

Te whakawhiti whakaaro | Consultation

Topics for Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's Long-term Insights Briefing

We're interested in your ideas on topics for our 2022 *Long-term Insights Briefing*, which will cover trends, risks and opportunities facing our Public Service. Find out more about Long-term Insights Briefings here: <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/our-work/long-term-insights-briefings/>

This online survey will take about five minutes to complete. You can also choose to email your submission to longterminsights@publicservice.govt.nz. We would recommend an email submission if you have documents you'd like to attach.

Privacy Statement:

We will collect your name and email address so that we can send you updates on the outcome of this consultation.

We'll keep your information safe by storing it in encrypted files and only allowing certain staff to access it. You have the right to ask for a copy of any personal information we hold about you, and to ask for it to be corrected if you think it is wrong. If you'd like to ask for a copy of your information, or to have it corrected, please contact us at commission@publicservice.govt.nz, or +64 4 4956600, or PO Box 329 Wellington 6140.

All personal information will be removed from your submission before it is published on our website once the consultation has closed. We do this in the interests of transparency and to inform public discussion on these topics.

1. What is your name (individual or organisation)? *

McGuinness Institute

2. What is your email address? *

wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org

3. Would you like to get email updates on the long-term insights briefing? *

Updates would cover this consultation and future consultations.

Yes

No

4. Would you be interested in attending a workshop/roundtable event on this work (either virtually or in-person)?

Yes - virtual

Yes - in-person

Yes - either

No

5. Which of the following topics do you think is the most important for us to focus on in our first long-term insights briefing? (Topics not selected for this briefing may be included in later briefings) *

Please rank the options from **most** important at the **top**, to **least** important at the **bottom**

1 How can the Public Service get more joined up to tackle future and intergenerational problems?

2 How do we build the right capability in the Public Service workforce of the future?

3 How can we better support public participation in government in the future?

4 How do we continue the Public Service innovation we saw through the COVID-19 pandemic?

5 How should the Public Service engage with New Zealanders in a social media world?

6. Why did you rank the topics in that order (in the previous question)?

The order (in question 5) was selected based on what we believe will have the biggest impact.

7. Are there specific issues or parts of the proposed topics you would like to see explored?

We selected: 'How can the Public Service get more joined up to tackle future and intergenerational problems?'

The Public Service is becoming more integrated in some areas but it has a long way to go. There is still no ten year plans (or equivalents) for government departments, no long term planning (such as the intergenerational plans being implemented overseas) or no institutions focused on the long-term (e.g. a Commission/ers that focus on intergenerational issues). Furthermore, the proposed resource management reforms do not significantly contribute to long-term thinking or anticipatory governance.

We selected the option above, but in reality the focus in this question is not ideal. It focuses on being 'joined up'/integrated - rather than identifying 'intergenerational problems'. The latter requires foresight, and we consider that is what is urgently needed. The Public Service should focus on the topic of the foresight ecosystem, in particular: (i) how to make the foresight ecosystem that currently exists more transparent and easy for the public to engage with, (ii) how other countries are embedding foresight into the public service and (iii) given this, how we might improve our existing foresight ecosystem. By doing so, we hope that this Briefing will contribute to a discussion on how the existing ecosystem could be improved to anticipate, prepare and engage early with difficult issues.


It is the lack of foresight in our governance system, that is our biggest concern and in our view, provides the biggest opportunity.

We see the Briefings as a major instrument in the emerging foresight ecosystem, thank you!

8. Are there any other topics related to the Public Service as a whole that you think we should consider?

There are a wide range of topics, but we consider a lack of a transparent and meaningful foresight ecosystem is by far the most important issue facing the public service.

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