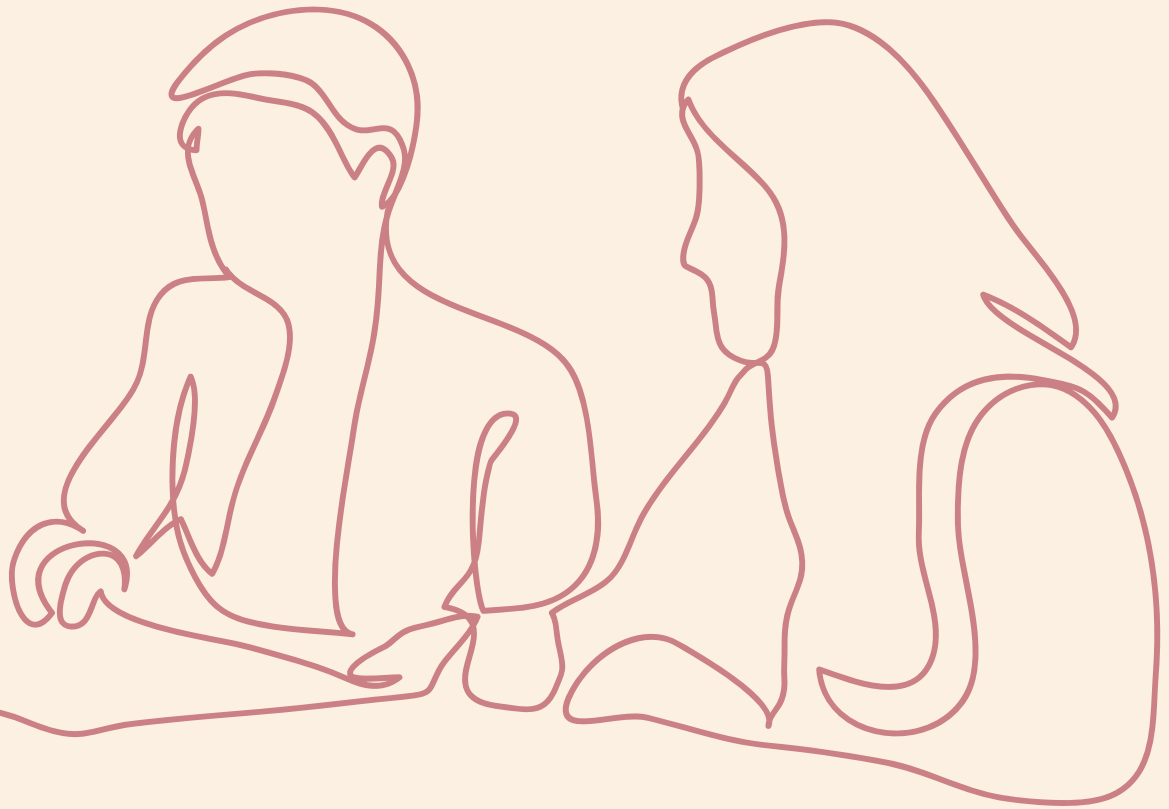


# Public Interest Advocacy Centre



Strategy  
2021 - 2024

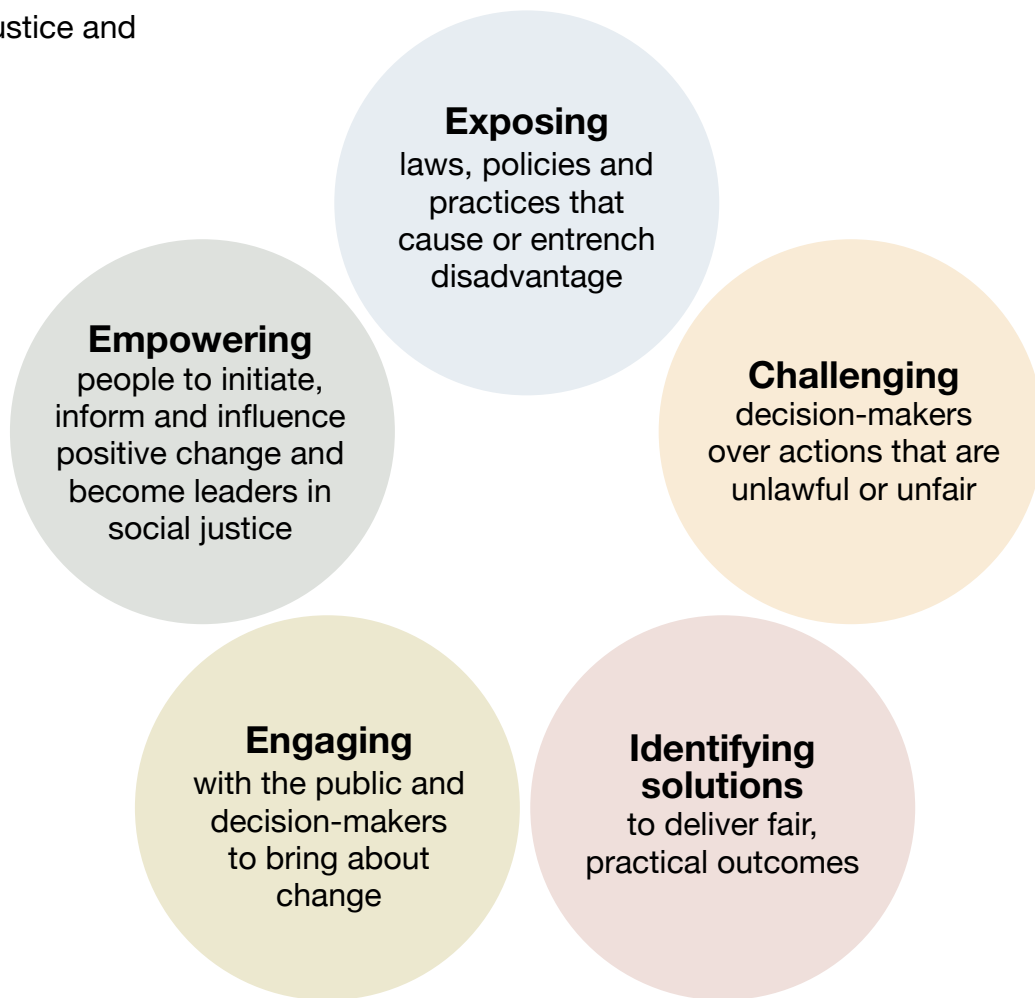
The Public Interest Advocacy Centre is a leading social justice law and policy centre.



We are an independent, non-profit organisation that works with people and communities who are marginalised and facing disadvantage.

## How we make change

We tackle injustice and inequality by:



## Our purpose

We build a fairer, stronger society by helping to change laws, policies and practices that cause injustice and inequality.

## What we do

Our work combines

- legal advice and representation, specialising in test cases and strategic casework;
- research, analysis and policy development; and
- advocacy for systems change and public interest outcomes.

We actively seek to collaborate and partner in our work to maximise its impact.

## Our values

We work with compassion and respect.

We amplify the voices of people who are marginalised or excluded.

We are tenacious and courageous.

We are creative and open-minded.

We do everything with integrity and are committed to excellence.







## Our Priorities

PIAC responds to emerging public interest issues and proactively identifies need and opportunities for change.

Our current priorities:

### Equality and non-discrimination

Our discrimination law practice secures equal access for people with disability to services such as education, public transport, digital and emerging technologies and housing. We bring our expertise to law reform processes to modernise and strengthen legal frameworks for non-discrimination and human rights protection.

### First Nations Justice

We work closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations to tackle injustice in the child protection system, raise the age of criminal responsibility and address discrimination in the policing of Aboriginal young people.

### Reducing homelessness

Our Homeless Persons' Legal Service protects the rights of people experiencing homelessness and helps reduce homelessness by tackling legal and systemic barriers that prevent people from accessing and maintaining appropriate, secure housing.

### Climate change and social justice

We develop legal and policy responses to climate change to mitigate its disproportionate effect on groups already experiencing disadvantage, and ensure Australia's regulatory framework and policy settings deliver a just and fair transition to a zero-carbon energy system and society.

### A fairer NDIS

We work with disability rights organisations to improve outcomes for people under the National Disability Insurance Scheme, by improving decision-making by the National Disability Insurance Agency and increasing transparency and accountability.

### Truth-telling and government accountability

Our expertise in legal research and analysis supports truth-telling and accountability overseas and in Australia, including First Nations-led truth-telling as called for by the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

### Fair use of police powers

We hold police accountable for misconduct and work to ensure police discretion and powers are used fairly in relation to marginalised groups, such as young people, people with disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and people experiencing homelessness.

### Equal access to health care for asylum seekers

Our Asylum Seeker Health Rights Project helps to secure access for people in immigration detention to the same level of health care as people living in the Australian community.

### Sustainable, affordable energy and water for households

Our Energy and Water Consumers' Advocacy Program works for better regulatory and policy outcomes so people's needs are met by clean, resilient and efficient energy and water systems. We ensure consumer protections and assistance limit disadvantage, and people can make meaningful choices in effective markets without experiencing detriment if they cannot participate. Since 2017 we have pursued an ambitious reform agenda with the goal of lowering average household energy bills by 25% by 2025.

## Operational focus 2021-2024

In 2021-24 we will focus on developing and strengthening our culture and systems in the following areas:

1

### Impact measurement, review, and delivery

- Refine and develop impact measures for all major PIAC projects
- Enhance systems and build capacity for evidence collection to support review and reporting
- Enhance processes and build capacity for regular review against impact goals
- Optimise PIAC's public engagement and communications to deliver impact

2

### Relationships

- Strengthen PIAC's partnerships strategy to enhance our relational work
- Deepen and develop relationships with existing partners, including other legal services, civil society organisations and law firms to achieve mutual goals, boost PIAC's reach and capacity
- Identify new partners, particularly in areas such as policy advocacy, research, campaigning and communications, to reach new audiences, leverage skills outside PIAC's capacity and complement PIAC's strengths

3

### Staff wellbeing and development

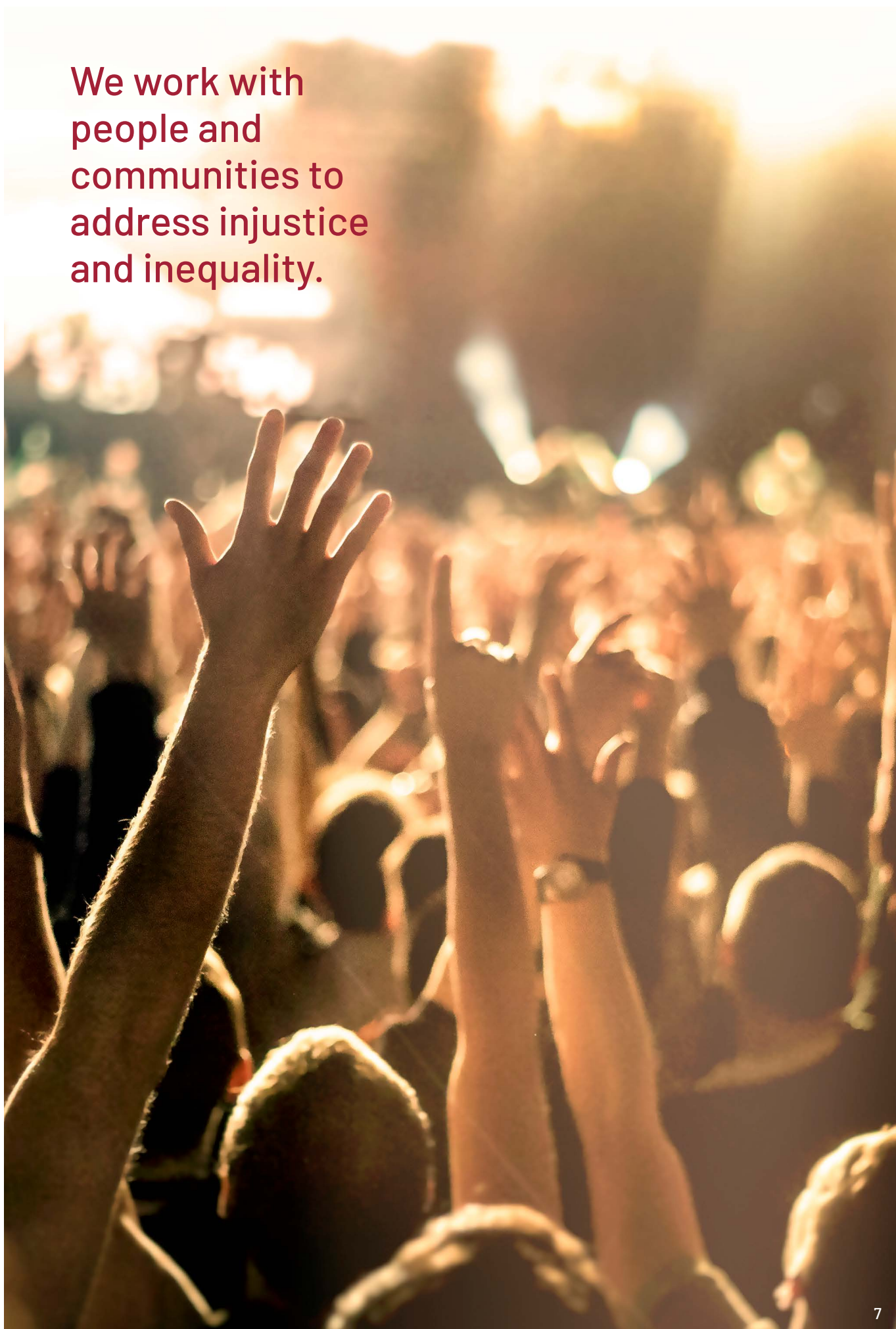
- Embed flexibility into our work systems and environment
- Increase support for staff wellbeing
- Provide more targeted opportunities for training and proactive support for professional development

4

### Organisational sustainability

- Increase capacity for identifying and developing new projects
- Enhance processes and systems to ensure enduring relationships for PIAC, beyond individuals
- Secure diverse funding streams
- Improve systems to track project and funding cycles

We work with  
people and  
communities to  
address injustice  
and inequality.



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