



Public Health Association
AUSTRALIA

2022 Election Survey of Key Public Health Issues

Addressed to: Liberal-National Party coalition, Australian Labor Party, and Australian Greens

PHAA is running the [Vote For Public Health](#) campaign to highlight issues for the 2022 election. The [campaign](#) features seven focus areas where action is most needed to protect the public health of all people in Australia.



PHAA continuously reaches out to its members, the wider public health community, and the Australian public to promote awareness of public health issues and to advocate for policies to advance the health of all people.

Through the [VoteForPublicHealth site](#), PHAA will publish what we know about the positions, policies and statements of the three major parties on these vital focus areas. Explanatory material, posts and videos are already published at the site for your information.

Needless to say, we strongly urge all parties to respond positively to support these very important policy and health investment directions.

While we will seek to obtain material from the parties' published policy statements, we nonetheless ask and invite each of the parties to provide us with an official response, which we undertake to post to the [VoteForPublicHealth site](#), and which will inform our presentation of information on each party's positions.

We ask each party to send us a response that addresses the questions below. To finalize our advice to readers prior to the commencement of voting on Monday 9 May, we ask each party to respond to this message by **COB Thursday 5 May**. If responses are received earlier, we will promptly post them to the [VoteForPublicHealth site](#).

KEY QUESTIONS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health

- What policies or investments in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health is your party proposing?
- What is your party's position on empowering Community Controlled Health Organisations in terms of both policy leadership and funding for service delivery sufficient to 'close the gaps'?
- What is your party's commitment to implementing the Uluru Statement from The Heart?

Invest in preventive health

- Does your party support the target, stated in the [National Preventive Health Strategy](#), that investment of preventive health should make up 5% of total health expenditure by no later than the year 2030?

Invest in the national public health workforce

- What commitments does your party make to urgently growing the nation's public health workforce to meet the challenges of chronic diseases of all kinds (not merely pandemic control)?

Establish a Centre for Disease Control and Prevention

- Does your party support the establishment of a national Centre for Disease Control and Prevention?

Protect against unhealthy products

- What policies does your party have to strengthen regulatory protections against the marketing of unhealthy products, especially children?
- Does your party support making taxation of alcohol products equal across all alcohol products by alcohol volume?
- Will you support a levy on sugar-sweetened products?

Climate and health

- What commitments and targets does your party commit to in regard to reducing polluting climate emissions and slowing climate change?
- What commitments does your party have to bring about a switch in energy technologies away from fossil-fuel powered systems and towards renewable energy?

Healthy democracy and public policy-making

- Will your party commit to strong regulation of the activities of lobbyists in meeting with ministers and government officials?
- Does your party support banning of political donations from unhealthy industry sectors, such as tobacco, alcohol, sugar, gambling and fossil fuels?

During the election campaign period, we will provide readers with a simplified 'scorecard' of the policies of the three major parties, with ratings of *green* to be a comprehensive response for action on each focus area, *orange* for a partial response, and *red* for a lack of commitment or silence on each focus area.

PHAA does not intend to offer analysis, opinion or commentary on each party's positions – we aim merely to present them to the public. Where appropriate, we may include explanatory information so that our readers get a clear picture of each party's positions.

RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED BY C.O.B THURSDAY 5 MAY – e: policy@phaa.net.au



Adjunct Professor Terry Slevin
Chief Executive Officer

20 April 2022