View results

Respondent		18:20
7	Anonymous	Time to complete

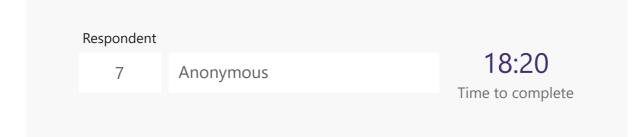1. Do you agree with the proposed vision and goals for the action plan? Which goals are you most supportive of? Are there any other goals that should be considered?

I agree with the proposed vision & goals for the action plan and fully support all the changes outlined in it.

a) I am especially strongly supportive of the following:
i) Embedding Climate Change into every level of decision making: Given the systemic nature of the problem, the only solutions are ones that are systemic. This goal drives systemic change in a way the other goals simply cannot.
ii) Increasing the use of public and active transport: Moving Tasmania's car-focussed transport systems in the direction of public / active transport will result in a significant decrease in emissions while providing greater social and health benefits to the community.
iii) 100% Electric vehicle govt fleet: In the long run this will help boost the second-hand market in EVs and drive electrification of Tasmania's car fleet from the bottom up.
b) However, the goals are not comprehensive enough to achieve the real-world change required to make a difference in combating Climate Change, and miss some important approaches to dealing with the issue at a local community level:
i) Community engagement: The Plan's approach to targeting specific groups to achieve the goals appears scattershot. Community, business, industry, local govt., and state govt. are all listed in a different order each time they are mentioned. All the evidence shows that the best executed climate adaptation / mitigation plans put the community front and centre. When the language of the Plan puts business / industry / governments up front, it is easy for the average citizen to feel disconnected from it. Climate Change mitigation is a systemic challenge that needs to be tackled at all levels of society and the simplest way to do so is to build the community outreach, support, and action into the heart of the Plan.
ii) Indigenous involvement: The Plan needs to build Indigenous involvement into its foundation. Utilising existing indigenous knowledge in landscape management, fire management etc. will only improve the implementation of the Plan. Most importantly the Care for Country that is the very soul of Indigenous culture is an enriching resource that would hugely benefit the extended community in the transition to a more sustainable & equitable lifestyle.
iii) Electrify Everything: ~ 42% of the emissions come from residential end uses of fossil fuels – electric cars are one part of the solution; gas powered stoves, water heaters & space heaters could be easily replaced with Induction stoves, Heat Exchange water heaters and Reverse Cycle air-conditioning respectively. These are mature technologies that only require a small incentive such as a rebate to improve uptake. To ease the transition, the Plan could encourage the replacement of existing home appliances only when they reach EOL. If met, this long-term goal will have an outsized impact on Tasmania's climate targets.
iv) Household energy efficiency standards: Improving building standards to enable energy efficient homes will help reduce the amount of energy expended by communities and creating a fund to provide rebates to retrofit existing housing stock (and community housing) and bring them up to modern efficiency standards will will serve the dual purpose of reducing running / maintenance costs of a household, while increasing the job opportunities for skilled workers in the construction industry. Additionally, the better health outcomes for people living in better houses will reduce the future load on the healthcare system.
v) Forestry: The language around the references to Forestry / the Timber industry needs to be fixed. Some parts of the plan call for 'Increasing new plantations' – does this require more land clearing? (Which would defeat the purpose of the plan in the first place.) Or, does it involve repurposing and rejuvenating existing plantations to improve yields through agroforestry techniques, mixed planting etc. that would support the industry while helping preserve biodiversity?

2. Will the three priority areas -
   (1) information and knowledge
   (2) transition and innovation and
   (3) adaptation and resilience, help Tasmania achieve its legislated 2030 emissions reduction target, and its vision for action on climate change? Are there other issues not covered by the three priority areas?

> The three priority areas, while being comprehensive overall, will not help Tasmania achieve it legislated 2030 emissions targets without a few modifications being made to their structure. They are listed in the feedback to the sections below.

3. Will the key actions under Priority area 1 help support decision making for you and your community or organisation? What types of projects should be supported under the final action plan?

> The key actions under Priority area 1 will help support decision making for communities – but they require improvement if they are to be as effective as required.
>
> a) I notice that there is not much stress on education and community engagement at a granular level. Adding this into the equation should help go a good way into rounding off the plan.
> b) Community messaging should involve a lot more than making information freely accessible (which in itself is a wonderful goal to have) – it should be about spreading the message that we are all in this together and that Climate Change can lead to a terrifying future, but it can be averted if we all work together – it is NOT an us vs them.
> c) There needs to be better information made available at a local level about existing technologies that can help us move towards a zero-emissions future. This has to involve a lot more than designing a website and making the information accessible – it has to engage the community through in-person, on-ground outreach.
> d) There also needs to be a lot more information about how to adapt / retrofit existing housing stock to improve adaptability and resilience.
> e) Building community-level systems for knowledge-sharing - with fundamental indigenous involvement - will help make communities more resilient.
> f) Finally, evidence shows it is much easier to get people to learn / try something new if it is not taught in a top-down approach, but instead, as a 'journey of discovery'. The knowledge and education systems being put in place must be designed around this core principle if they are to succeed broadly.

4. Will the key actions under Priority area 2 support Tasmania to achieve its 2030 emissions reduction target and continued emissions reduction across Tasmania? What types of projects should be supported under the final action plan?

> The key actions in the Plan will help go a long way towards meeting Tasmania's GHG reduction targets, but given the rate of change that is required, changes to optimise the Plan for the greatest return in the shortest time should be encouraged.
>
> a) All evidence from around the world shows that small scale, modular, community level projects in energy independence will help maintain quality of life while increasing resilience and adaptability to any climate-change fuelled disasters. They also tend to cost less and deliver a much greater value-for-money than large flagship projects. This is not something that is in the Plan and if actioned, would go a long way in meeting sustainability targets.
> b) As mentioned previously, there is very little in the Plan about systems to make existing housing stock more energy efficient. This is a small adaptation that punches way above its weight-class when it comes to reducing GHG emissions aiding Transition to a sustainable future. (Perhaps set a goal to improve existing housing stock to NatHERS 7 or 8 star by 2050? It will support reduction of GHG emissions and create jobs!)

5. Will the key actions under Priority area 3 build resilience and support adaptation planning across Tasmania? What types of projects should be supported under the final action plan?

> The actions listed under the Priority area 3 will help build resilience and support adaptation planning across Tasmania. However, as previously mentioned any planning for change needs to be community led as evidence shows this is the best way to create resilient systems for societal level adaptation.
>
> As for projects to be supported, along with the others mentioned previously – all of which serve to support all three Priority areas of the Plan, I would like to propose a few additional projects:
>
> a) Adapt agriculture and industry to be more climate neutral – the proposal to reduce methane emissions if sorely needed but if the scope of that project were to be expanded to encourage mixed cropping + rotational / under canopy grazing, not only would it help meet Tasmania's GHG reduction targets, it would also help improve biodiversity and through that improve the resilience of the Tasmanian agriculture sector in the face of climate change.
> b) Any projects that improve active and public transport will serve all three priority areas – Brisbane's V1 Veloway is a successful example of building the infrastructure that brings about change.
> c) 'Green' steel will build the future, but if that were to be combined with a recycling system to create a feedback loop, it would create more jobs while going carbon-neutral – Tasmania could become the nation's leader in demonstrating the benefits of a value-adding, circular economy.
> d) Finally, just throwing it out there - an electric train line between Hobart and Launceston? - Moves people and goods! The tourism generated income could fund the freight service.

6. Are there other ways the government could make its action on climate change, and progress towards meeting its targets, more transparent and accessible?

> Improving the frequency and detail in the government updates would help.

7. If you have any further questions or feedback please add it here

> -N/A-

8. Please provide your full name, or the name of your organisation *

> Manoj Prajwal Bhattaram

9. Please provide your email address (optional)

10. Do you give permission for the Climate Change Office to publish your submission? *

- ◉ Yes

- ◯ No