

From the co-author of  
The Australian Policy Handbook

**policyskills** 

2023 Workshops  
BUILDING POLICY CAPACITY



Expert Facilitators: Peter Bridgman and Nonie Malone

# Tools and skills for policy practitioners

## 2 Day Workshop

**Interactive learning suitable for practitioners at all levels in State, Federal and Local Governments, Non-Government Bodies and Universities.** Learn from experts with years of policy experience at all levels.

- Develop new policy skills and build on your existing skills
- Understand why developing policy advice is hard
- Come away with new tools and frameworks to improve your analysis
- Navigate the complex policy environment
- Distinguish the elements of good policy and learn from policy failure
- Know how to engage stakeholders effectively
- See how policy practitioners lead and manage policy
- Develop confidence in planning and execution for effective implementation and evaluation
- Explore the interface between research, evidence, analysis, implementation and evaluation
- Know how to balance control and flexibility to deal with uncertainty

### *See over for full course outline*

*Here is what participants (from Policy Officer to Assistant Director-General) said about about a previous workshop:*

*“Nonie & Peter are highly informative and excellent speakers and educators.”*

*“The program has been very re-affirming, extended my knowledge and challenged my thinking.”*

*“This workshop will assist in my framing of policy problems to provide better considered policy advice to stakeholders. I expect to be able to achieve this from better utilizing the policy tools outlined in this workshop and applying them to drive proactive constructive policy initiatives.”*

*“The presenters exceeded my expectations. Felt the program was tailored to my specific needs. Ticked all of the boxes.”*

*See more feedback online*

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*Australia's leading workshops for policy professionals and students alike.*

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copy**

All participants receive  
a copy of *The Australian  
Policy Handbook 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*

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## Course overview

### Day One: Policy in Context

#### 1. Policy Issues

- What is “public policy” and why is it important?
- How do issues become policy issues?
- Prioritising competing policy issues

#### 2. Policy analysis

- How do we analyse policy issues?
- Analytical tools and concepts
- Innovative thinking

#### 3. How to make a difference: policy instruments

- What tools do we have to make a difference?
- Which tools are the right ones?
- Understand legislation: when to use it and when not to use it

#### 4. Policy players

- Methods for effective stakeholder communication
- Ministers and Cabinet
- The role of the policy analyst
- Managing up essentials: influential communication and action

### Day Two: Policy in Action

#### 5. Coordinating policy action inside government

- Consultation with other agencies
- The role and influence of central agencies

#### 6. Policy decision making

- Policies that make sense to decision makers
- Framing policy arguments

#### 7. Implementation and evaluation challenges

- Implementation as success and failure
- How do we know if our policies achieved the desired result?

#### 8. Integrating policy lessons

- Essentials for good policy making
- Dealing with uncertainty and time pressures
- Project management for policy and programs
- Managing in: maintaining and upgrading your own and your team’s policy strengths