

Feedback on Issues we are Resourcing

February 2024

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 September 2023 issue of JustAct. In total 25 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.

2024 Ranking of Issues by Supporters	Net number of supporters wanting to be resourced on this issue in the end of 2023 survey	2023 Ranking	2022 Ranking	2021 Ranking
1. Curbing homelessness	20	6	N/A	N/A
2. Supporting people seeking asylum and refugees	18	1	4	1
2. Curbing climate change	18	2	1	1
2. Ending racism	18	3	3	3
3. Reform of our democracy	17	10	10	9
4. Covenanting (justice for First Nations Peoples)	15	2	2	2
4. Curbing family violence	15	4	4	3
4. Support for people with disabilities	15	4	4	7
5. Eliminating human trafficking and slavery	14	7	8	8
5. Ukraine – Russian war	14	N/A	N/A	N/A
6. Seeking just peace in Israel-Palestine conflict	13	12	12	8
6. Opposing closure of bank branches	13	N/A	N/A	N/A
7. Reform of the youth criminal justice system	12	5	9	N/A
7. Gambling reform	12	5	11	10
7. Reducing overseas poverty	12	8	11	4
8. Supporting human rights in West Papua	10	5	10	N/A
8. Improving teacher training	10	N/A	N/A	N/A
9. Defending the rights of LGBTIQ+ people	9	9	N/A	N/A
9. Alcohol reform	9	11	12	10
10. Supporting human rights in Myanmar	8	6	10	N/A
10. Improving nurse training	8	N/A	N/A	N/A
11. Curbing insecure work	7	10	14	N/A
12. Opposing nuclear submarines	6	N/A	N/A	N/A
13. Opposing AUKUS	4	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

New issues to the survey are marked in bold. These were added at the request of at least one supporter.

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.

Based on the feedback from the survey, the Cluster will substantially increase work on curbing homelessness and pick up providing resources around the Ukraine – Russia war. The Cluster will also provide support to congregations seeking to oppose a bank branch closure in their local area.

The JIM Cluster will immediately end work on human rights in West Papua and defending the rights of LGBTIQA+ people.

The Cluster is deeply involved with coalitions of community organisations working on human rights in Myanmar, insecure work and alcohol reforms. Based on the feedback from the survey it will downgrade its involvement in these coalitions as it moves to withdraw from its involvement altogether if the 2024 issues survey indicates a lasting lack of priority in addressing reforms on these issues.