



A Toolkit for Effective Public Policy

TRAINING

Build strong foundational skills to affect positive community, economic and social outcomes



Facilitated by
AARON JOHNSTONE
FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR
INTERACT Policy Solutions

Online → 9 & 16 July 2024



Overview

This course has been developed specifically for public sector professionals in Australia and New Zealand who are new to policy or looking to build a better understanding of the business of government and policy-making.

Participants will learn how to apply analytical tools and frameworks to understand the problems they may be facing, improve their decision-making processes, and produce effective, evidence-based policy solutions.

It will investigate the issues that impact the creation of rigorous policies, including considering what rational decision-making is. It will equip you with frameworks to understand individual and group decision-making behaviours, and how to overcome some of the problems that arise.

The course delves into policy-making components, using case studies, group discussions, and small group activities to foster active participation and learning.

Who Should Attend

This is for people who are new to government and policy-making, taking on a policy role or looking to enhance their policy acumen

- Policy Officer
- Policy Analyst
- Research Officer
- Assistant Policy Advisor
- Government Relations Coordinator
- Public Affairs Specialist
- Legislative Assistant
- Program Coordinator
- Communications Officer
- Project Officer

Learning Outcomes

- Comprehensive Understanding of Public Policy
- Explore Policy Development and Design Skills
- Problem Definition and Assessment
- Build insights into Evidence-Based Policy
- Navigate Stakeholder Communication and Public Participation

Why Attend

- Build a solid understanding of the essential principles, concepts, and processes involved in public policy
- Gain skills to make informed and effective decisions in the realm of public policy
- An opportunity to network and benchmark with your peers
- Stay up-to-date current with the latest developments, trends, and best practices

Meet Your Facilitator



AARON JOHNSTONE
FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR
INTERACT Policy Solutions

Aaron Johnstone is public policy expert and has built a career that spans almost three decades. With a broad range of networks in industry and government, he has built a reputation as an effective collaborator and strategic leader, who understands and connects industry and government.

Aaron began his career in Canberra as a Graduate in the Australian Government in 1995, joining the public service out of an eager desire to make a meaningful contribution to social and economic prosperity. I have a BA in Government and History at with University of QLD, and an Executive Master of Public Administration at the University of Melbourne (ANZSOG). Some of his highlights include:

- Research, project management and analytical support of Commonwealth-State agreements on skills reforms and funding with the Australian National Training - Authority
- Providing strategic political and policy advice as a Ministerial Adviser for the Hon Anna Bligh MP in her time in the Beattie State Government Cabinet.
- Devising and managing communication strategies for Westminster City Council in central London on transport, urban development, and planning.
- Managing education and training policy reform in a variety of State Government bodies in Queensland and Victoria

Preparation

This workshop is highly interactive with group activities and discussions throughout. Come prepared with some current challenges you are facing in your organisation.

To participate you'll need:

- A computer with camera and microphone
- Strong internet connection
- Quiet, well-lit space
- Current challenges you are facing

Register Early & Save

Extra Early Bird	Early Bird	Standard Price
Register by 26 th Apr	Register by 24 th May	Register by 8 th Jul
\$795 + GST	\$995 + GST	\$1,195 + GST
Save \$400	Save \$200	-

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

*Group Discounts Available - Contact Registration at registrations@publicsectornetwork.com or Call on **(02) 9057 9070**

10:00am Welcome and Introductions

Module 1: The Definition of Public Policy

10:20am The Definition of Public Policy

- Australian system of Government and role of key institutions (eg Westminster system of responsible government, constitution, role of executive/judiciary/parliament, tenets of public service).
 - Business of government, ministers and their role in public policy.
 - The political and social environment in which policy is made.
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11:00am Break

11:15am Key Stages in the Policy and Program Cycle Tools and frameworks of Public Policy: the Australian Policy Cycle

- The Federal System of Government in Australia and how it impacts policy.
 - Contestability in policy advice (eg role of outside actors in policy).
 - Group exercise.
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12:00pm Break

Module 2: Understanding Effective Policy Development and Design

12:30pm Designing Effective Policy

- Policy Instruments - how governments achieve their objectives.
 - Principles of good policy design.
 - Understand how to identify suitable tools instruments.
 - Discussing the key challenges and strategies to overcome them.
 - Forces and events that impact policy development.
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01:15pm Break

01:30pm An overview of the tools used in Policy Development

- Regulatory Impact Assessment
 - Cost Benefit Analysis
 - Intervention Logic
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02:15pm Q&A

02:20pm Closing remarks

02:30pm End of Day 1

10:00am Welcome and Recap

Module 3: Defining the Problem

10:20am **Group discussion: What are some wicked Policy problems facing Australia?**

- How to define and assess policy issues
 - Discussing when government intervention is called for
 - How to define the problem and establishing a vision
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11:00am **Break**

11:15am **Group activity: Responding to key wicked Policy problems facing Australia**

- Challenges in using evidence for Australian Policymakers.
 - Critiquing data and evidence.
 - Navigating challenges in evidence-based policymaking.
 - Newer forms of assessment and public policy.
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12:00pm **Lunch**

Module 4: Stakeholder Engagement, Communication and Public Participation

12:30pm **Communicating and Employing Data and Evidence Effectively**

- Principles and practices in communicating data and evidence.
 - Strategies for effective communication in policy and program design and presenting to decision-makers
Real-world examples of successful and unsuccessful communication of data and evidence.
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01:15pm **Break**

01:30pm **Stakeholder groups, Public Participation and Policymaking**

- Importance of stakeholder groups and public engagement in Australian Policy.
 - Working with First Nations groups.
 - Newer forms of engagement.
 - Case study on unsuccessful public participation - Robodebt Royal Commission report.
 - Strategies for Inclusive Policymaking.
 - Leadership skills and mindsets needed for good policy advice.
 - Resources for further information.
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02:25pm **Closing remarks**

02:30pm **End of Training**



Get In Contact

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