

Feedback on Issues we are Resourcing

February 2023

Each year we invite our supporters to tell us which issues they most want us to campaign with them on towards just outcomes. We provided a survey sheet in our October 2022 issue of JustAct. In total 26 supporters responded to the survey. Below are how the issues were ranked based on the number of people willing to write letters, attend forums or rallies, get others to sign a petition, organize events, or be willing to visit their local MP.

2023 Ranking of Issues by Supporters	Net number of supporters wanting to be resourced on this issue in the end of 2022 survey	2022 Ranking	2021 Ranking	2020 Ranking
1. Supporting people seeking asylum and refugees	25	4	1	2
2. Curbing climate change	24	1	1	1
2. Covenanting (justice for First Peoples)	23	2	2	3
3. Ending racism	18	3	3	5
4. Curbing family violence	17	4	3	4
4. Support for people with disabilities	17	4	7	11
5. Reform of the youth criminal justice system	16	9	N/A	N/A
5. Supporting human rights in West Papua	16	10	N/A	N/A
5. Gambling reform	16	11	10	12
6. Supporting human rights in Myanmar	15	10	N/A	N/A
7. Eliminating human trafficking and slavery	14	8	8	6
8. Reducing overseas poverty	13	11	4	10
9. Defending the rights of LGBTIQ+ people	12	N/A	N/A	N/A
10. Government transparency	11	10	9	7
10. Curbing insecure work	11	14	N/A	N/A
11. Alcohol reform	10	12	10	15
12. Seeking just peace in Israel-Palestine conflict	8	12	8	N/A

Issues with the same number of supporters have been assigned equal ranking (for example, there are two issues ranked equal 4th).

The time we have to work on the above issues will not be evenly spread between these issues. Instead, issues will be given greater priority based on the following factors, as assessed by the JIM Cluster:

- The level of support for the issue as indicated by the table above.
- The degree to which there are immediate opportunities to make a difference on the issue, that would be missed if we did not act on them (for example, a government is consulting on legislation that impacts on the issue).
- The ability of our actions to make a difference on the issue, especially by resourcing you, our supporters, to take action.

An issue may also be given greater resourcing if the Synod meeting or the Synod Standing Committee require us to complete specific pieces of work on the issue.

The issues of homelessness and aged care are of interest to a large proportion of Uniting Church connected people. However, the Synod's response to these issues is managed through Uniting Vic.Tas and Uniting AgeWell. Thus, the JIM Cluster is not able to provide any resources or support to those wishing to engage on these issues.