

# 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

Melbourne Global Shapers Hub

2 Organisation (if individual please enter N/A)

Melbourne Global Shapers Hub

3 Email

melbourne@globalshapers.org.au

4 Phone

[REDACTED]

5 Meeting host

Community group

6 Other

Not answered

7 Meeting date

25 May 2023

8 Meeting location

Virtual

- 9 Location/City/Town  
Not answered
- 10 State  
Not answered
- 11 Participants attending  
Member of a community organisation
- 12 Other  
Not answered
- 13 Number of participants  
5
- 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)  
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)  
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

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

We have identified five paramount issues that are crucial for our well-being and the future we aspire to create.

First and foremost, reducing income inequality and maintaining social mobility are fundamental concerns. Our community strongly believes in bridging the gap between different socioeconomic classes, ensuring equal opportunities for upward mobility, and fostering a society where everyone can thrive and prosper.

Access to an equitable healthcare system is another significant priority. We advocate for a healthcare system that is accessible and affordable for all individuals, regardless of their background or income. It is essential to eliminate disparities in healthcare and ensure that everyone has the opportunity to receive high-quality, age-appropriate care and support. Taking robust action on climate change and protecting our unique biodiversity are also critical issues we deeply care about. We recognise the urgent need to address climate change and its potential consequences. Our community is committed to promoting sustainable practices, safeguarding our environment, and preserving biodiversity for future generations.

The maintenance of social safety nets, including all welfare payments, is of utmost importance. We understand the significance of providing a safety net for individuals, ensuring that basic needs are met, and creating a society where everyone feels secure and supported.

Transparency, trust in government, and pathways for civic participation are integral aspects of our well-being. We emphasise the need for governance systems that are transparent, accountable, and foster trust among citizens. Additionally, empowering individuals to actively engage in decision-making processes and shaping policies that reflect their needs and aspirations is vital to fostering an inclusive and participatory society.

These five issues encompass our core concerns for well-being, reflecting our commitment to creating a society that is equitable, sustainable, socially responsible, and actively engaged in shaping a better future for all.

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

We suggest amending the themes as follows:

Instead of "Prosperous," a theme that focuses more strongly on equity, such as "Egalitarian," would better capture our values and aspirations for a fair and just society.

Under the theme of "Cohesive," it is crucial to include language that acknowledges the systemic injustice and barriers faced by First Nations People. This can be achieved by emphasising "A society that is Closing the Gap and values First Nations culture."

In order to align with our sustainability goals, it is recommended to remove the word "growing" from the theme "Prosperous." Shifting towards a "de-growth" model would better reflect our commitment to achieving true sustainability.

Additionally, it is important to consider a measure for civil liberties, political freedom, and democracy as part of our policy development. Including a theme or aspect that explicitly addresses these principles would provide a comprehensive framework for decision-makers.

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

We recommend engaging independent peak bodies, non-profit organisations (NFPs), community organisations, and think tanks that have access to on-the-ground data. These entities are well-positioned to provide firsthand knowledge and comprehensive perspectives on the issues at hand.

When focusing on adolescent well-being, it is essential to develop a definition and conceptual framework that guides the measurement and assessment of relevant indicators. By incorporating inputs from experts in the field and leveraging existing research, we can establish a robust framework to capture and monitor the well-being of adolescents accurately. See Adolescent Well-Being: A Definition and Conceptual Framework

In terms of social cohesion, the Scanlon Foundation annual Mapping Social Cohesion report holds significant value. This report serves as a critical data source that provides insights into the state of social cohesion within the community.

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

Firstly, emphasising housing affordability would acknowledge its significant impact on overall well-being and the far-reaching effects on various well-being measures. This

recognition takes into account the challenges individuals face in accessing affordable and suitable housing, which can have profound implications for their quality of life.

Secondly, addressing technology, data privacy, and the digital divide is crucial in our increasingly digital society. This entails supporting digital literacy, regulating data management for public safety, and bridging the gap in access to digital resources.

Furthermore, recognising the vulnerability of young people, particularly those in culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, is vital. Ensuring that these individuals have equal opportunities to access the same standard of living despite the rising cost of living should be a priority in measuring well-being. Incorporating this perspective acknowledges the importance of social equity and provides a more comprehensive understanding of the well-being challenges faced by CALD youth.