Key trends influencing SIA decision-making

Moving towards effectiveness, accuracy and enforcement

Professor Sara Bice
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Emerging issues influencing decision-making in SIA

Digitisation

Politicisation

Intensification

Professionalisation



data from the field



Digitisation

Who is local?

Who is an affected community?

Which jurisdictions matter?



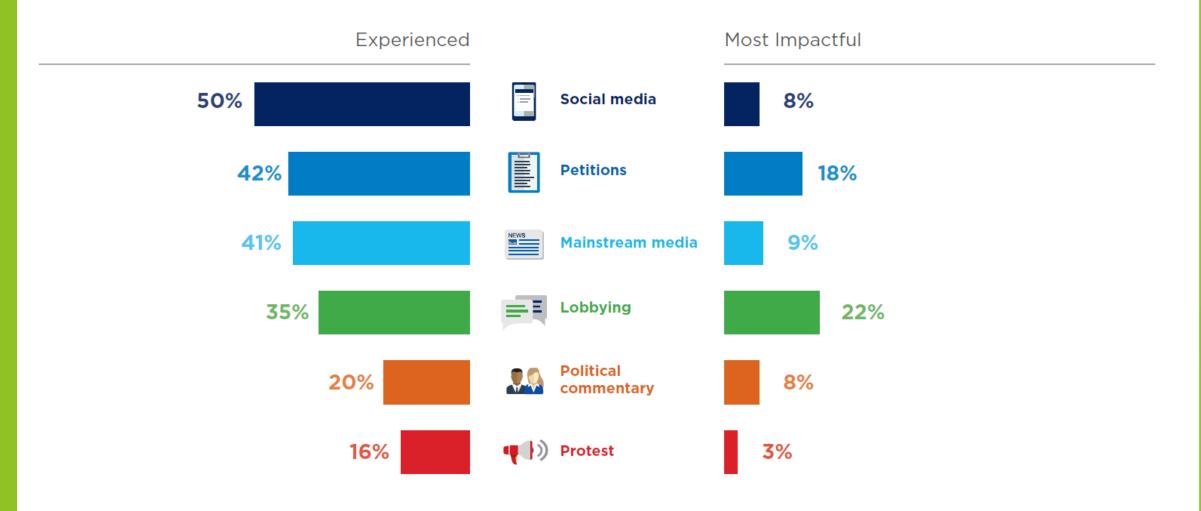
Who is local?

Social media



Types of stakeholder pressure experienced

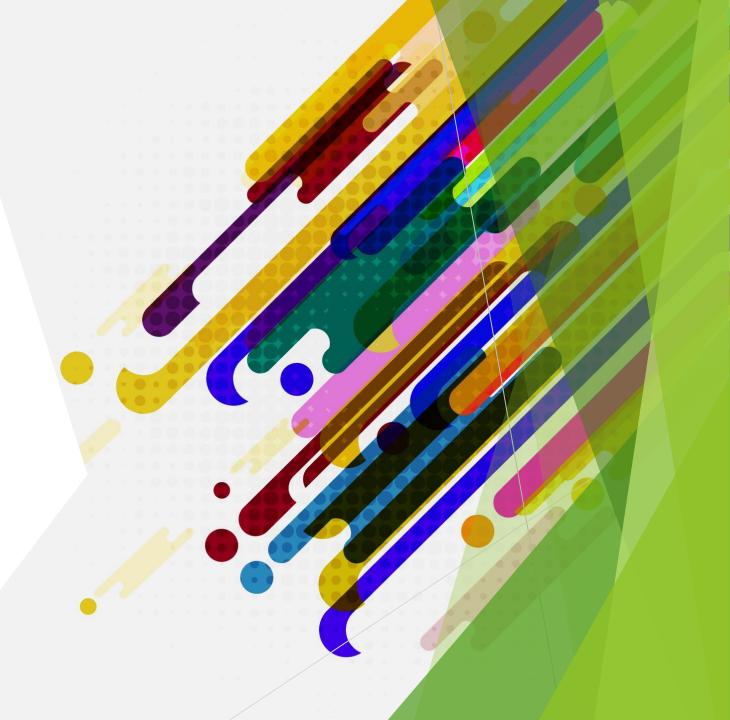
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Source: State of Infrastructure and Engagement, 2019-2020.

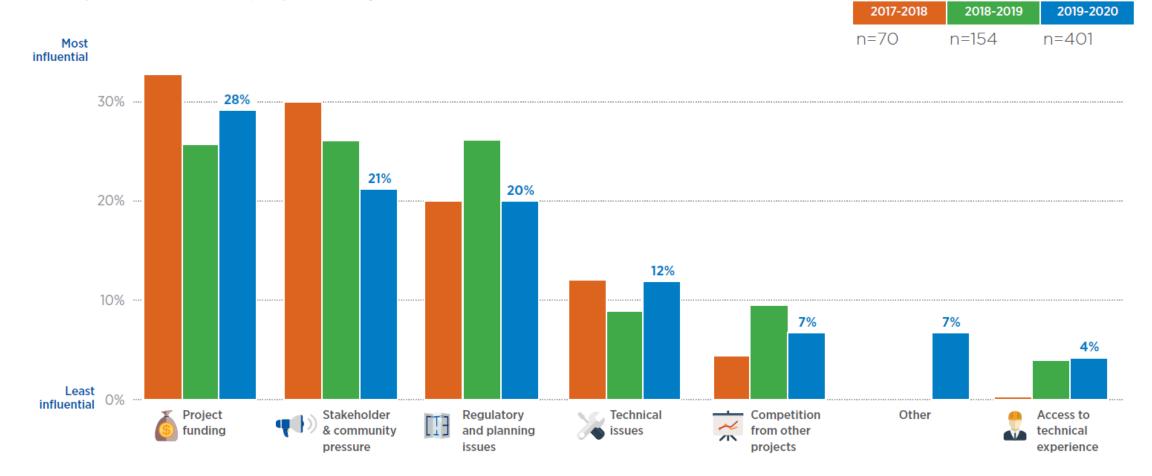
Politicisation

Linking to accountability and enforcement



Project delivery

Major influences of project delay



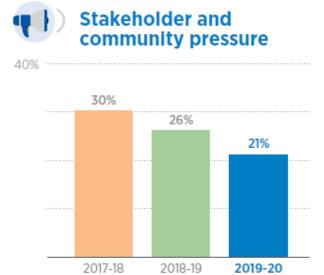
www.nextgenengagement.org

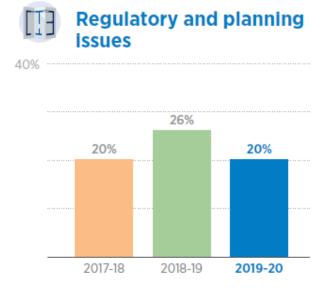
Source: State of Infrastructure and Engagement, 2019-2020.

Project delivery:

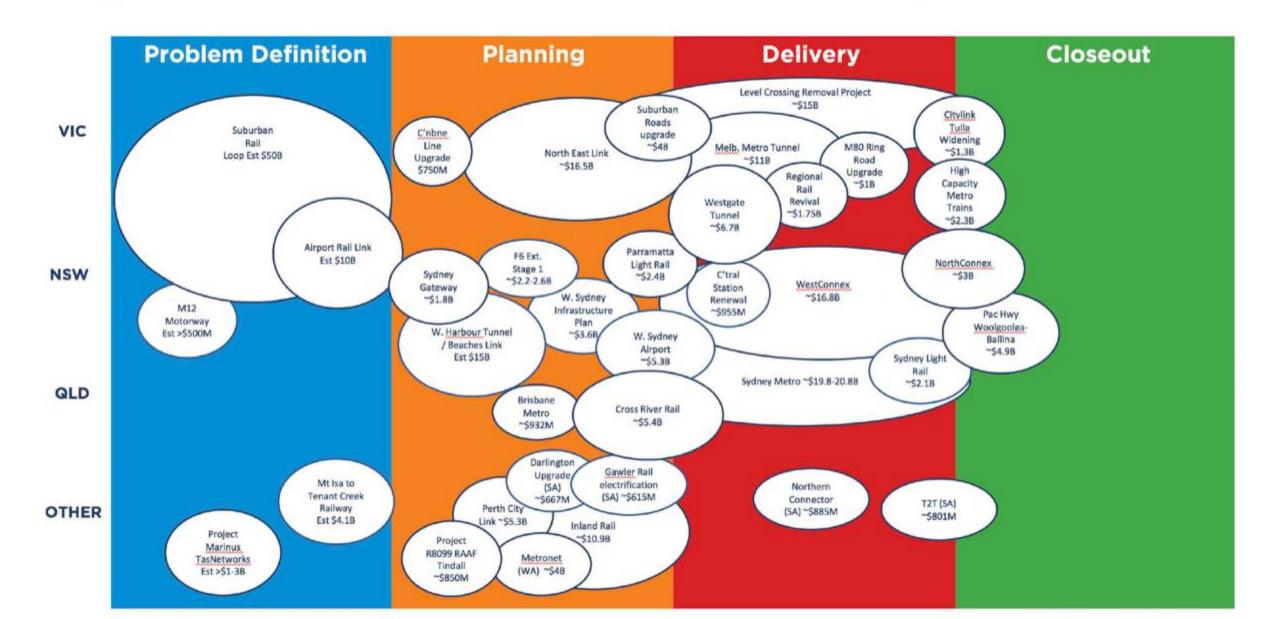
Major influences of project delay







Most of Australia's \$235B infrastructure pipeline is in a stage rated most vulnerable to stakeholder pressure.

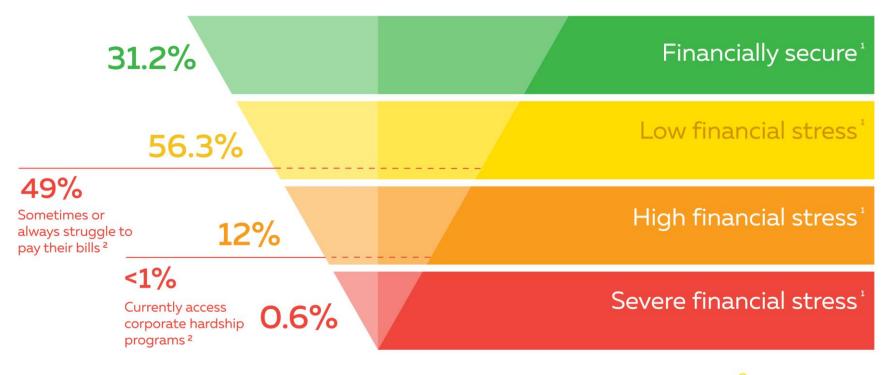




The COVID-19 Effect

Shaping the way we do SIA

Financial vulnerability pre-COVID



^{1.} National Australia Bank - Why is Financial Stress on the Rise?_2017

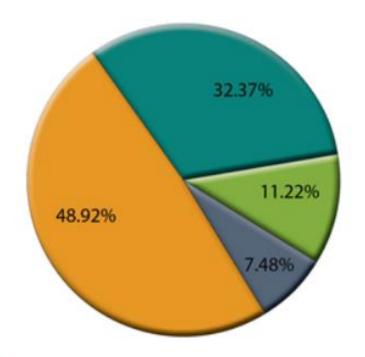


^{2.} Thriving Communities Partnership - Vulnerability Round Table_2016

Communities under pressure

- Increased stress, compassion fatigue.
- Placing a different value on local amenities.
- Living, working, and playing differently.
- Ongoing desire to be consulted.
- Ongoing priorities on social / environmental issues
- Financial vulnerability.

How do you believe the impact assessment procedures will change as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?



- COVID-19 will be used as a rationale to temporarily relax or permanently dilute limit impact assessment regulations/standards/policies.
- Impact assessment will become more important in regulations/standards/policies.
- There will be no change.
- Other (please specify)

Source: IAIA (2020)

COVID19 and Impact Assessment



POLICY FORUM

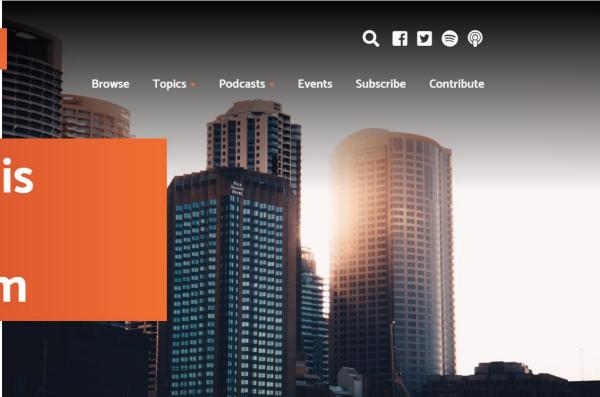


PHOTO: Christopher Burns on Unsplash

How COVID-19 is changing the planning system

What comes next for the country's planners?

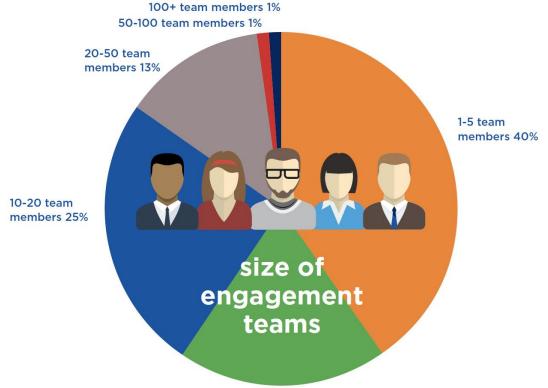
SARA BICE, KIRSTY O'CONNELL



Professionalisation and community based assessment

Investing in engagement

40% of organisations have 5 or less people in their engagement team.



5-10 team members 19%







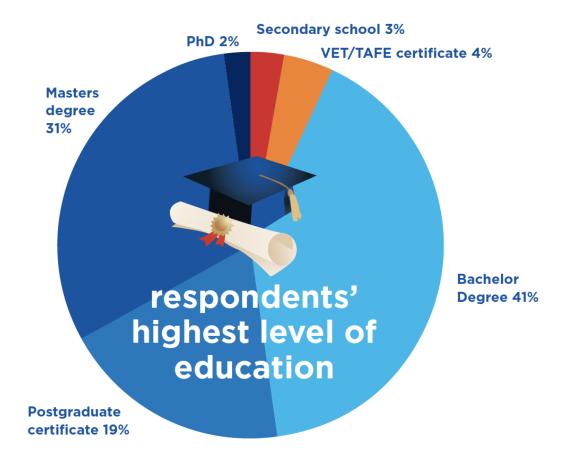


Source: Next Gen 2018 State of Infrastructure and Engagement Survey

n= 89

Engagement professionals are highly educated. 50% hold a postgrad certificate or Masters degree. 91% hold a tertiary qualification.

This is well above the Australian national average: 24.3% hold a Bachelor's degree or above (Source: 2016 Census data).

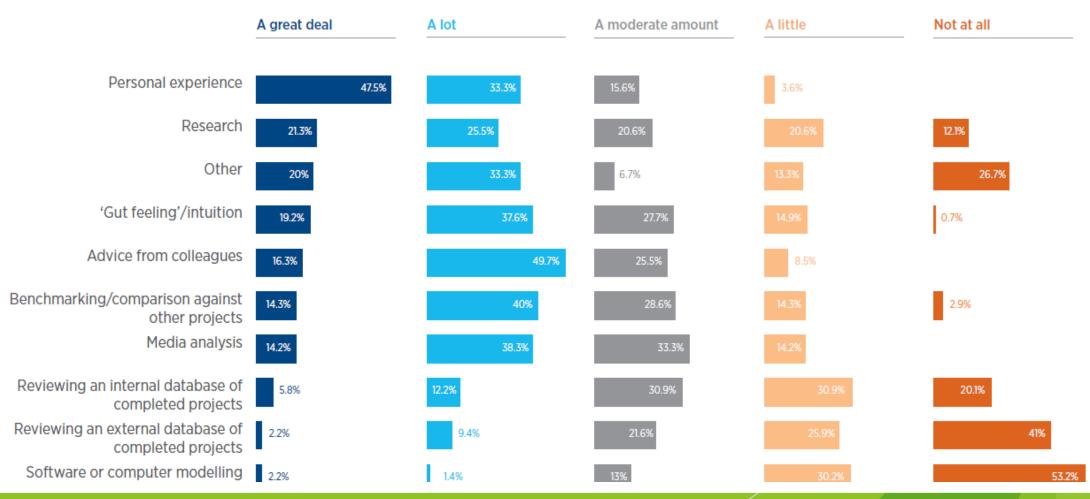






Ways of identifying Social Risks

n=141



Source: State of Infrastructure and Engagement, 2019-2020.



Community engagement

commitments and activities to involve community members in policy and project planning, delivery, or evaluation processes

CBA

- Community data collection
- Build capacity to participate
- Community assessment/interpretation
- Process ownership





Professor Sara Bice Director





Kirsty O'Connell Industry Director





Institute for Infrastructure in Society

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