

Title	Various – perspectives on good practice in policy making
Source and date of publication	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Wran speech (9 June 2011), republished by Sydney Morning Herald 2. Apathy and Anger: our modern Australian Democracy (22 October 2005), Henry Parkes Oration 3. Political Integrity: The Parliament, the Public Service and The Parties (4 December 2012), Integrity in Government Conference, University of Melbourne Law School
Authors	Speeches by former Senator John Faulkner

Key points

1. Canvasses changes to the ALP and its culture which Faulkner believes would strengthen it. Argues that ALP has become an association of political professionals focussed on winning elections. Believes the party has lost the support of a generation of activists and risks losing a generation of voters as well. Notes that engaging in debate and influencing policy is valued by Australians, as evidenced by emergence of organisations such as GetUp. Believes internal party debate needs to be prioritised, with all voices heard. Argues that voters value authenticity more than harmony in a political party. Notes that change to the party needs to be structural as well as cultural.
2. Speech premises on idea that ‘the general responsibility to ensure institutional accountability, integrity and ethical behaviour, common to public and private sector alike, is the first reason integrity measures are a key responsibility of all governments’. Trust must be personal and institutional. Outlines a series of proposals he believes will enhance government transparency and accountability through six structural reforms:
 - a. Finalisation of National Anti-Corruption Plan
 - b. Improved/comprehensive legislative framework for public interest disclosure for public sector
 - c. Introduction of a Code of Conduct for Members of Federal Parliament
 - d. Commonwealth Government to become a signatory to Open Government Partnership
 - e. Electoral funding reform which requires full and timely disclosure of donations
 - f. Reform of the ALP to strengthen internal party democracy and culture and restore public faith
3. Explores issues around cynicism in politicians and political processes. Notes that lack of trust goes both ways, with citizens not trusting politicians and vice versa. Notes that Australian democratic structures created in an environment prior to political parties. World has rapidly changed, particularly in relation to technology, operation of media and internationalisation and that each has had a profound impact on extent to which decisions are trusted. For example, ‘for more people, the strength and the structure of the economy is the single greatest contribution the government can make to their wellbeing. It is little wonder that Australians lose interest in politics when the economy so often seems beyond the reach of their democratic power’. Argues for three main areas of reform:
 - a. Change to political parties to ensure they are open, transparent and democratic
 - b. Media reform to ensure diversity in ownership and for standards of accuracy and responsibility to be set
 - c. Constitutional reform to address fixed four-year terms, remove power of Senate to block supply and for Australia to become a republic

How does/could this impact on ways to potentially achieve effective long-term decision-making which earns public trust?

1. Consideration needs to be given to political and institutional cultural changes that will impact on long-term decision-making as well as the structures that generate decisions. This applies to public sector, media and to parliament.
2. The operation, structure and administration of political parties impacts on public trust and should be considered.