

Anthony Albanese, National Press Club Address on Labor's 2019 Election Review

October 2019

On Friday 8 November 2019, Labor Leader Anthony Albanese addressed the National Press Club in Canberra.

Responding to Labor's 2019 Federal Election Review, Albanese outlined how Labor will better connect with the interests and concerns of Australians.

Albanese announced Labor would develop a new policy agenda that was 'positive, aspirational and modernising', explaining that "as the economy and society changes, so must Labor".

Labor will place more emphasis on clearly and simply communicating how their policies will make Australia wealthier and more prepared for emerging global challenges.

New policy will focus on five key areas:

1. *Jobs and Strong Economy - Responding to market demands in the workforce, both present and emerging.*
2. *Fair Australia where no one is left behind - Ensuring all Australians have access to quality education and healthcare, as well as necessary social security services.*
3. *Infrastructure that boosts productivity – Supporting infrastructure projects that promote decentralisation, stimulate the economy and create quality employment.*
4. *Climate Change Action - Focusing on maximising industry opportunities and mitigating environmental threats.*
5. *Providing national security – Enhancing Australia's role as a global middle power, and important regional influence for trade and relations; with focus on multilateralism, regional engagement and the US alliance.*

Policy Delivery

Albanese explained that policy reforms will take place over a four-stage process, incorporating consultation with industry, Labor members and the general public.

Stage One: Labor's 2019 Federal Election Review

Released Thursday 11 November, the Review called for simplified policy narratives that promote economic growth and job creation; in alignment with core Labor values.

The Review notes Labor "policies can be bold but should form part of a coherent Labor story, be limited in number and be easily explainable, making them less capable of misrepresentation." and that "Labor should adopt the language of inclusion, recognising the contribution of small and large businesses to economic prosperity"



Stage Two: Vision Statements

The first Vision Statement, was held Tuesday 29 October in Perth on *The Future of Work*. The statement announced Labor's intention to create a new statutory body '*Jobs and Skills Australia*' to address skills and training needs in the growing sectors of the economy, a Creative Industries Summit, IR laws for the 21st century, and a plan to capitalise on 'de-carbonising' global markets and tax concession for new investments.

On Friday 22 November 2019, Labor Leader Anthony Albanese addressed the independent progressive Australian think tank Per Capita in Brisbane. In his second policy statement, Albanese outlined Labor's strategy to address challenges facing the economy, calling for direct and indirect investment in infrastructure projects, microeconomic reforms and a review of bureaucratic barriers to productivity.

On Saturday 07 December 2019, Labor Leader Anthony Albanese addressed The Chifley Research Centre in Sydney. In his third policy statement, Albanese outlined Labor's 5-point strategy to address challenges facing democratic institutions. In the address he called for government to play a leadership role in repairing public discourse, increasing transparency and holding digital-technology companies accountable for misinformation shared on their platforms.

On Wednesday 19 February, Labor Leader Anthony Albanese addressed the Queensland Media Club in Brisbane. In his fourth policy statement, Albanese outlined Labor's "Positive Ageing Strategy", which commits to the scheduled increases to superannuation guarantees, increasing employment opportunities for those over 45, expanding healthcare options and redesigning cities and childcare to better integrate an ageing population.

Stage 3: Platform Reform

Labor intends to re-write and consolidate their current Labor party platform, which Albanese described as among the longest of any centre-left party in the world.

This stage will culminate in the Labor National Conference held in Canberra in December 2020.

Stage 4: Release of Labor Policy

Labor will periodically release new policies focused on a 'strong economy and jobs at the forefront' in the lead up to the next Federal Election.

The sweeping policy reset will present an 'optimistic' outlook for social justice issues, nation building, science, and the future of work.

Further information

You can read Hawker Britton's full analysis of:

Labor's '*Future of Work*' vision statement [here](#).

Labor's *Enhancing Economic Productivity* vision statement [here](#).

Labor's *Protecting Democratic Institutions* vision statement [here](#).

Labor's *Retirement Income and Ageing Strategy* vision statement [here](#).

Labor's 2019 Federal Election Review can be accessed [here](#).



Anthony Albanese's full address to the National Press Club can be accessed [here](#).

For more information, please contact your Hawker Britton consultant Simon Banks on +61 419 638 587.

Further Hawker Britton Occasional Papers on the activities of the Federal Opposition are available [here](#).