

2025 National Forum on Australia's Wellbeing Wellbeing In Action

21st to 23rd October 2025 Ngunnawal and Ngambri Country - Canberra

PANEL: WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - LESSONS LEARNED

MODERATED BY
ANDREW HUDSON

WE NEED TO
STOP GOING FOR
THE OBVIOUS

LET'S TRAIN OURSELVES
TO DO NOTHING! :)

KINGA
TSHERING

CONSTITUTIONAL
CHANGE IN
AUSTRALIA IS...
SLOW.

MEASURING
WHAT MATTERS
HAS MADE SOME
GOOD GROUND

WE ALL
WANT TO
MAKE AUSTRALIA
A BETTER PLACE,
WE JUST GO ABOUT
IT DIFFERENTLY

POWER & CONTROL

HOW MIGHT WE
BREAK DOWN
SILOS

WHEN DOES
WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT
NOT WORK?

- OUR NATIONAL MENTAL
HEALTH FRAMEWORK
- AGREEING ISN'T ENOUGH; YOU
NEED THE STRUCTURES AND
FRAMEWORKS TO SUPPORT IT.

ANGELA
JACKSON

IN THE CARE
SECTOR, WE NEED
TO THINK ABOUT
QUALITY OF CARE

EVIDENCE IS A PATHWAY

NOT A ONE-OFF EVENT

WHAT HAS WORKED?
- PUTTING PEOPLE
AT THE CENTRE

EARLY INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK

• WE BUILT OUR OWN CAPABILITY TO
BUILD OUTWARD-LOOKING EVIDENCE BUILDING

GOVERNMENT WANTS TO
ENSURE IT IS SPENDING
MONEY IN THE RIGHT WAY.

WE SEEK TO
LIFT THE FLOOR
ON EVIDENCE

MATT
DONOHUE

BUT, I'M
YOUR FRIEND

DON'T BE
SCARED OF
EVIDENCE

"QUANTIFY":
STAY ON TRACK

REGULAR / UP TO DATE
EVIDENCE

- QUANTIFYING IS AN 'ART'
- QUANTIFYING IS ABOUT TELLING
A STORY
• EVALUATIONS PLAY A ROLE
IN IMPLEMENTATION OF LEARNING.

WE TEND TO INVEST
IN WELLBEING TOO LATE
- WHEN THE COST OF PREVENTION
OF POOR OUTCOMES IS LOWER...
SURELY?!!

EARLY
INTERVENTION
IS KEY.

GROSS NATIONAL
HAPPINESS

THE INSTITUTE
OF HAPPINESS

OUR WELLBEING SURVEY:
• LOTS OF LIMITATIONS
ON EVIDENCE
• BHUTAN IS AN
HOMOGENEOUS
CULTURE
BUT...

\$3.5 BILLION?
THAT'S THE GDP
OF BHUTAN!!!

RATHER THAN
JUST GATHERING
EVIDENCE...
EAT TOGETHER

IT'S ABOUT THE
WAYS WE LIVE
EATING

UNIVERSITY OF
CANBERRA

supported by
VicHealth

sva innovators
for good

Australian
Unity
Real Wellbeing

Cpd CENTRE
FOR POLICY
DEVELOPMENT

MONASH
University

DEAKIN
UNIVERSITY

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gavinblake.com.au
@gavin_scribes