

THE TRANSFORMER

APRIL 2023

Welcome to the
13th edition of *The
Transformer* - an
update from the Smart
Transformation Project.

Smart Transformation works to future-proof the communities of Dysart and Moranbah and make them sustainable, as we face the rapid technological changes being brought about by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).

Smart Transformation operates independently, with support from BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA), and is driven by the two towns' Smart Transformation Advisory Councils (STACs) and Youth Advisory Council (YAC). Council members capture feedback and advice from the communities they call home, to direct resources and effort into projects important to local residents.

Steering Committee looks to a bright future

Economic development initiatives across a broad spectrum, from agriculture through to technology, were discussed and debated at the latest meeting of the Smart Transformation Innovative Futures Project Steering Committee.



Facilitator Neil Glentworth leads the discussion at the Innovative Futures Project Steering Committee.

The Smart Transformation Innovative Futures Project is investigating future job creating opportunities for Dysart and Moranbah, with a draft action plan developed by consultants GWI who worked with local stakeholders. The Steering Committee includes the following representatives:

- Brianna Baggow – STAC Project Lead Moranbah
- Steve Boxall – Resource Centre of Excellence
- Prof Rob Brown – Central Queensland University
- Jasmine Cadd – BHP
- Rob Cocco – Regional Development Australia
- Brianna Jahnke – STAC Project Lead Dysart
- Kylie Porter – Greater Whitsunday Alliance
- Nikki Wright – Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
- Leah Scheepers - BHP
- Jeff Stewart-Harris – Isaac Regional Council

STAC Lead Brianna Baggow said the Steering Committee was highly collaborative and could deliver real outcomes for the region.

“
It will support so many of our Smart Transformation projects moving forward – enabling current and future residents to invest in and celebrate our region.
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BRIANNA BAGGOW - STAC LEAD MORANBAH

Childcare Launch

Smart Transformation has celebrated the launch of the Childcare Leadership Alliance (the Alliance), with members of the STACs coming together with community representatives and sector leaders at special events in both Dysart and Moranbah.

A community-led Smart Transformation project, the Alliance is supported by BMA and operates with its own board of volunteers.

The Alliance has attracted strategic sector-wide support, with dozens of community and industry figures attending the two launch functions and joining discussions.

The functions discussed the results already achieved, as well as the forward plan, led by Alliance Chair Melissa Westcott and Mel Comerford from Astute Early Years Specialists who has been appointed to set up the Alliance.



Childcare workers and community members came together for the launches of the Childcare Leadership Alliance.



The challenges and opportunities for local childcare were discussed at the launch events by a panel of childcare experts including (L-R) Melissa Westcott, Dysart State High Principal Cheryl Perry, Lady Gowrie's Louise Jackson, Simply Sunshine's Amanda Stephan and C and K's Dr Sandra Cheeseman.

Housing Update

Smart Transformation's Housing Project, developing forward actions to address accommodation challenges in the Dysart and Moranbah communities, is continuing to work on a series of draft recommendations with local stakeholders.

Following the Smart Transformation Housing Summit and subsequent issues workshops, a significant amount of material is now being assessed with some of the Summit participants.

A follow-up summit is being developed, bringing housing, government and industry sector representatives back together to ensure our forward plan reflects their experience and expertise, and the actions we all pursue are agreed and achievable.

CQU addressing future skills needs

The agile future skills and training approach of Central Queensland University (CQU) has been welcomed by members of the Smart Transformation Advisory Councils (STACs).



Central Queensland University's Prof Rob Brown spoke at the April STAC meetings in Dysart and Moranbah.

CQU's new BMA Research Chair in Automation and Future Work Skills, Professor Rob Brown, addressed the Dysart and Moranbah STAC meetings in April.

Prof Brown outlined the objective of his role as "...to bring people and resources together to unlock and accelerate the skills, training and educational outcomes for the future of the communities of which we are a part."

Developing future skills is a key plank in the Community Roadmap, which is Smart Transformation's plan to support future-proofing our local communities, so STAC members were keen to hear from Prof Brown.

"There is huge work going on at the moment across industry, across all industries, through the rise of automation and what the new technologies are going to be," Prof Brown said.

"CQU is staying abreast of these changes with a number of new projects underway.

"There are interesting things happening on the Mackay campuses including the electric vehicle and energy training centre, promised by both sides of politics at the last election," Prof Brown said.

"We're doing a lot of work in our short course delivery, which is relevant for career transformation because people are not going back to study new degrees as the jobs change. After you've done your initial training, people are going to be looking for short, sharp micro-credentials, so that's very big on the Mackay campuses.

"We're very interested in hyper-flexible courses, where instead of a course starting a particular date and running for 12 weeks with a tutorial on a Thursday night, for example – there are courses now where you can start any time, take exams for that unit at any time, finish it and move onto the next unit.

"That works very, very well for professionals and people who can't necessarily pick when they're going to be free to do a course or an exam or get an assignment in. So we're seeing huge take-up of those sorts of programs."

Prof Brown agreed it's an exciting time for all industries navigating 4IR.

"The change across a range of fields, happening at the moment, is something that we haven't seen before, and it's showing no signs of slowing down," he said.

"We know digital skills and technology workers are increasingly needed, all across the economy."

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PROF ROB BROWN - CENTRAL QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY

STAC Profile – Royce Bailey

Royce Bailey is a familiar face in Dysart's vibrant community, but he's also the man behind a thriving online technology business in town.

Royce runs a 3D printing business called 3DprintRV—having found a niche market manufacturing 3D-printed parts for a multitude of purposes.

“We have our own designs which we've patented, and we print those, and we sell those particular items online,” Royce said.

“Our business incorporates a lot of 4IR technology, but the main benefit that we've received from 4IR is that we're an internet-only business. We don't have a shop front and we don't need a shop front; we can sell to the entire of Australia and New Zealand.”

Royce especially enjoys the flexibility of his business model.

“I believe our business is a prime example of what can be done remotely, using 4IR technology – you can operate a business like ours in Dysart, Mt Isa – anywhere with a post office,” Royce said.

“As long as you've got digital connectivity of course – that's a key component in any sort of digital online business – you've got to have good digital connectivity.

“That's where the Smart Transformation project of installing new towers and improving digital connectivity is quite exciting, because it means we're going to have a better connection to the world, which is what we rely on to run our business.”

As a foundation member of the Dysart STAC, Royce said there are plenty of projects to be proud of, but the Digital Connectivity project is a big win.

“I'd classify it as one of our biggest wins so far, but there are more coming. A lot of these projects are long-term and take time to develop,” he said.

Royce is leaving the STAC, with his business taking up more and more of his time, but will remain connected to Smart Transformation.

“I think the time is going to arrive when people realise that they're going to have to transform and take on board the new technologies,” he said.

“When that moment comes, the STACs have done work in the background to help facilitate those changes and assist people to adopt those changes, so I see it as a very positive program.”



Royce Bailey runs his 3D printing business online from Dysart.

“*That's where the Smart Transformation project of installing new towers and improving digital connectivity is quite exciting, because it means we're going to have a better connection to the world, which is what we rely on to run our business.* **”** ROYCE BAILEY - DYSART STAC MEMBER



Get involved in Smart Transformation

The Smart Transformation Project is a community initiative to shape our own future for ourselves. If you would like more information, please drop us a line at smartransformation@outlook.com or check us out at www.smartransformation.com.au

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