



SMART
TRANSFORMATION



THE TRANSFORMER

JUNE 2023

Welcome to the 14th edition of *The Transformer* - an update from the Smart Transformation Project.

Smart Transformation works to future-proof the communities of Dysart and Moranbah, 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. Council members capture feedback and advice from the communities they call home, to direct resources and effort into projects important to local residents.

Draft recommendations to address local housing

Housing industry stakeholders are now reviewing a series of draft recommendations they helped develop through Smart Transformation's Housing Summit, aimed at tackling affordability and availability issues in Dysart and Moranbah.

The first Housing Summit was held in November with working groups following, all facilitated by consultants AEC.

The next step involves Smart Transformation shortly hosting a virtual roundtable for stakeholders to share their views on the draft recommendations.

Smart Transformation Advisory Council member Carolyn Fritz, co-owner of Moranbah Discount Tyres and Mechanical, is volunteering as the project lead on Housing and said it's a giant step forward to be making such progress.

"I think it's a huge achievement for Smart Transformation to be getting everyone together to start these conversations, and to see them through," she said.

// We need to come up with solutions or we'll have no workers left, no customers, and no ratepayers. //

CAROLYN FRITZ - STAC MEMBER

AEC CEO Ashley Page said resolving the housing shortage is complex.

"There's no one silver bullet, which is the main challenge," Ashley said.

"We need quite a lot of application and effort from a number of parties to actually pull together and understand what the nature of demand is moving forward, then we can work towards a solution that will get houses for service workers in the region."



Isaac Mayor Anne Baker spoke at the first Smart Transformation Housing Summit in November 2022.

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Keeping you up to date today, for our tomorrow.

YAC Members at Sondella



Members of the Smart Transformation Youth Advisory Council touring the Sondella Abattoir.

Smart Transformation's Youth Advisory Council members, drawn from Moranbah and Dysart High Schools, enjoyed an educational excursion to the Signature Onfarm Abattoir in May.

The keen and enthusiastic teenagers saw first-hand the future of work in action, including automation and the application of new technologies.

Signature Onfarm's Maddy Wightman said the tour was a great opportunity to show the students what skills workers will need in the future.

"They were really interested and had a great time. The YAC students are a really engaged group of kids – they asked a lot of questions!" Maddy said.

Signature Onfarm processes 200 head of cattle a week, employing 56 staff.

"It was exciting for us to have a visit from the next generation of workers, especially to see how much they want to learn at such a young age," Maddy said.

And the highlight of the day for everyone involved?

"The steak sandwiches, of course!"

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MADDY WIGHTMAN - SIGNATURE ONFARM

Decarbonisation – What it Means for Our Region

The region's early plans in preparing for decarbonisation has been presented and discussed at the June meetings of the Smart Transformation Advisory Councils in Dysart and Moranbah.

The Decarbonisation Accelerated program, developed in partnership between the Resource Centre of Excellence (RCoE) and Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3), recognises the national move towards decarbonisation is set to affect every business – small, medium and large – as the world embraces a cleaner, greener future.

RCoE Chief Executive Steve Boxall told the Dysart Advisory Council members that decarbonisation will drive a range of economic opportunities for the region.

"All evidence indicates that our metallurgical coal mining sector in this region has decades ahead of it, and I think we've got to be very confident around that," Steve said.

"We have developed, with GW3, a decarbonisation blueprint to help inform and equip businesses and industry in our region to be on the front foot in preparing for this change. The blueprint will also help us embrace the opportunities that come our way."

Steve said the push for decarbonisation is global.

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STEVE BOXALL - RCOE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

"A big part of our journey as a region is recognising that coal and decarbonisation have to co-exist; that we need steel-making coal to maintain our current standards of living and to support the rollout of decarbonisation – but we also need to be conducting business in a way that meets societal expectations to reduce impacts on the planet."

Kylie Porter from GW3 spoke to the Advisory Council members in Moranbah.

"The main focus of our 'Decarbonisation Accelerated' program is to protect our existing supply chains, and make sure that our existing businesses are protected as the mining companies work towards their carbon targets," Kylie said.

"We are looking for new opportunities in a low-carbon world. When we crack some of the innovations associated with decarbonisation, that makes us as a region and as businesses, incredibly attractive to a whole lot of new industries around the world.

"We are really rolling out and implementing some actionable activities that will help businesses decarbonise."

Developing childcare educators

Childcare educators in Moranbah and Dysart have begun professional development training under the Childcare Leadership Alliance (CLA), supporting staff retention and service delivery in local centres.

Smart Transformation Advisory Council member and CLA board member Melissa Westcott said the response to the first training night in May was very positive, with 33 educators attending the session.

"It was fantastic, the staff were all really engaged," Melissa said.

"To have that number of childcare educators turn out after a long day at work is just incredible, and it shows how much demand there is for professional development in childcare in our region."

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Even just having the chance to talk about ideas and issues in a friendly and professional setting helps educators immensely. //

MELISSA WESTCOTT - STAC MEMBER AND CLA BOARD MEMBER

CLA, born from Smart Transformation and supported by BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA), has committed to more training sessions to meet the demand.

"Educators are so important, and we can't run our childcare centres without them. One way we can help them feel supported and valued is to give them these kinds of opportunities to build their skills and professional networks," Melissa said.

"Even just having the chance to talk about ideas and issues in a friendly



CLA's first professional development night was attended by 33 childcare educators from Moranbah and Dysart.

and professional setting helps educators immensely."

The CLA is enjoying great support from staff and centres alike, just over two months after its launch.

"We're really happy with the engagement from our stakeholders, and especially of course, our staff," Melissa said.

More training sessions are planned in the coming months.

The community can learn more about the passion and commitment of these educators through the 'This is our childcare' campaign - check out the [launch video](#).

Please help us in sharing information about the CLA, and keeping educators in the loop of upcoming professional development opportunities by including links to our socials and website in your article.

If you want to find out more about the CLA, or show your support, you can find them at:

www.childcareleadershipalliance.com.au

 /childcareleadershipalliance

 /ChildcareLeadershipAlliance/

 /company/childcare-leadership-alliance/



Getting Connected!

New infrastructure is under construction in Moranbah, thanks to Smart Transformation's Digital Connectivity Project, supported by BHP and Telstra, and managed by GW3. Similar infrastructure has already been completed in Dysart.

STAC Profile – Ash Dowd

Ash Dowd is a familiar face as General Manager of the Moranbah Workers Club, but he's also a tireless campaigner for his community.



Ash Dowd, STAC Moranbah member

A STAC member since Smart Transformation's inception in 2019, Ash wants to see his town grow and flourish as technologies change.

"My role is helping our town really move forward with technology, to make sure we're not missing out. We need to keep up with the Fourth Industrial Revolution and grow with it," Ash said.

Ash has found his years on the Moranbah STAC productive and satisfying because

conversations about what our town needs to thrive," he said.

"Bringing 5G into our region as quickly as we have has been the biggest achievement for me, but the job's not done."

Improving the town's female population by encouraging more young families to move to Moranbah is now a key focus for Ash, one that he believes will cement the town's long-term future.

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ASH DOWD - STAC MORANBAH MEMBER

he enjoys the opportunity to have a say on what's needed and make a contribution to his community.

"We have such a great range of community people involved with the STACs, from business, education, medical – it's great that we can all come together and have important

"To bring in that higher female population, we need to fix childcare and we need better housing.

"It's time to sort childcare and housing to make sure we can really grow our town."



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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