

2019-20 BUDGET CONSULTATION REPORT ON WHAT WE HEARD



2019-20 ACT BUDGET CONSULTATION

The annual Budget Consultation process provides an important opportunity for the community to have their say on where spending should be targeted and how government services can be improved.

The 2018-19 Budget built on everything that is great about Canberra. Looking ahead to the 2019-20 Budget, we are committed to considering the priorities of the wider Canberra community. Working together, we can ensure that our resources are put to their best use for all Canberrans.



THE CONVERSATION

We asked the community to share their ideas for the 2019-20 Budget.

Between 27 August and 31 October 2018, we invited community members, businesses, and local organisations to share their ideas for the 2019-20 Budget via an online survey or providing written submissions through the [Budget Consultation](#) project page on www.yoursay.act.gov.au.

We have published contributions on [2019-20 Budget Consultation: Input Received](#), except those provided in confidence.

WHO ENGAGED

Ninety-three ACT residents, community and business groups, unions and other stakeholders supplied written submissions, while 49 people responded to the survey questions.

The submissions and survey responses covered a diverse range of issues, including arts and entertainment, community services, disability, education, environmental protection, health, public infrastructure and transport, sustainability, as well as matters relating to the Territory's finances.



Key insights from the community

Health services

1. According to our online survey, health services are the most important area of government service delivery. We received many suggestions for the improvement of health services.
2. We heard that mental health support, alcohol and drug treatment services, and aged care services are key areas of importance to the community.

Community services

3. The feedback highlighted that housing (and homelessness prevention), family services, disadvantaged children, disability support arrangements, domestic violence prevention, and social inclusion are important issues for 2019-20.
4. Community sector organisations provided valuable input on service delivery improvement and highlighted the services they provide, such as financial counselling support and emergency accommodation services.

Public infrastructure and transport

5. We received feedback on services that improve the amenity of our city, and that we rely on every day, such as public infrastructure, road projects, active travel considerations, urban renewal, and waste processing and recycling.
6. We received both positive and negative feedback about larger projects, such as the light rail network.
7. Some feedback suggested that planning and development factors should be considered in all projects, including the accessibility and interconnectivity of our public transport network.

Our environment

8. Respondents said that our natural environment and reserves are important and that environmental and sustainability practices should be a key element of our planning and development.
9. The feedback was broad and covered areas such as climate change, reducing our environmental impacts, protection for our regional biodiversity, and management of our waterways and local catchments.

Other topics

10. Other topics raised include education (from early childhood through to higher education), arts, entertainment and recreational facilities, community engagement, involvement in the development of our city, and reminders of the range of valuable services available through non-government organisations.

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WHAT'S NEXT?

We are using your ideas to help inform the priorities for the Budget for 2019-20.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback. We are reviewing the submissions as we begin preparing the 2019-20 Budget.

The 2019-20 Budget will be released in June 2019.

Key timings

27 August 2018

2019-20 Budget Consultation opened

31 October 2018

2019-20 Budget Consultation closed

4 December 2018

2019-20 Budget Consultation Listening report released

June 2019 (anticipated)

The 2019-20 ACT Budget is released

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

93

written submissions received*

49

responses to the online survey*

649

unique visitors reviewed our
Input Received page*

Submissions published online on [2019-20 Budget Consultation: Input Received](#)

* At the time of publication of this report