

## Detailed findings 2022 Federal Election Members' survey.

### Survey method and sample.

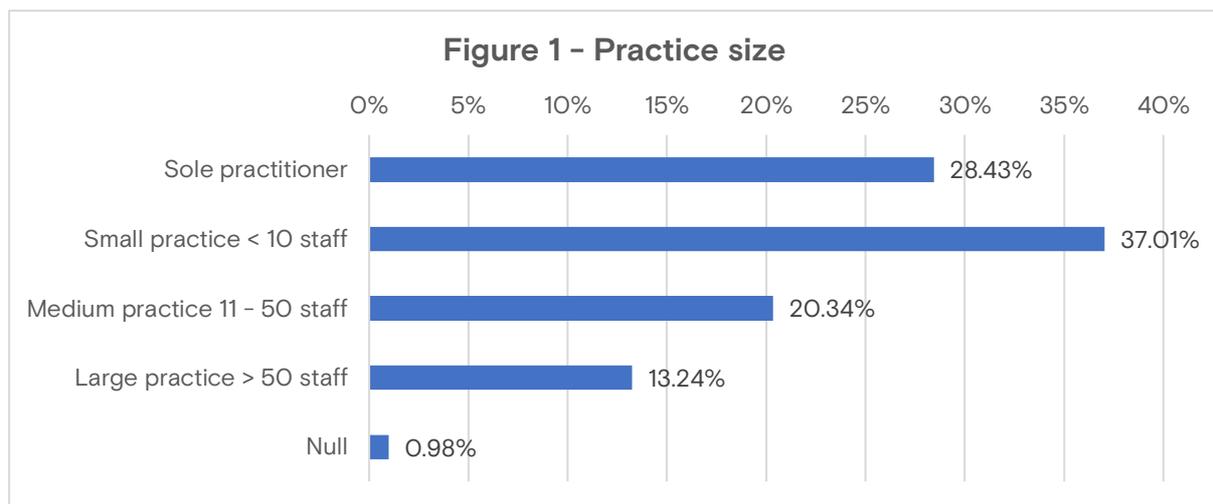
The survey combined a mix of mainly closed and some open-ended responses. The survey was promoted to all Institute members via member communications channels including both national and chapter newsletters.

The survey was open through December 2021 and January 2022 with most respondents having completed the survey during the week commencing Monday December 13<sup>th</sup> (172) or Monday January 17<sup>th</sup> (218). A small number (15) also completed the survey during the week between, and final 3 respondents in the final week of January 2022.

### Profile of respondents.

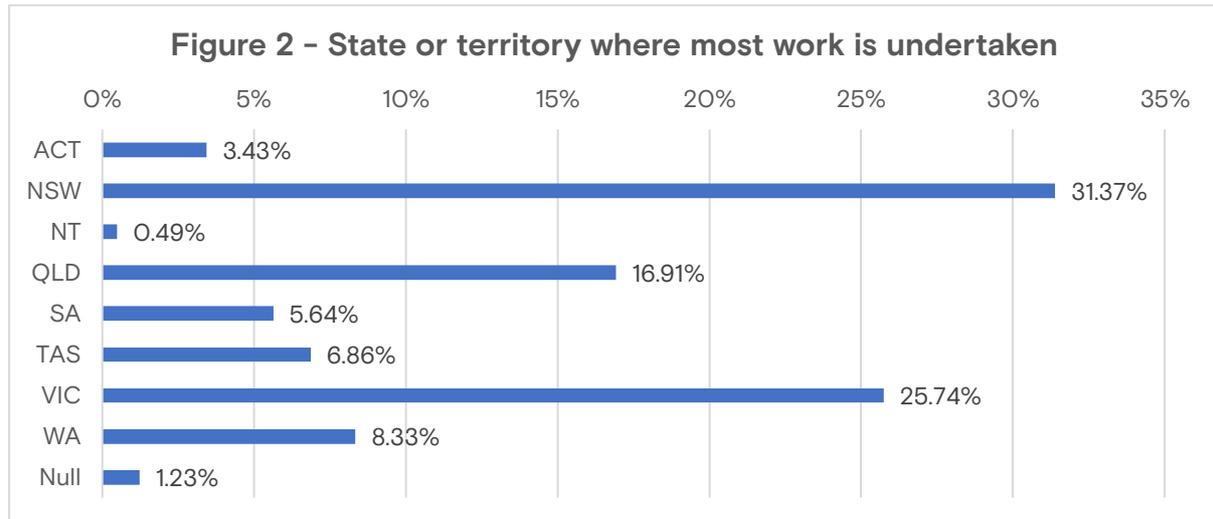
#### *Practice size.*

Sole practitioners and small practices up to 10 staff comprised almost two-thirds (65.44%) of all 408 respondents.



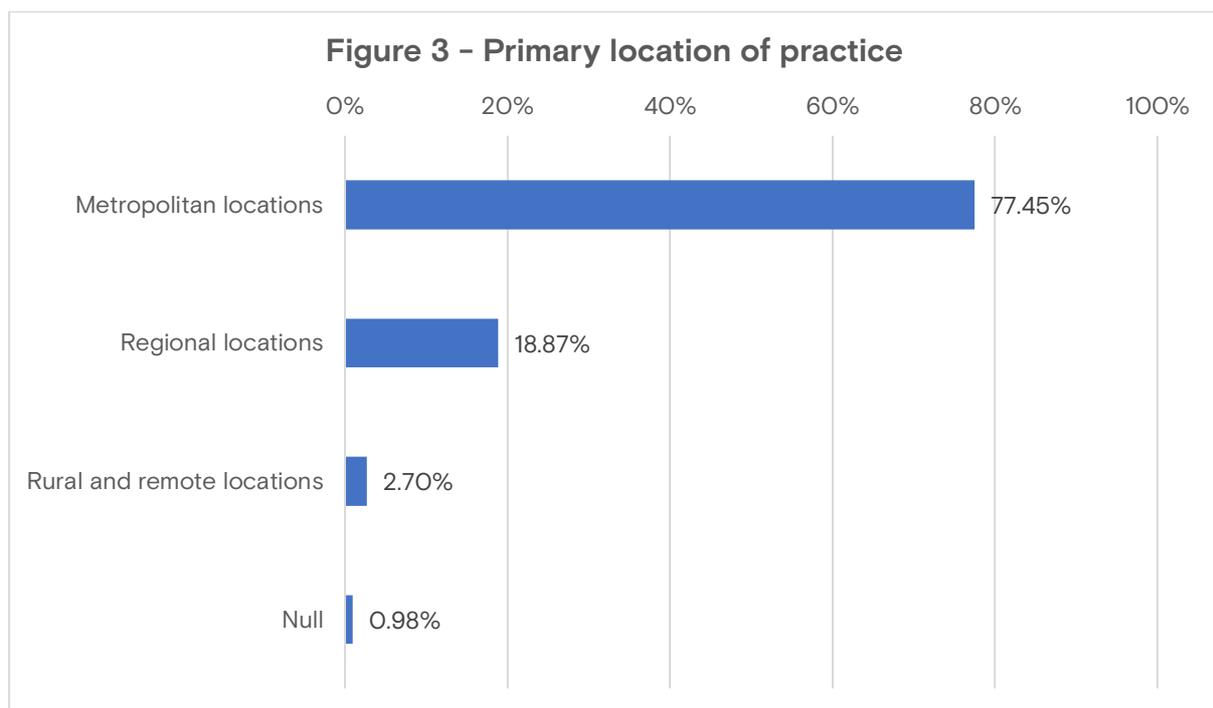
### State or territory where respondents mainly carry out their work.

The two more populous states of NSW and Victoria account for well more than half (57.11%) of respondents in nominating these as the states and territories where they carry out most of their work.



**Primary location of practice.**

Somewhat more than three-quarters (77.45%) of respondents have indicated that they primarily practice in metropolitan locations with slightly more than one in five (21.57%) practising primarily in regional (18.87%) or rural and remote (2.70%) locations.



**Issues for the Architectural Profession.**

Members were asked to rate their perceived importance of a range of selected issues for the architectural profession: question. Members were provided with four response options of

- Not important
- Somewhat important
- Quite important
- Absolutely critical

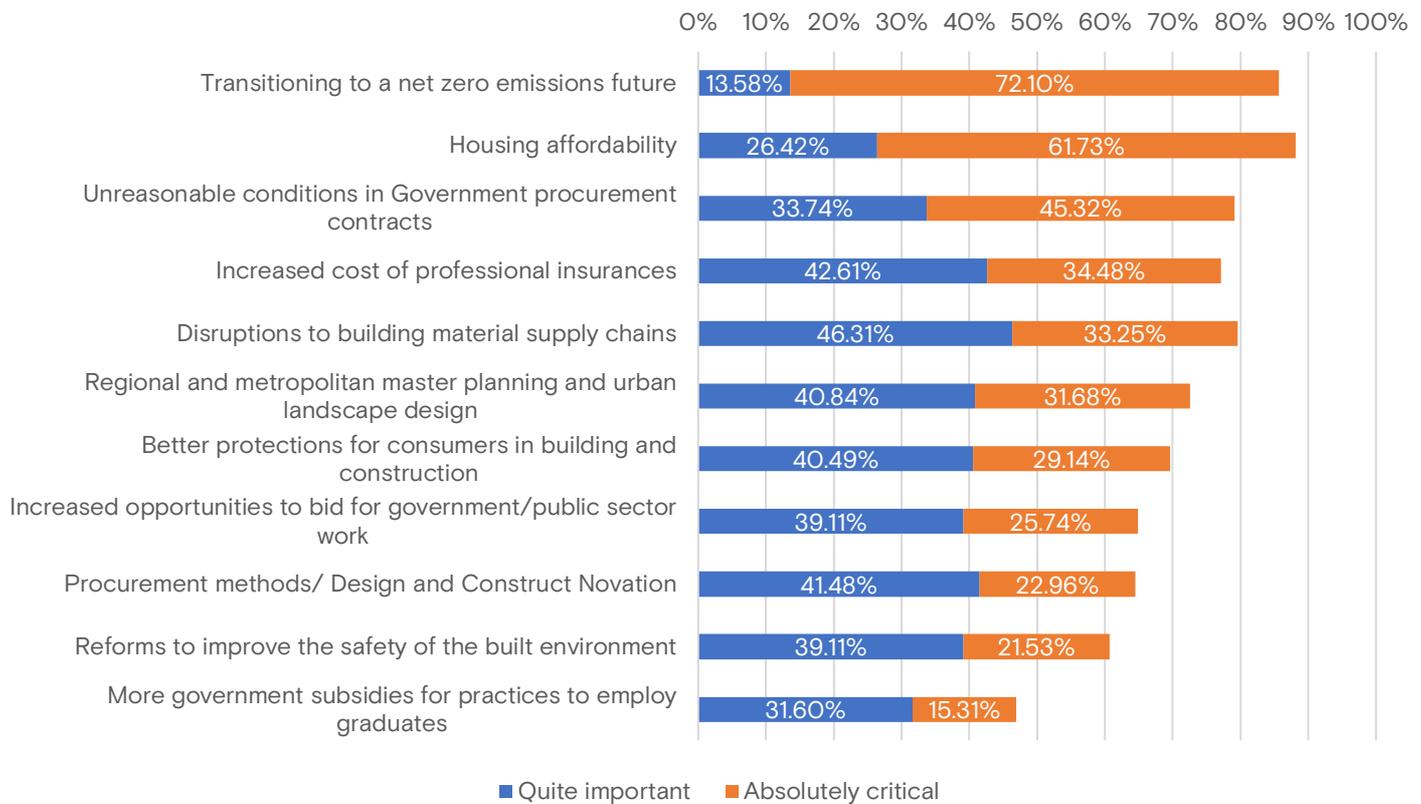
**Figure 4 – Rated importance of issues for the Architectural Profession**


Figure 4 shows the combined results of the percentages for the “Quite important” and “Absolutely critical ratings” for each issue. Prominent percentage ratings as ‘absolutely critical’ resulted for the issues of Transitioning to a new zero emissions future (72.1%) and Housing affordability (61.73%).

The top five issues of high importance to the profession when the “Quite important” and “Absolutely critical” ratings are added for each issue included:

- Housing Affordability (88.15%)
- Transitioning to a net zero emissions future (85.68%)
- Disruptions to building material supply chains (79.56%)
- Unreasonable conditions in Government procurement contracts (79.06%)
- Increased cost of professional insurances (77.09%).

Almost all issues were ranked as “not important” at rates of between 2.45% and 5.93%. However “Increased opportunities to bid for government/public sector work” was rated as “Not important” by 8.66% of respondents and “More government subsidies for practices to employ graduates” was rated as “Not important” by 16.05% of respondents.

### Issues – open comments

Respondents were provided with the opportunity to add further issues through an open ended comments field. 237 of the 408 respondents provided a valid–open ended comment. These have been coded to themes with many respondents indicating more than one issue. Overall 44 themes were identified in the coding. Themes occurring at a percentage of all respondents (n=408) of 5% (rounded) or greater were as follows:

**Table 1: other issues of importance for the Architectural profession**

Issues	% of respondents (n=408)
Professional standing	12.01%
Environment	10.29%
Procurement	7.84%
Urban design and planning	4.90%

Professional standing included recognition of the role of architects and the standing within community and the construction sector.

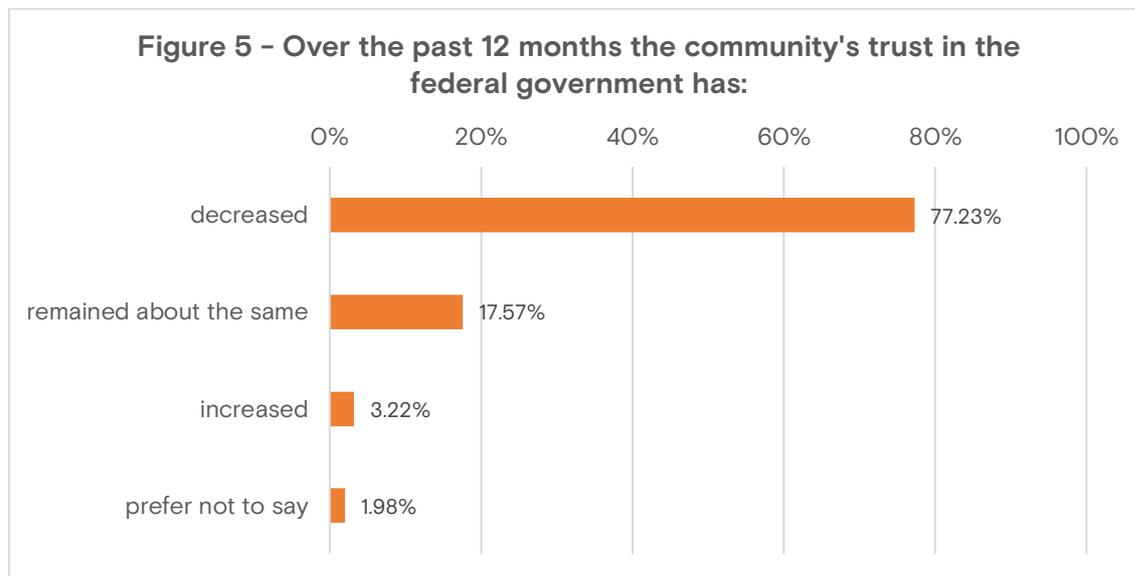
Environment referred to matters including climate change, CO2 emissions, energy efficiency, biodiversity, sustainably sourced building materials, urban sprawl

Procurement included models and processes for procurement, fees and expected services. Specific reference to unfair contract terms were separately coded and noted by 1.47% of respondents.

Urban design and planning referred to planning schemes, residential development and overall masterplanning of urban spaces for different land uses.

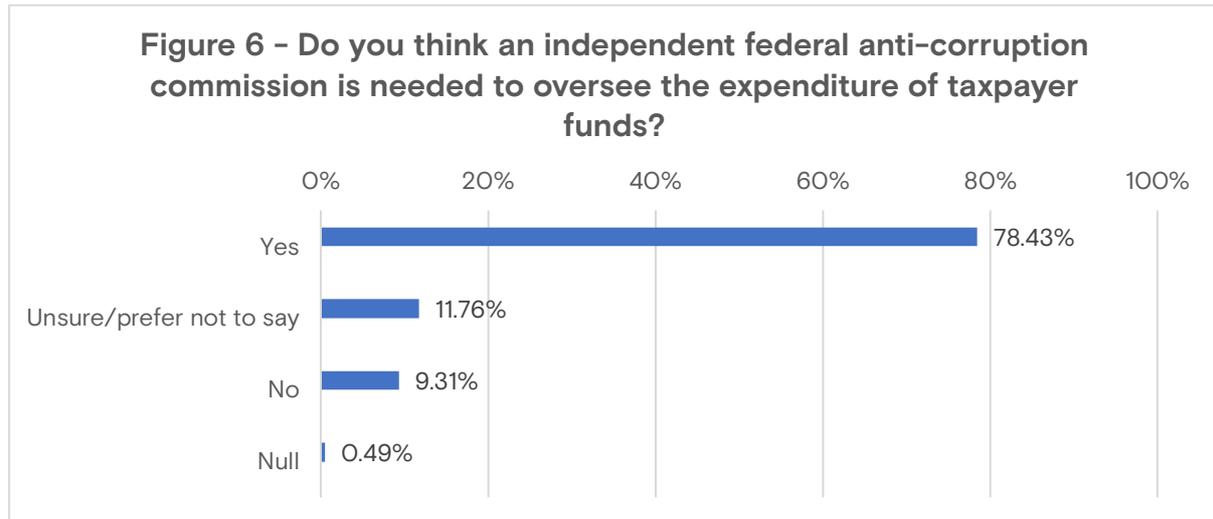
### Community trust in government

Members were asked to rate their perception of the community's trust in the federal government in the past 12 months. More than three quarters of respondents (77.23%) thought that the community's trust in the federal government had decreased over the past twelve months.



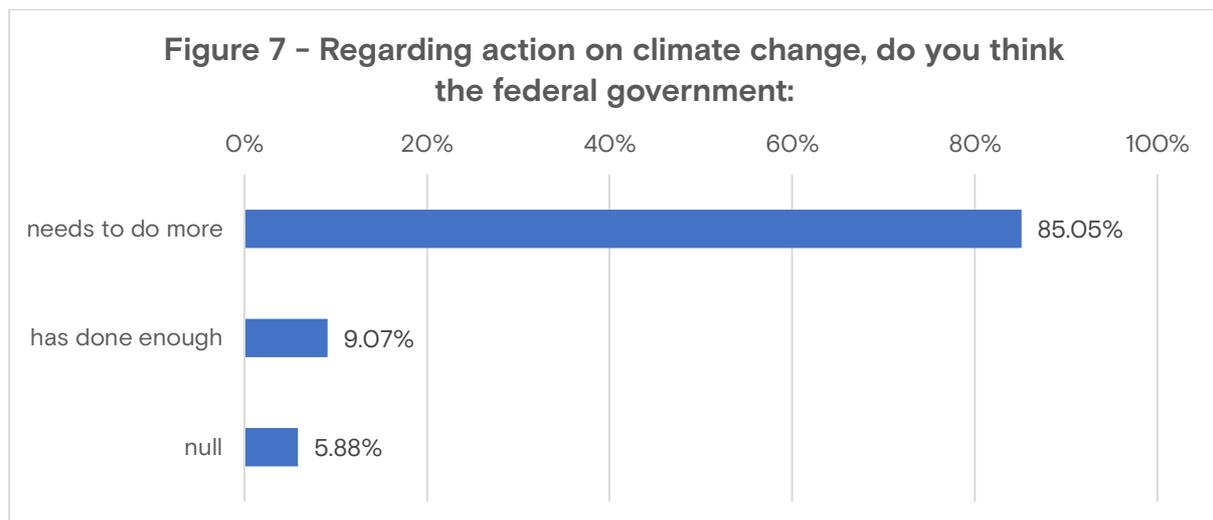
### Anti-corruption commission

Respondents were asked if they think and federal independent anti-corruption commission is need to oversee the expenditure of taxpayer funds. An overwhelming majority of more than three quarters of all 408 survey respondents responded affirmatively to this question.



### Action on climate change

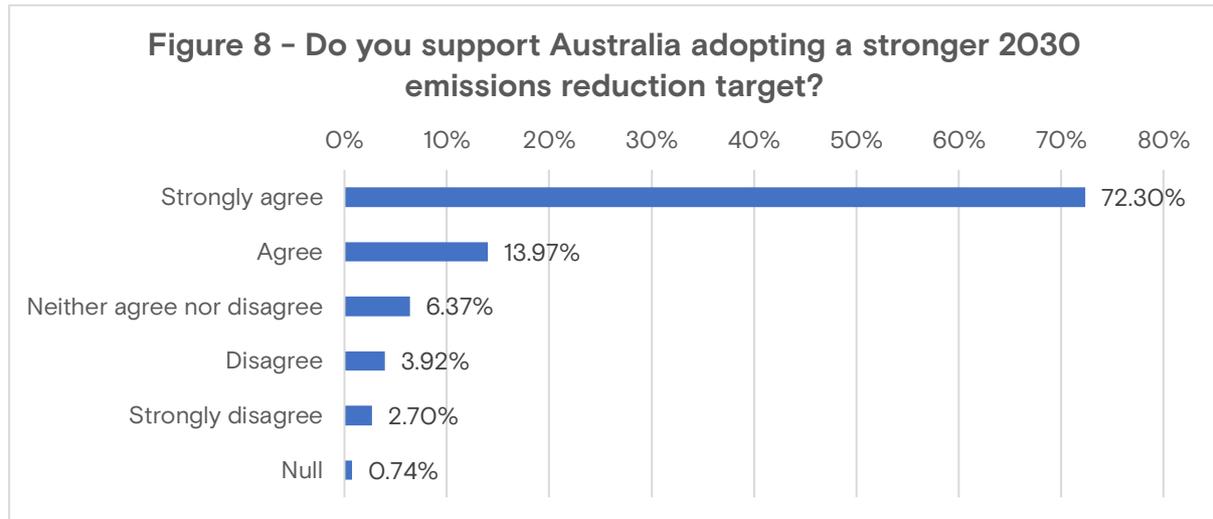
Respondents were asked what level of action they think the federal government needs to undertake in respect of climate change. An overwhelming majority of more than four-fifths (85.05%) of all 408 survey think that the federal government needs to do more..



There was also an opportunity for respondents to provide open ended comment to this question. The comments made by just over one third of respondents (137) are shown in Appendix I.

### Stronger 2030 emissions' targets

Respondents were asked if they agree with supporting Australia to adopt a stronger 2030 emissions reduction target. Slightly less than three-quarters (72.3%) of all 408 survey respondents strongly agree to the proposal to support Australia adopting a stronger 2030 emissions reduction target, and a further 13.97% agree – such that 86.27% strongly agree or agree.



**What are the top three issues that you think will decide the outcome of the next federal election?**

Respondents were asked to nominate the top three issues they think will decide the outcome of the federal election.

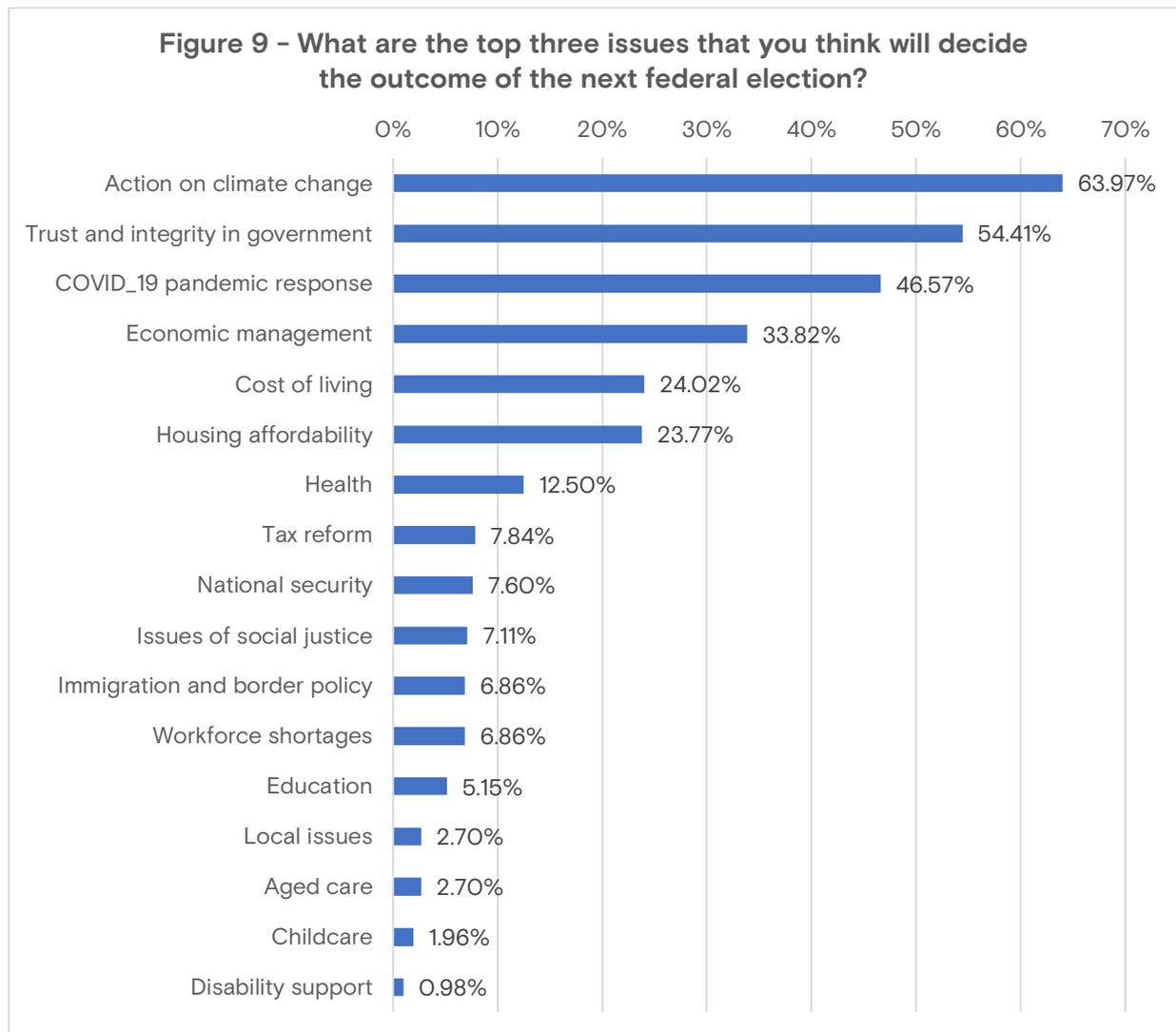
Respondents were not limited to more than three and an open-ended option was also provided. The table shows the number of issues nominated by percentages of all 408 survey respondents.

**Table 2: Number of tip issues nominated**

Number of issues nominated	% of respondents (n=408)
0	2.45%
1-2	5.15%
3	84.31%
4	3.19%
5-10	4.90%

Figure 6 shows that the top three issues according to % of all 408 respondents who nominated the issues to be Action on climate change for close to two-thirds of respondents (63.97%), Trust and integrity in government for somewhat more than half of respondents (54.41%) and the Covid 19 pandemic response (46.57%)

Forty-two respondents also made further comment to identify additional issues. However when these were coded, some comments did not actually identify an issue or identified one of the closed options. Additional issues noted by 18 respondents are shown by simple count in the table below.

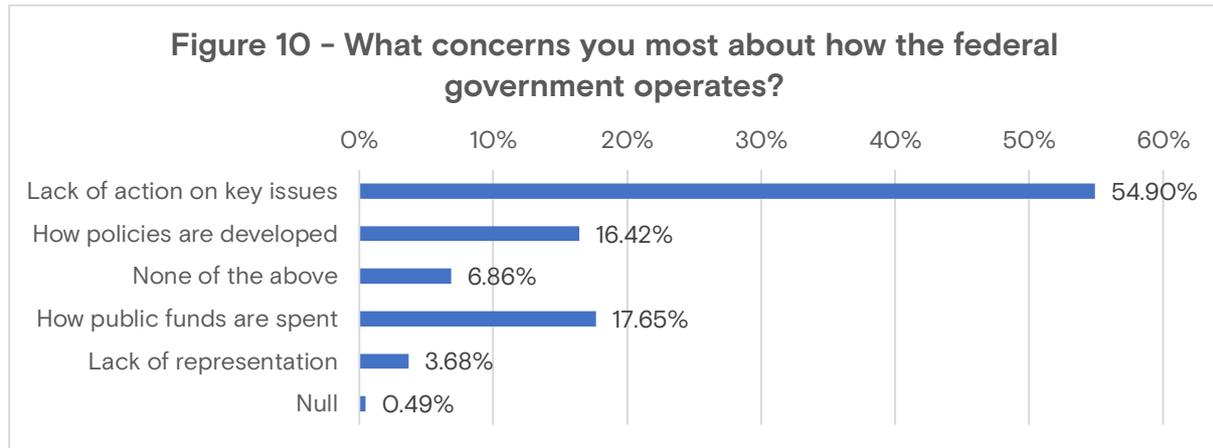


**Table 3: Additional issues deciding next federal election**

Additional issue	No. of respondents
negative issues or misinformation	5
gender equity	2
media led agenda / controversial issues of the day	2
renewables economy	2
workplace conditions	2
engagement of voters	1
first nations	1
geo-political	1
infrastructure funding	1
personal wealth aspirations	1

**Concerns about operation of the federal government?**

Respondents were asked what concerns them most about the manner in which the federal government operates.

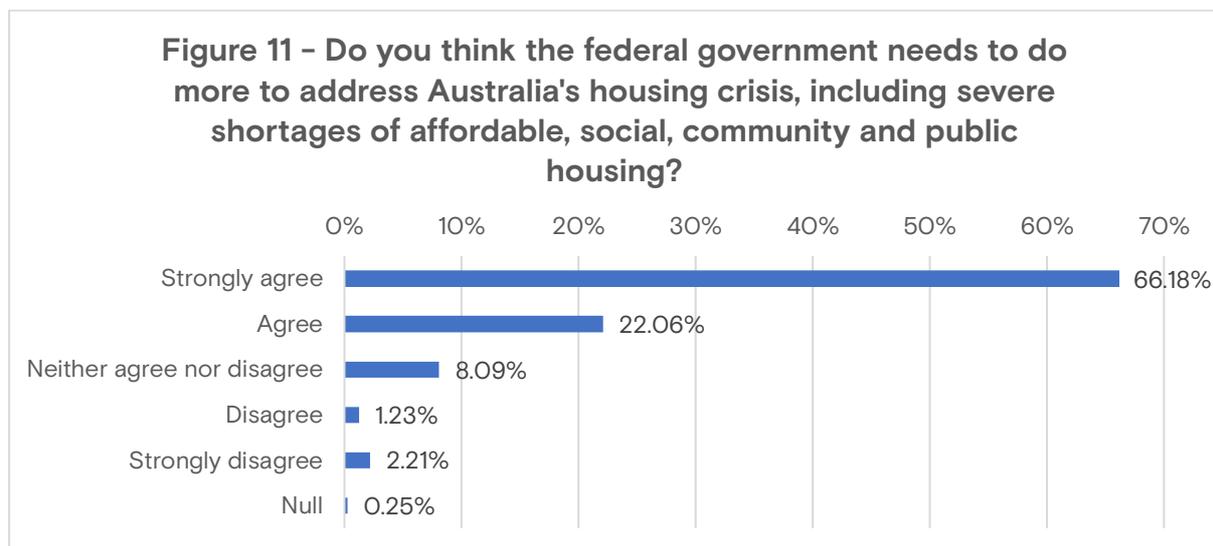


Respondents were able to select a single option from among five closed options. The most frequently chosen single concern was “Lack of action on key issues” by slightly more than half (54.9%) of respondents. Approximately one in six respondents respectively selected “How policies are developed” (16.42%) or “How public funds are spent” (17.65%)

Less than one in ten respondents (7.35%) either selected “None of the above” or did not answer the question.

### More action on affordable housing

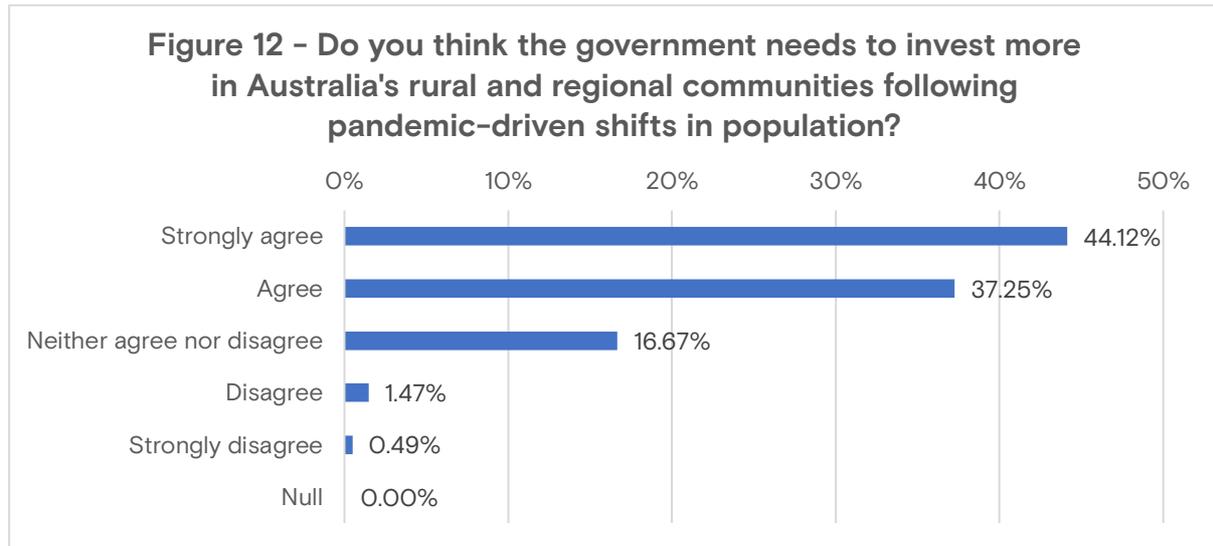
Respondents were asked if they agree that the federal government needs to do more to address Australia's housing crisis, including severe shortages of affordable, social, community and public housing.



Almost exactly two-thirds (66.18%) strongly agree and almost nine out of ten (88.24%) of all 408 survey respondents either agree (22.06%) or strongly agree when both response categories are combined.

### Post-pandemic investment in Australia's rural and regional communities.

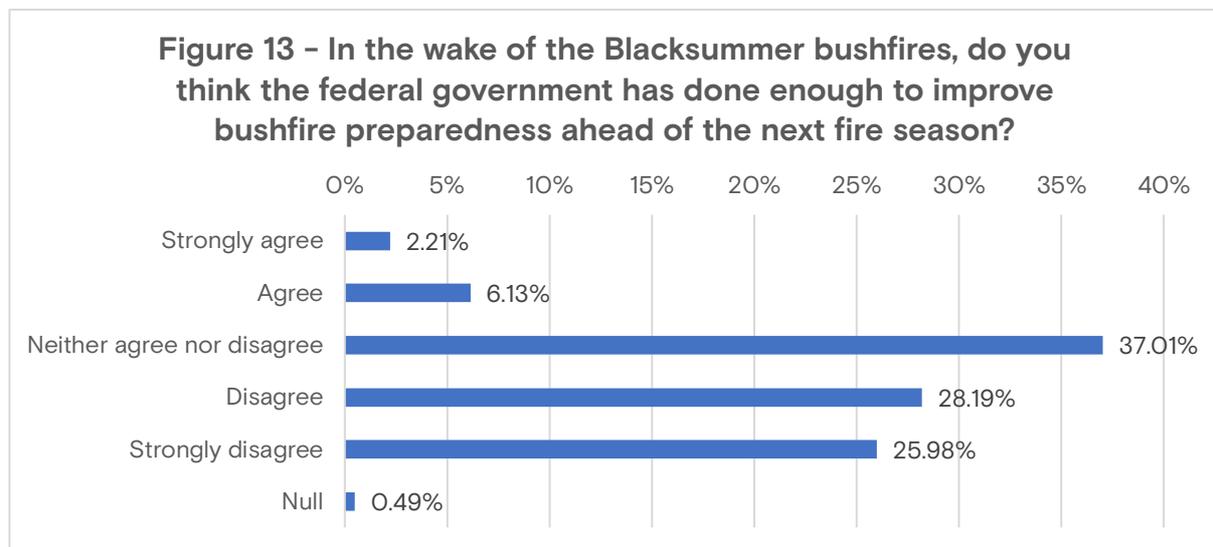
Respondents were asked if they agree that the government needs more in Australia's rural and regional communities following pandemic-driven shifts in population.



Somewhat less than half (44.12%) strongly agree. However, more than eight out of ten (81.37%) of all 408 survey respondents either agree (37.25%) or strongly agree when both response categories are combined.

#### **Sufficient federal government action on bushfire preparedness.**

Respondents were asked if they agree that the federal government has done enough to improve bushfire preparedness ahead of the next fire season (21-22 summer). Approximately equal percentages amount into somewhat more than a half (54.17%) of all 408 respondents either disagree (28.19%) or strongly disagree (25.98%). However only a small proportion of less than one in ten (8.34%) combined (6.13%) or strongly agree (2.21%) that there has been enough done by the federal government to improve bushfire preparedness. Well more than one-third (37.01%) were undecided and neither agreed nor disagreed.



#### **Largest challenges faced by Architect practices.**

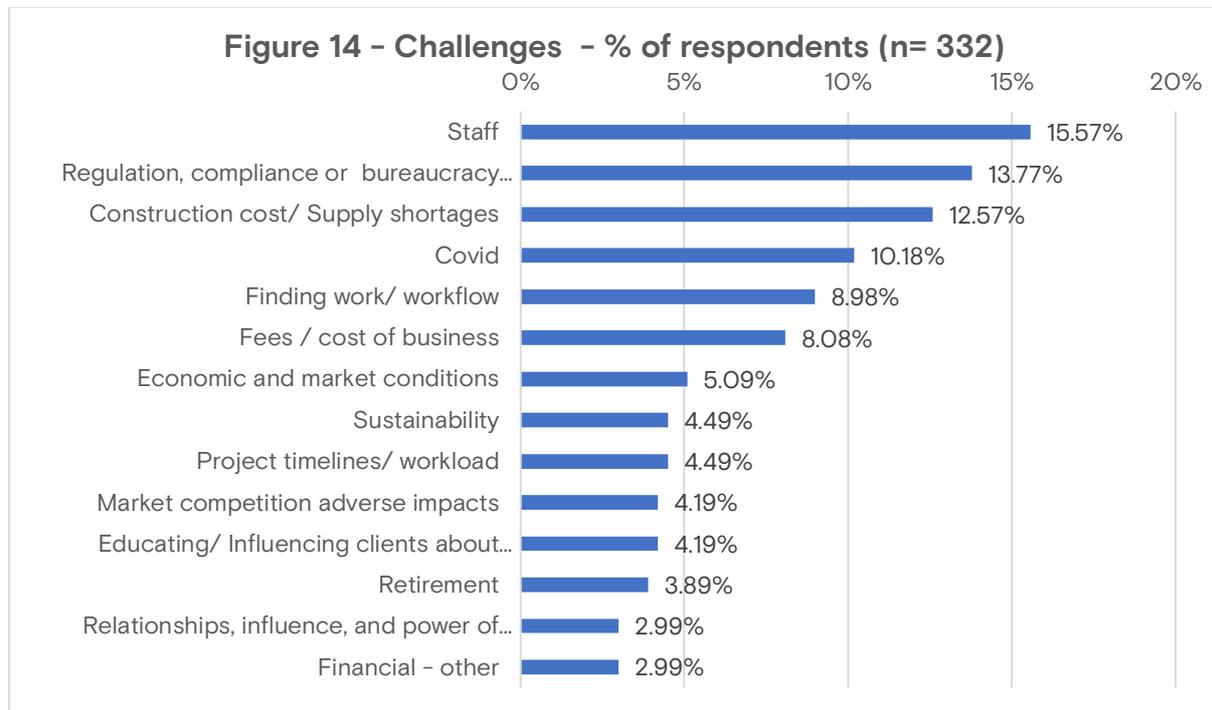
Respondents were asked an open-ended free text response question, "What is the biggest challenge you face in your practice currently?".



Of all 408 survey respondents, 332 took the opportunity to write a response. The responses were coded and themes identified. As the length was open, some responses identified more than one challenge. Up to six challenges were identified by individual respondents with an average of 2.28 challenges per each of the 332 respondents to this question. The numbers of challenges are set out in the table below.

No. of challenges faced by a given practice	No. of respondents
1	1
2	252
3	67
4	10
5	1
6	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>332</b>

The top four challenges faced by practices among the 332 respondents to the open ended question included staffing, regulation, compliance or bureaucracy, construction cost and supply shortages, other Covid related challenges. Each of these were identified by more than 10% of the 332 respondents. Other important challenges include finding work an workflow and fees versus th cost of doing business.



**Appendix I – Open ended comments in relation to government needing to take more action on climate change:**

**Other (please specify)**

DO MORE!! Higher green standards for residential buildings, stop volume builders! Stop the air-conditioned boxes.



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Complete and utter failure. Disgracefull lack of action and engagement with what needs to happen.

Australia should be leading on climate change, conversely we are a global pariah for both our lack of action, but also for our hypocrisy, dissembling and arrogant exceptionalism

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Commit to ambitious targets - it sends a signal and show vision and leadership.

The Govt policy of leaving it to Private enterprise is lip-service to transition to a renewable economy, and is consistent with their "do nothing" Renewable adaptation (motherhood statements - won't insult the term "Policy". They are telling the world they are only interested in maintaining subsidised Fossil Fuel Industry economy and the fraudulent stand to say they want to preserve the jobs of FF sector of the mining industry - which is plain and simple investment of tax payers' money with diminishing returns - instead of the opposite of investment in actual policy to encourage the roll out of renewable industry / economy - which equals growth in Industry, manufacturing, education, and QED jobs - and exports

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The federal government needs to fund R&D / innovation relating to construction materials and energy sources for big industry. How do we wean ourselves from oil, gas and coal? How do we develop and create the supply chains for energy technologies, such as hydrogen, fusion, nuclear and storage? There also needs to be more local cutting edge manufacturing facilities, enabling the supply of cutting edge construction technologies such as CLT and glazing systems.

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I would like a government that is aspiration and aims high in regard to climate change. I would rather set exceptional targets and potentially fall short, rather than aim low and not acheive the change that is required.

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It is so embarrassing that we are not seeing the federal government taking leadership on such an important issue for the survival of our generation and future generations!

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Needs to do a LOT more

I believe that action on climate change needs to be accelerated beyond the current federal government 2050 'commitments', and a robust and resilient strategy and action plan put in place to measure progress in achieving these targets. The effect of legislative change in the built environment has been proven to take quite a long time from implementation to realisation, and this requires far greater urgency in our actions.

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Needs to sever ties with coal and gas lobbies and fully support renewable solutions. Cut taxes on EVs. Provide incentives for low carbon and passive solar housing and buildings generally.

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The Liberal government has an appalling attitude towards the environment and sustainability. Zero vision or genuine commitment

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The federal government's resistance to address climate change is a total embarrassment.

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it has DONE almost nothing.

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Needs to be more proactive

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Add this to the comments above

I believe blaming governments is counter productive. Climate Change is a misnomer. Climate Desecration on the other hand, makes all of us responsible for perpetrating unsustainable activities - we should all be doing our bit and not blaming one another. That is just stupid and cowardly. Set the example and, if it is right, it will be followed.

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ON A REASONABLE PATH COSIDERING ECONOMY SUSTAINABILITY

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Invest in a power grid overhaul and promote household power generation via battery subsidies.

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So much more

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Needs to do A LOT MORE!

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Needs to do MUCH more.

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Better understand the urgency of climate change challenges facing our planet, bringing climate change policy forwards

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Needs to do so much more, for starters aligning with other nations on climate action such as they did not at the recent COPmeeting.

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More, much much more. Yes, we can all play our part in sourcing clean and green in our projects however we need to invest in a diverse and sustainable power source. Ditch coal! invest in Wind, water and solar! Invest in Mass transit and green cities! Higher density, less sprawl.

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needs to do a lot more / lead by example

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Needs to do way more and put design professionals in control even getting us involved when they have ministers being briefed and before laws are changed

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Improve on targets and policy as these are the tools for change

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I am in favor of conversion to low carbon economies and commitment to environmental sustainability. Australia contributes less than 1% of pollution and global warming. In the end it will be the major countries and corporations who will determine the rate of conversion to these objectives. So long as Australia progresses in the change but maintains the standard of living so the people continue to want change, then any government is doing enough.

They need to do WAY more. It is embarrassing for an OECD country to show such little commitment/action towards addressing the climate crisis.

needs to do lots and lots more

COMPLETELY REORGANISE TRANSPORT IN CITIES. EXTENSIVE METRO NETWORKS ETC.

Standards around embodied energy costs and regulation / implementation of an actually effective offset system

We need a roadmap.

Commit to holistic behavior changes - govt and consumer and industry

no mention of over population pressures ? no mention of the Thermal Mass of Urbanisation ? no mention of working with Natural Environment ?

So far behind other developed countries in the planning and implementation of renewables and carbon usage.

Renewables are now the cheapest forms of energy and don't need any further help.

We should be leading the world in this area.

more incentives for businesses & regular citizens to adopt measures that will address climate change miles behind where we should be, literally the worst in the world (see Climate Change Performance Index from COP26 )

Need to pro-actively engage with international climate goals, stop the lying and ambiguity

There is currently no climate action/policy

The government has had a disgraceful performance and record. Poor leadership with no commitment,

The Feds need to LEAD, where ever possible, as we need to urgently address issues and actions as it impacts upon the Environment and the Community at ALL levels of Government!

Push forward with higher building performance minimum standards including within federal project and funded projects (and include additional funding to facilitate)

More but I believe it's hand will be forced regardless by market forces

Australia can and should be a global leader, promoting climate change opportunities not simply obligations

The Government has its head in the sand on climate change

discontinue / decrease subsidies for fossil fuel industry companies, invest in CSIRO and similar research bodies to develop greener technologies

I think carbon emissions is only part of the environmental catastrophe; waste and pollution go largely ignored if out of sight.

lead not follow

The government has done the absolute bare minimum. Need much more consultation about how to transition fossil fuel dependent economies (regional communities) onto economically viable and sustainable long term industries.

->Build standards for reduced emissions -2050 is too long for CO2 targets -should be leading the world on alternate fuels

Criminal lack of real action

There is no action.

They need to be more visionary and govern for the whole country - not just their marginal electorates or party troublemakers.

Legislate for increase in Green planted areas in metropolitan developments

must focus on a holistic sustainable approach to environment - including building, planning and landscape benchmarks and regulations

It has repeatedly let down the country with regards nominating a emission reduction target and planning the path forward to achieve these targets.

The Net Zero policy as a step in the right direction but the Federal Government have consistently done the minimum and the crisis needs more decisive action. Opportunities for employment and economic growth in the zero emissions economy requires more creative policy.

needs to do MUCH more



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Our political system increasingly has an all or nothing approach. It would be great if it was less adversarial and more work together on the environment, our biggest home, like they have during the pandemic.

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Robust 2030 carbon reduction target so that we are able to get to Net Zero 2050 in a timely and reasonable manner. Industry specific targets and strategies for transitions should be implemented as only government regulation will lead to change in the industry.

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The current federal government, more specifically the actions of the Liberal party means that little to no action has been taken in regards to climate change. Instead the government continue to knowingly fund and give huge tax breaks to the fossil fuels industry in a bid to continue with carbon emitting practices rather than move away from the use of fossil fuels.

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We need a federal government that takes real action not the spin we have seen for the past 20+ years. State & Territory govts are leading the way, why is the Federal government such an embarrassment to Australia?

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How about is absolutely negligent.

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There is lots of opportunity for Australia to transform into a world-leading country with regards to taking action on climate change.

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Produce a real strategy for achieving net zero

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Read previous response

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The lack of climate change action by the Federal government costs Australians every single day they prevaricate - and its been decades now. They do even worse than nothing by also preventing climate action. They are an international embarrassment

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Has done embarrassingly little

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Progressively cut down fossil fuel subsidies to zero

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missed opportunities for Australian industry to innovate

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Needs to de-politicise the issue.

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has drop the ball

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Develop actual plans to steer development towards Net Zero. The 2050 date is not a finish line we can stroll along to, we need to move as quickly as possible. Car transport, land use, energy use that is required by continual urban sprawl is a major issue and unsustainable. We need clever nodal cities, but not the sorts of high-rise nodes developed now

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A decade of NLP government has been a disaster for action on climate change.

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It angers me that the Institute is playing politics game, generally pointing finger at the Government to do something about issues which we (architects and the institute at the first place) do very little about ourselves. Here I mean issues like the black façade madness which is the predominant trend I see around. The black/dark external surfaces in our sun abundant climate heat the building mass to 30-40 degrees higher temperature than the light colour surfaces in identical location and orientation. I have taken the façade temperature readings myself in numerous occasions, on average (west façade) the light colour reading was 54 degrees against 88 degrees on black colour. This increased building jacket temperature leads to either higher use of air conditioning in the building or thicker thermal insulation of the façade. The first one causes higher energy consumption (even when the sun set down) the second one causes using more materials and smaller lettable area of the building floor. Another downside of the dark façade is faster deterioration of seals and sealants used on the façade. The dark surfaces in a urban environment create Urban Heat Island - heating up whole neighborhood or entire city. Then the bureaucrats call the Government to do something about it! Another issue is the structural design - which should be governed and approved by the architect. In past decade or so I saw gradual size increase of the structural elements. Where a 75mm column was erected before, now 90mm one is required and so on. In my observation, some buildings are structurally overdesigned by 20%. Influencing factors there are design by inexperienced engineer who is not supervised by an experienced one, CAD design which allows easy copying of earlier/similar documentation instead of proper thinking and designing process, higher insurance premiums etc. All the above should be addressed and work-on by the Institute. My question is how much insight into the architectural profession the institute bureaucrats have?

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At this point, there seems to be very little discussion on how the form of our urban environment contributes to climate change and environmental degradation.

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Everything - better policies on EVs, phasing out of coal, ramping up sustainable energy etc.

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needs to really recognise the issues and do much more

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Develop coherent climate action policy and plans to achieve better than 2030 and 2050 universal targets. Including retraining policies to phase out coal and replace with sustainable zero net emissions.

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We're global pariahs

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Australian society needs to very quickly transition past a net zero carbon emissions future and the Federal Government should be leading the way not slowing us down.

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Net zero by 2050 is a minimal target, not a huge achievement. Our government must be more ambitious and get behind actual practical renewable initiatives. We must break our addiction to coal and fossil fuels. Our record on EV vehicles in Australia is an international embarrassment. We need more marine reserves and terrestrial bio-diversity reserves. We need true, brave leadership on Climate Change.

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More leadership and investment in the transition to renewable.

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Much much more

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Not only do more but actually act, not just issue marketing talk.

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a lot more

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Climate action has become a political matter. Institute of Architects should not get involved in politics

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Much more Current Aust stance embarrassing internationally

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Their current commitments and policy is far reaching and more than enough to meet climate change obligations

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Governments are tied to industry that has its own agenda. Industry awareness and responsibility will be the key to climate change.

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The current federal government needs to take the problem seriously and take action.

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The Government have done nothing towards action on climate change. Anything more is a win.

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has done less than the bare minimum.

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They are climate deniers and have a responsibility to listen to experts, not just big business.

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Needs to do way more! Legislate targets for various industries, including construction, to reduce emissions and encourage sustainable design.

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much more is needed federally as noted above. Clear and believable leadership demonstrating a belief that this is real and needs action. The approach should lay out a clear strategy recognising the issues such as lifestyle and employment shifts and stage the outcomes for all to see and debate/understand.

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fiddling statistics is NOT change sustainability ought be framed in terms of "what are prepared to share and on what terms will we share it?", more than personal or national interest.

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Adopt clear scientifically based legally enforceable requirements and keep them constantly under review

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It's everybody, not just the government's job.

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Find solutions before creating more problems through regulation

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much, much, much more - and very soon!

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Needs to do FAR more

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Other much more important and genuine issues Climate change is to politically charged Feels like a scam to tax carbon etc

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Take it seriously, and implement strong targets and properly fund a planned transition to net zero carbon economy

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need to mandate minimum standards for performance of buildings esp commercial and multi-unit residential

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stop fudging the % and details, concentrate on a shorter timeframe and not be so focused on 'future technological fixes'

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Needs to do something credible!

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I am embarrassed by our current governments general stance on addressing climate change, the need to commit to a net zero carbon future sooner rather than later

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Just anything would be good

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It is critical to establish clear, consistent policy and programs that make investment in renewables attractive, and the end of fossil fuel reliance urgently. The Federal govt is weak and has no integrity on this, has dodged this and is only now doing something because NewsCorp has decided to support action.

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The government has done nothing to regulate or educate. It appears our government does not support climate change at all. Their lack of input suggests strongly that they do not care about our environment, our people or our future generations of wild and plant life. Get rid of them before their negligence does more damage!

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Needs to be seriously committed NOW to the challeges of addressing climate change; increased in renewable and immediate phase out of coal

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Needs to advocate for sustainability rather than dismissing it. Provide more incentive for retrofitting housing stock to make it more energy efficient.

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significant reduction in GHG emissions quickly; support for reduced energy use; an intensive education/promotion programme; highlighting the benefits of reducing material consumption.

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wilfully ignorant pricks

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Transitioning major industries from fossil fuels to green electric, and establishing circular economy

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Or, better question ... has done anything except talk about the issue while assuming the majority of sensible Australians want tangible action NOW.

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They've done next to nothing other than provide dodgy modelling, lip service and 3 word slogans.

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The business of architecture is 'the design and construction of actual buildings'. The rest is relevant but incidental.

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Has taken us backwards and stopped market acting as the market has decided it needs to act.

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Not relevant.

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So much more. Disgustingly more.

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They have gone backwards on previous governments, their science is cherry picked and their punishment for non compliance is negligible. Their actions will be deemed criminal.

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Policy should be responding to the science and creating job opportunities in transitioning to a carbon constrained economy

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Have an actual Policy where it encourages spending in the renewable economy, winds down subsidies in Fossil Fuel industries, EV legislation to make cars cheaper to buy.

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Is clearly not committed which makes the professions aims seem over the top. Eg basix. Term sustainability, etc are viewed with cynism when compared to government action.

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is fucked.....and architects sit around and make instagram posts while we burn - seriously.....

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Far too much. This whole unscientific gravy train should be closed down.

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Needs to do MUCH, MUCH more.

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the approach at the federal level has been an embarrassment, misguided and compromised by conflicts of interest within advisers. Their performance has been an absolutely abominanal.

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Finally starting to take a step in the right direction

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Irrelevant question.

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They need to do more, but there are plenty of other critical issues that also need attention, in particular violence and the abuse of power imbalances within the architectural profession and wider construction industry.

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Stop talking and looking to take the populist stand and start leading

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