



# Australian Community Futures Planning

*We have it in our power to create the world anew*

24 March 2022

## MEDIA RELEASE

### ACFP launches major report on Australia's wellbeing, security and preparedness for the future at the end of the 46<sup>th</sup> parliament's term of office

# The State of Australia 2022

Australian Community Futures Planning has released a major report on the state of the nation at the end of the term of office of the 46<sup>th</sup> parliament of Australia.

The report provides detailed results on our performance as a nation over the last two decades in making a better Australia. It is a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of policies supported by governments and parliaments over that time.

This evidence-based report shows clearly that the dominant policies of the last ten to twenty years have let Australians down badly.

On release of the report, ACFP's Founder, Dr Bronwyn Kelly, said that throughout the century, in a wide variety of surveys, research programs and community engagement forums, Australians have been shouting out quite clearly and consistently about the sort of nation they want to build. This report shows we are not building it. We are moving away from it.

The report presents a comprehensive picture of what Australians have said they would prefer for the future and a comprehensive picture of the reality in 2022. "Prevailing policies are dragging us to a destination that is the polar opposite of everything we want for ourselves and our kids," said Dr Kelly.

[The State of Australia 2022](#) reports on the results of performance against more than 260 indicators of our wellbeing as a nation. ACFP has tracked these results by building the **Australia Together National Wellbeing Index**. This is the nation's first comprehensive index of our wellbeing, security, preparedness for the future, social cohesion, economic performance, environmental custodianship, international standing and democratic strength. It is an index of our strategic capability to build the particular type of better Australia we have said we want – one that can thrive in a 21<sup>st</sup> century globalised world.



The Index is a composite of indicators used and reported on by the many institutions that conduct surveys and research on Australia, augmented by a variety of other indicators of performance on strategies and policies necessary to build the sort of future we want. It looks forward as well as backward.

“This is the first time that a full suite of such wide-ranging indicators and evidence has been put in one place,” said Dr Kelly. “With the aid of the *Australia Together* National Wellbeing Index, Australians will now easily be able to see how well their parliaments and governments have actually been performing on delivering the things that matter most to Australians and where we want those we elect to do better. It puts politicians on notice and it helps the people drive the agenda.”

“While the report is a confronting one, it is also a timely and essential wake-up call, packed full of factual information vital to Australians on their strengths and weaknesses as a nation. On the positive side, the evidence is that there are strengths we can capitalise on. If we use those strengths in an organised and well planned manner we have the capacity to reverse our recent sorry performance in the next five to ten years,” Dr Kelly said.

[Click here to download The State of Australia 2022.](#)

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Dr Bronwyn Kelly is the Founder of [Australian Community Futures Planning](#), author of [By 2050: Planning a better future for our children in 21<sup>st</sup> century democratic Australia](#), and creator of the videocasts [The State of Australia in 2020](#), [What is National Integrated Planning & Reporting](#), and [Snapshots from Australia Together](#).

