

The Centre for Policy Development is a public interest think tank dedicated to injecting new ideas into Australia's public policy debate.

### How we're different

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We're not an academic research unit, a lobby group or a campaigning body. We're not affiliated with any political party. We're non-profit, based in Sydney but with a national policy focus.

Our focus is on the development and dissemination of practical policy ideas and on the translation of academic research into "real world" proposals and analysis. We look at the big picture and the long term, reimagining the entire public sphere by seeking out, synthesising and promoting the best research from Australia and around the world.

We have a very strong online presence and an intentionally open and accessible publishing and policy development model. We encourage two-way traffic of ideas and comments – engaging our experts with our wider membership to make sure our work is always grounded in the reality of people's lives.

Another unique aspect of the CPD's work is the priority we give to promoting a diverse range of voices: encouraging cross-generational participation and collaboration.

### What we do

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The CPD seeks to foster a profound change in the way public policy is generated in Australia. Our focus is on finding practical long-term solutions, outside the boundaries of traditional party political debates.

Those involved in the CPD are working to combat the myth that Australians have no choice about the policies that affect their lives, by exploring new approaches to the relationship between governments, markets, society, and the environment. We don't just criticize current policies: we propose fair and sustainable alternatives.

The CPD is pluralist – we may know where we want to go, but we're open-minded about how to get there. Australia faces increasingly complex challenges; there is often no one 'right' answer to problems such as climate change, dwindling water supplies, unsustainable debt or entrenched disadvantage. This makes a vigorous exchange of ideas more important than ever.

### How we do it

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Our board and fellows are academics, authors, former political advisors and bureaucrats, lawyers, business people, commentators and advocates. The Centre gives this diverse community of thinkers space to grow and develop their ideas, and connects those ideas with a wider audience of concerned citizens, policy makers and the media.

We publish research papers and proposals on a diverse range of policy challenges. CPD people also work to promote their research by writing articles for specialist and mainstream media, presenting at conferences, and making themselves available for interview and comment.

The CPD website at [cpd.org.au](http://cpd.org.au) is our main public face, where we publish the papers in our *CommonSense*, *ImagiNation*, and *ReThink* series, as well as our *CPD Occasional Papers*. Also at [cpd.org.au](http://cpd.org.au) is the fully searchable archive of all our essays, articles and commentary written on: real world economics; health; education; environment; work, family and care; media, arts and culture; democratic renewal; Australia and the world; and human rights.

Our focus in 2007 is on health and economic policy.

The CPD plays host to a cross-disciplinary community of thinkers with expertise across a broad range of public policy issues. They are articulate and passionate about their research and experienced at working to media specifications and deadlines. Further biographical information can be found at <http://cpd.org.au/about-us/fellows>. To get in touch, contact the CPD at the details below.

### Our director

**Miriam Lyons, former Policy Coordinator of New Matilda, festival director and writer:** future of public services, politics of balance, citizen participation in decision-making, citizen media

### Our chair

**John Menadue AO, former chair of major NSW and SA health reviews and head of the department of Prime Minister and Cabinet under Whitlam and Fraser:** health policy, federalism, ethics in public life

### Our fellows

**Fred Argy, former high-level policy advisor:** IR policy, social mobility and the Nordic social welfare model

**Dr James Arvanitakis, UWS academic:** globalisation, trade, aid, hope, 'the commons', progressive politics

**Mark Bahnisch, Griffith University academic & prominent blogger:** online media, blogging, Queensland politics, youth issues, industrial relations, the changing culture of work

**Professor Denise Bradley AO, former Vice-Chancellor SA University:** tertiary education

**Mark Connelly, lawyer:** US politics, independent media, human rights

**Lyndsay Connors, former member of Commonwealth Schools Commission:** education – especially schools funding

**Eva Cox, prominent feminist and public intellectual:** 'civil society', work-family balance, gender issues, the politics of time

**Dr Mark Davis, 'Ganglands' author & Melbourne University academic:** generationalism, the link between neoliberal economic policies and conservative social policies, critique of the current government's economic credentials

**Emma Dawson, research fellow, Monash University:** public broadcasting, multiculturalism, immigration, national identity

**Ian Dunlop, former head of AICD and Australian Coal Association:** climate change, peak oil, personal carbon quotas (tradable energy quotas)

**Dr Lindy Edwards, ANU academic:** economics, strategies for progressive renewal

**Professor Meredith Edwards AM, National Institute for Governance:** governance, community engagement, public sector boards

**Ben Eltham, author and festival organiser:** defence spending, arts policy, intellectual property - especially music licensing, cultural economics - especially urban cultural industries

**Dr Donna Green, climate scientist, UNSW:** climate change impacts and risk, energy policy, indigenous knowledge and climate change adaptation

**Professor Ray Ison, Melbourne University academic:** environmental decision making, water policy, systems theory

**Dr Steve Keen, UWS academic:** economics – especially finance, the credit industry, Australia's household debt

**Ian McAuley, Canberra University academic:** public finance, behavioural economics, health policy - especially integration and private health insurance

**Dr David McKnight, UNSW academic:** Australian politics 'beyond left & right', Australian journalism, media policy

**Tony Moore, commissioning editor, Pluto Press:** media reform, Australian popular culture, public broadcasting

**Professor John Quiggin, University of Queensland academic:** economics – especially risk, climate change