



Open Society Common Purpose Taskforce (2022)

Terms of Reference

The taskforce is an independent, non-partisan group convened by the Sydney Policy Lab.

Representing a cross-section of Australian society, including business, the professions, civil society and academia, the taskforce will examine, and stimulate public discussion about, how Australian society can rebuild from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The taskforce will inquire into the following matters:

- pandemic and disaster preparedness (including what needs to be done to strengthen our healthcare system and our systems of resilience);
- children and youth (including how Australia can protect and promote children's and youth's interests);
- social cohesion and national identity (including how we repair social division and inequalities created, or magnified, by the pandemic); and
- public trust (including what we have learned about science communication, trust in experts, governance and policy during the pandemic).

The taskforce will make recommendations arising out of its inquiry, as it considers appropriate, and issue a public report by Friday 29 July 2022.

The taskforce will consult with experts from within the University and beyond, and facilitate public discussion about the matters of inquiry. Its work will be informed by the belief that dialogue between academic researchers and diverse parts of Australian society will unlock answers to the urgent challenges of our time.