themes?

Indicators-

There are two key ABS surveys, the National Health Survey and the General Social Survey, which capture many of the descriptors within the themes. These surveys capture the social determinants of health and important measures such as social connection, for example. A commitment to regular data collection and good data dissemination to all levels of government is key to tracking change and progress over time.

Data gaps – currently there is insufficient regular measuring of the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events across Australia. Tools such as the Australian Disaster Resilience Index can monitor and identify vulnerable places and communities.

The Index rates the resources and abilities to prepare for, absorb and recover from natural hazards (Coping Capacity), or that enable learning, adaptation and problem

solving (Adaptive Capacity).  
<https://adri.bnhcrc.com.au/#!/about>

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

To move beyond the economics only paradigm of measuring our progress in Australia we propose that decisions of policy makers also be informed by social and health impact assessments rather than only business cases. Decisions should also be evidence based.

Policy making goals should be SMART

- Specific (simple, sensible, significant).
- Measurable (meaningful, motivating).
- Achievable (agreed, attainable).
- Relevant (reasonable, realistic and resourced, results-based).
- Time bound (time-based, time limited, time/cost limited, timely, time-sensitive).

Adopting a set of principles which clearly outline the ways of working the government will use to deliver against the indicators selected for the Measuring What Matters framework would be extremely valuable.