

SENIOR EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP CONVERSATIONS



PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

OVERVIEW

Senior Executive Leadership Conversations is a program tailored for SES Band 1 and equivalent leaders across the ACT public sector.

The program is built around the foundational question: *What does it mean to be a high-performing public sector leader in an ever-evolving and complex environment?* With a focus on emerging challenges and future trends in public administration, the sessions are designed to equip participants with the mindset and attributes needed for sustained excellence in leadership.

Each session delves into the complexities of leading in dynamic and uncertain environments, emphasising collaboration, strategic foresight, and leveraging the collective knowledge of colleagues, teams, and stakeholders to navigate the challenges of tomorrow.

The program fosters authentic leadership, curiosity and intellectual insight, while supporting participants to build networks and deepen relationships across the sector.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

capability@act.ipaa.org.au

FORMAT

Sessions are comprised of two parts:

In-Conversation

Each session begins with an intimate conversation led by distinguished experts and senior practitioners from both within and outside the public sector. These discussions delve into emerging trends and future challenges in public administration, such as climate resilience, AI integration, and workforce transformation. This component fosters active audience engagement and encourages participants to share experiences, gaining valuable insights in a collaborative and reflective setting.

Mastermind

Following the masterclass, participants engage in facilitated small group mastermind sessions. These discussions provide a collaborative, supportive forum for sharing challenges and exploring strategic solutions. Facilitators guide the groups to dive deep into topics, helping participants define what success looks like in addressing future public sector challenges.

PARTICIPANT PROFILE AND REGISTRATION

This program is for SES Band 1 and equivalent leaders in the Federal and ACT public services who are staff members of IPAA ACT member organisations. Participant selection is managed through internal nomination processes within member organisations.

DELIVERY

The program, delivered by IPAA ACT in partnership with KPMG, will offer a flexible format with sessions delivered both in-person and virtually. Should unforeseen circumstances arise, the delivery schedule will be adjusted to ensure continuous participation and engagement for all attendees.



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PROGRAM SYNOPSIS

<p>SESSION 1</p> <p>STEWARDSHIP, BUILDING A LEGACY OF RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE</p> <p>(IN PERSON)</p>	<p>Stewardship in public sector leadership focuses on ethical decision-making, accountability, and long-term sustainability. This session examines how to foster a culture of integrity and responsibility, ensuring that leadership decisions leave a lasting, positive impact. Learn practical strategies to embed stewardship principles into daily leadership to build a resilient, transparent, and responsive public sector.</p>
<p>SESSION 2</p> <p>DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND AI GOVERNANCE</p> <p>(DIGITAL)</p>	<p>By 2040, AI and digital innovation will transform public service delivery. This session explores how future-focused governance can leverage AI to create ethical, citizen-centric services while ensuring privacy and security. Learn strategies for building AI governance frameworks that address current challenges and future opportunities, fostering public trust and a resilient, agile public sector.</p>
<p>SESSION 3</p> <p>DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS AND INCLUSIVE SERVICE DELIVERY</p> <p>(IN PERSON)</p>	<p>As Australia’s population ages and diversifies, the public sector must adapt to meet evolving needs. This session explores inclusive service design strategies that support well-being, preserve cultural identities, and foster social cohesion, ensuring the public sector remains responsive and resilient in the face of demographic changes.</p>
<p>SESSION 4</p> <p>WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION AND CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>(DIGITAL)</p>	<p>The public sector workforce is changing, requiring digital literacy, adaptability, and flexible work models. This session explores strategies for continuous learning, upskilling, and leveraging AI to enhance productivity and service delivery. Learn how to build a resilient, future-ready workforce capable of navigating tomorrow’s complexities while driving meaningful impact today.</p>
<p>SESSION 5</p> <p>CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE</p> <p>(IN PERSON)</p>	<p>Climate change poses urgent challenges for public infrastructure and services. This session focuses on how senior leaders can develop policies to mitigate environmental risks, embed resilience in planning, and protect assets from extreme weather. Explore strategies for climate-responsive governance that address current challenges while ensuring long-term sustainability and community resilience.</p>
<p>SESSION 6</p> <p>GLOBALISATION AND GEOPOLITICAL INFLUENCE</p> <p>(DIGITAL)</p>	<p>Global challenges like economic volatility and shifting international relations are reshaping public sector policy. This session explores how geopolitical changes impact governance and decision-making, highlighting potential risks and opportunities. Learn strategies to build resilience and adaptability in a dynamic global environment. Discover how proactive leadership can guide effective, responsive policies in the face of emerging global challenges.</p>
<p>SESSION 7</p> <p>SOCIAL EQUITY, ETHICS AND TRUST IN GOVERNMENT</p> <p>(IN PERSON)</p>	<p>Building and maintaining trust in government is more crucial than ever. This session focuses on transparency, accountability, and social equity to foster public trust. Explore Australians’ expectations of ethical conduct and fair service delivery and learn strategies to promote ethical leadership and inclusiveness. Discover how to ensure government services reflect diverse community needs and values, and discuss approaches for building a resilient, accountable, and trusted public sector.</p>