

**Support for the OGP's Mission and strategy and Open Government Declaration**

I have a passion for governance and the involvement of citizens in their government. Democracy can only fulfil its promise to the electorate when it is open and accountable and when citizens take an active role. I support Australia's commitment to the OGP and believe that I would be able to assist in the first three strategic goals of the mission and strategy.

**Expertise relevant to the OGP, including existing of probably Australian open Government commitments**

Transparent and accountable government is important for everyone but especially so for the most vulnerable citizens. The treatment of data, and the accountability of government for how they work with citizens has never been more important. The erosion of public trust in institutions including government is a huge threat to democracy and governance and the OGP is vital in arresting this mistrust through accountability, responsiveness and transparency. I have previously held roles that ensure that data is properly used in order to maintain public trust, such as auditing public CCTV systems.

Good data which is robust and has integrity is also vital for designing policy which will assist strong communities and in turn a strong nation. The collection of useful data and the commissioning of services in a complex eco system is vital if we are to design service systems that are relevant now, and able to evolve to be relevant into the future. Place based initiatives to combat disadvantage are a good example of where this can work.

**Demonstrated ability to engage broad and diverse community networks**

Through my employment with Anglicare Australia I am in touch with tens of thousands of Australians right across the country who use or operate services for vulnerable people across the lifespan. I also have national networks throughout the Anglican Church of Australia and beyond all these into political and academic networks here and overseas.

In my own community I volunteer for several environmental organisations and am an active long term member of my local Rural Fire Service.

**Previous experience working with and influencing government**

I have worked with federal, state and territory governments of all political parties on boards, working parties and committees elected or as a ministerial appointment. Having been employed in the federal public service senior executive service I also understand the needs and processes of government from that side in terms of both working with government and influencing the outcomes of government.

**Desirability of maintaining some continuity between successive forums.**

Obviously I would be a new member and would seek to bring the experiences which led me to being selected. However I would also seek to thoroughly understand the previous work of the forum. I have completed the Company Directors Course as part of my interest in governance and understand that the group (and its previous decisions) is more than the sum of the individuals. In this way I will seek to address the balance of new and experience even within my own membership