



## Advisory Board Meeting Communique

**03 September 2021**

The fifth meeting of the Australian Circular Economy Hub (ACE Hub) Advisory Board had a strong focus on policy recommendations to facilitate the transition to a circular economy, with several suggestions made by members prior to the meeting. General updates on program activities were also provided by the ACE Hub team.

Policy recommendations suggested by board members included:

- Domestic sourcing policy connected to reshoring and advancing manufacturing.
- Polluter pays principle that stimulates resource productivity and resource utilisation.
- Requirements on traceability and transparency for sourcing.
- Adopting purposeful circular procurement policy at each level of government.
- Adopting asset specification policy across government including clear circularity requirements.
- Providing a national showcase/register of advanced materials reprocessing technology and manufacturing
- A strategic planning umbrella planning policy and changes to competition laws is needed in New South Wales to join the current planning and environmental policies together.
- Future preparedness for carbon tax or a carbon border adjustment mechanism.

The group highlighted the ACE Hub's role in shaping purposeful procurement policy through its Procurement Working Group. Product stewardship was also identified as an existing government investment strategy that can be developed further.

In addition to policy, the group also discussed the following key topics:

- Circular procurement, especially in local and national government and the need to break down barriers for faster and more efficient procurement processes.
- Consumer awareness, including the role of accurately labelling products ensuring consumers receive the education needed to manage materials correctly.
- Development and implementation of standards to enforce policies. Even an excellent policy has little impact without the development, implementation and enforcement of standards.

It was agreed that a paper by Maria Atkinson on an 'umbrella planning policy' would be provided as pre-reading material to continue the discussion in the following meeting.

Find information on the [ACE Hub Advisory Board members and meeting summaries here](#).