

Attachment A: Measuring What Matters: Consultation Feedback form

To be completed by meeting host after each meeting and returned to measuringwhatmatters@treasury.gov.au by 26 May 2023.

Meeting details

Meeting host name/ organisation: Professor Lisa Gibbs, University of Melbourne

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Meeting host

- ☐ Member of Parliament
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ Non-government organisation
- ☐ Business
- ☒ Academic
- ☐ Community group
- ☐ Individual
- ☐ Other Click or tap here to enter text.

Meeting date: 4/05/2023

Meeting location: University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria

Participants attending:

- ☒ Member of a community organisation
- ☐ Businesses
- ☒ Academics
- ☐ Union members
- ☒ Individuals
- ☒ Other Participants in Beyond Disasters Workshop representing: government (Commonwealth & State) health, emergency management and disaster resilience agencies; non-government community support and resilience agencies; mental health clinicians; mental health practitioner training provider; creative arts organisation; academics (public health, psychology, Indigenous, and creative arts studies)

Number of participants: 27

What matters to Australians?

1. Did the five emerging policy themes Prosperous, Inclusive, Sustainable, Cohesive and Healthy resonate with meeting participants?

☐ Yes ☒ No if not, why not: While we recognise that prosperity is important for wellbeing, placing prosperous as the first theme seems to make a mockery of the intent to establish new social and environmental indicators of wellbeing to complement traditional economic indicators.

2. Which of the following themes are most important to you? (Select three)

☐ **Prosperous:**

A growing, productive and resilient economy

☐ **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

☐ **Cohesive:**

A safe and cohesive society that celebrates culture and encourages participation

☐ **Healthy:**

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

3. Which themes or descriptions were most frequently discussed? (Select three)

☐ **Prosperous:**

A growing, productive and resilient economy

☐ **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

☐ **Cohesive:**

A safe and cohesive society that celebrates culture and encourages participation

☐ **Healthy:**

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

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

Prosperous: We are concerned that there is too much emphasis on economic indicators/prosperity (as the first theme and first 4 dot points of the inclusivity indicators) for wellbeing indicators that are meant to be complementary to economic indicators.

Missing:

Identity and belonging

Biodiversity

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

Prosperous: We suggest using the phrase ‘people living in Australia’ rather than ‘Australians’ because citizenship should not be a requirement for opportunities and inclusivity.

Inclusive: The phrasing about access to secure, well-paying jobs is problematic when not all people living in Australia are legally allowed to work.

Not everyone participates in the economy by doing paid work – the indicator will need to include caring and volunteer roles.

‘A society that supports diversity and equity’ - could be strengthened by including terms like celebrate diversity and equity (rather than seeing diversity as othered)

There are some groups mentioned in the inclusivity theme and others not mentioned (e.g. disability), perhaps include equality in relation to gender, disability, sexuality, age, class, cultural background, religion. OR just acknowledge multiple forms of diversity and intersectionality. It is very important to acknowledge intersectionality.

Add a new dot point – ‘A society that helps people affected by hardship.’

Sustainable: We have serious concerns about the wording in the ‘Sustainable’ theme and suggest you review previous feedback or get new feedback from experts in climate change and biodiversity.

A net zero goal may contradict the prosperous goal of a growing economy.

Cohesive: reconsider wording of “A society that is Closing the Gap and values First Nations culture” It should be more comprehensive, e.g. values First Nations peoples and culture, and should be reflective of contemporary discussions re The Voice.

The onus seems to be on individuals rather than on the role of government, businesses and processes.

This sentence does not make any sense – “A society that has close relationships with family and friends.” Do you mean “A society where people have close relationships with family and friends.”?

Rather than “A government is trusted by the public” it should be “A government that is considered trustworthy by the public.” This would signify that the government has earned that trust and there is

not the expectation of blind trust. What about institutions beyond government such as police, courts, scientific communities, financial institutions etc?

The wording in the Cohesive section needs to allow for diversity and not imply sameness.

Health: not everyone will be in good physical health or mental health and so we need to refer to access to appropriate health services and supports. Include healing as a concept. There will be moments where there will be trauma and poorer health, in those cases access to healing or health promoting environments is needed.

We suggest using the WHO definition of health, which is more inclusive than the dot points used here and extends beyond absence of disease/disability. This will allow more nuance, acknowledging there isn't a binary between good health and bad health.

Need to include the social determinants of health.

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

Using existing surveys:

HILDA (<https://melbourneinstitute.unimelb.edu.au/hilda>) - including subjective wellbeing

Household Census

National Health Survey

Regional Wellbeing Survey (<https://www.regionalwellbeing.org.au/>)

Growing up in Australia study (<https://growingupinaustralia.gov.au/>)

MADIP may also offer relevant data (<https://www.abs.gov.au/about/data-services/data-integration/integrated-data/multi-agency-data-integration-project-madip>)

Other useful indicators:

Kyoto climate change targets

Sense of community connection

In times of major crises, there are 5 main elements of intervention – to restore a sense of **calm**, **hope**, **safety**, **connectedness** and **efficacy** (self efficacy and community efficacy). They are very useful indicators of wellbeing at all times and particularly during times of major disruption (e.g. pandemic).

Access to technology (e.g. internet)

Income inequality

Civic engagement, ability to participate in decision making, representation in media

Access to information as an indicator of fairness and participation

People's perception of whether they live in a fair society

Access to safe and secure housing

Bonding, bridging and linking social capital indicators

Rights to protest

Hope as an indicator of mental health

Access to education

Migration in/out of the country

Decreases in levels of family violence, gender based violence, racially motivated violence.

Free access to health care

Do you feel the government is trustworthy?

Do people have access to things that would help them live healthy lives?

Do you feel pressed for time?

Do you have time for leisure?

Do you participate in a local community group?

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

Migration experiences and contribution of migrants to our country