



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Department Climate Action Plan Consultation – August 2022 - Summary of Feedback



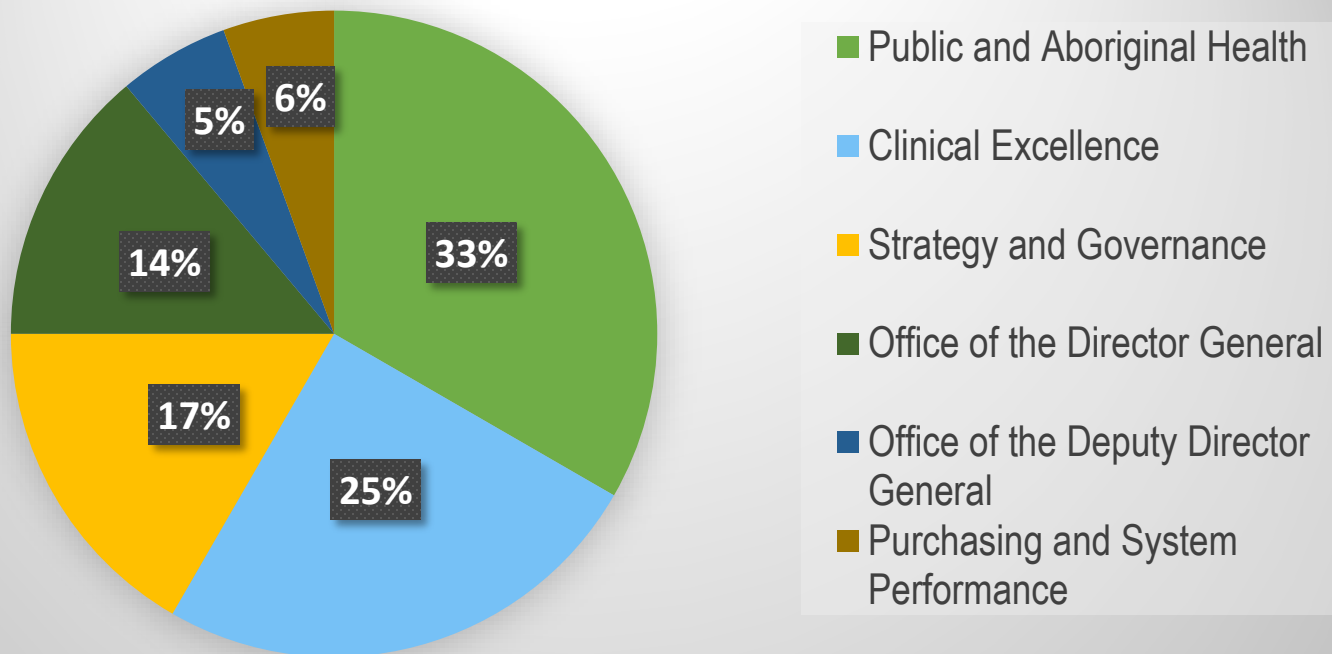
What we asked?

Department of Health staff were asked to:

- Provide feedback on the draft Department of Health Climate Action Plan.
- Identify any important actions missing across the 5 priority areas listed.
- Identify which actions are considered highest priority for implementation over the next 12months.
- Provide ideas for engaging and involving staff throughout implementation.

Who responded?

- 36 Department of Health staff from across all divisions responded to the consultation.
- The consultation was open for 2 weeks. It was published via HealthPoint and hard-copy posters were placed in kitchenettes across the May Holman Building.



What you said?

- Just under half (44%) of staff suggested additional actions to consider under the 5 priority areas.

Responses were summarised into the below themes:

- Incentivising staff to uptake alternate transport methods with lower carbon emissions (public transport, cycling, car pooling etc) and working with local government and state government agencies on cross-government approaches.
- Providing more education and training for staff to enhance understanding/awareness including but not limited to: inviting guest speakers on related topics, running staff workshops, eLearning, events and competitions for staff.
- Ensuring suitable and alternative waste management options are made available for staff.

What you said?

- Staff ranked the top 5 priorities to commence implementation in the next 12 months as:
(listed in order of highest to lowest priority)
 1. Establish a recycling program
 2. Provide staff with options to dispose of different waste materials (food/organics; stationary; plastics; batteries)
 3. Reduce usage of single-use or unsustainably sourced (non-recycled products)
 4. Raise awareness and promote responsible waste management behaviours in the workplace.
 5. Implement behavioural strategies to reduce energy wasteful practices.

What you said?

- Other actions staff ranked as lower priority to commence implementation in the next 12 months include:
 6. Engage Extended Leadership Team to promote and embed sustainability in the Department's culture to develop a more eco-conscious organisation.
 7. Develop strategies to promote paper less printing.
 8. Develop a departmental guide to help staff make more sustainable, environmentally friendly procurement decisions.
 9. Establish an online (intranet) webpage / Climate Change platform with resources/tools for staff.
 10. Remove paper towel dispensers in the workplace.

What you said?

- Staff want to be engaged and involved in implementation via:
 - **Face to face engagement including:** Face to face events such as information sessions, lunch n learns, informal directorate/divisional updates in person.
 - **Regular updates including:** Regular communication updates via newsletters and email to announce new initiatives, publish results/outcomes of staff feedback, provide progress status updates to reinforce how small actions by staff are having an impact.
 - **Participation in global/national sustainability events** and setting friendly organisational challenges held across directorates/divisions.

What we are doing?



Department of Health Climate Action Working Group:

A Climate Action Working Group, with representatives from each division, is being convened to support Corporate Services with implementation of priorities and actions in the Climate Action Plan 2022-24.

The Working Group will engage staff throughout implementation and champion change to create an eco-friendlier workplace.



Development of 12-month Work plan

The Working Group will develop a 12-month workplan based on the priority actions which staff have indicated they want to see implemented sooner.

Staff feedback received from consultation will be forwarded to the working group to help ensure actions delivered are aligned to organisational objectives and meet staff expectations.



Sustainability Champions

It is planned for nominations to be requested for sustainability representatives on each floor at the May Holman Building, and representatives at other departmental sites such as GPO building, Murray St etc. This will provide opportunity for enthusiastic staff to get involved and champion change within their area in coordination with their Working Group Divisional member.

What we are doing?



Reviewing waste management options

Corporate Services is working with building management (Jones Lang Lasalle) to review existing waste management and add new waste streams such as co-mingled recycling and organic waste before the end of 2022.



Working with the Sustainable Development Unit (SDU)

Corporate Services will work collaboratively with the SDU, the lead and coordinator to systemwide response on climate action and sustainability, on actions which enable the department to achieve an 80 per cent reduction in its emissions by 2030 in accordance with the State Government's commitment and in alignment with the wider WA health system.

The SDU will also attend the Department's Climate Action Working Group meetings.