

# Rapid Review Research Funding

Finance & Investment Challenge

## CONTACT

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## BACKGROUND

The NSW Circular Taskforces bring together industry and research to help secure the social, economic and environmental benefits of transitioning to a circular economy. Cross-sector collaboration with industry, government, social enterprises, investors, and local communities will drive innovation and the development of new products, services, businesses and skills. NSW Circular has set out the value proposition for the state and its citizens (The circular economy opportunity in NSW) and has begun producing regular updates on sectors and trends.

NSW Circular is commissioning four Rapid Reviews, setting out the evidence - state of play, opportunities and next steps - on priority topics to advance the circular economy in New South Wales.

## RAPID REVIEW PROCESS

In 2021, an initial tranche of Rapid Reviews will focus on problem statements or challenges identified by four of NSW Circular's Taskforces: Precincts & Infrastructure; Finance & Investment; Government; and Industry.

NSW Circular is dedicating \$68K (\$17K each) to four of its Taskforces to catalyse research that will assist in the delivery of the Taskforce's agreed Objectives. This research will be conducted by four research teams selected based on research proposals submitted through an EOI process.

Our Rapid Review calls for EOIs from researchers and universities across NSW, in response to Research Questions determined by each of the four Taskforces. These EOIs will be reviewed by a Research Assessment Panel (the Panel), to determine the most suitable candidate to undertake the work.

The core Panel will consist of:

- Ms Jodie Bricout (Panel Chair, Member of the NSW Circular Board)
- Ms Lisa McLean (CEO NSW Circular)
- Dr Donald Hector AM (nominee of The Royal Society of NSW)
- Dr Suzanne Pierce (Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer)
- Katie Dowling (Finance & Investment Taskforce Chair)



## TIMEFRAME

The four Rapid Review Challenge Statements are being released gradually during August 2021, and so each review will hold a unique project timeline, though with consistent time allowances for each component of the project. The timeline for the Finance & Investment Rapid Review is as follows:

TIMELINE DIAGRAM HERE ONCE DATES ARE FINALISED

## SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible for the Rapid Review Research Funding research teams must be connected to a NSW university.

Proposals will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Team Strength: Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the problem/challenge to be addressed
2. Approach: Proposed approach to undertaking the review
3. Experience: Quality and experience of the team in undertaking reviews of this type and published works
4. Value: Time commitment and value for money
5. Collaboration: Weighting will be given to EOIs of equal merit which involve collaboration between two or more universities.

## DELIVERABLES

- A verbal presentation mid-project to confirm progress and report any findings of note
- A draft report in electronic format six weeks from project initiation
- A final report eight weeks from project initiation
- The Review Team must be available to present their research findings to the relevant NSW Circular Taskforce

NOTE: Researchers will be encouraged to publish in international journals, conference proceedings, or other media.



# FINANCE & INVESTMENT CHALLENGE STATEMENT

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## FINANCE & INVESTMENT CHALLENGE STATEMENT CONT.

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