



THE TRANSFORMER

AUGUST 2023

Welcome to the 15th 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.

Progress made on Housing Project

Further progress has been made on the Smart Transformation Housing Project with community, industry and government representatives coming together for a virtual Housing Roundtable in July.

Participants endorsed a series of recommendations designed to address accommodation availability and affordability in Dysart and Moranbah, which will now be considered by the Smart Transformation Advisory Councils (STACs).

Opening the Virtual Roundtable event, STAC member and Moranbah State School Principal Anthony Edwards thanked attendees for their efforts to date.

"We love our towns. All of us that live in these communities want them to thrive and we hope you do too," Anthony said.

"We need homes for everyone, our towns need a diverse workforce and that will mean high, middle and low income earners – without housing for all of these people, our towns simply won't survive.

"The work of this project would not be where it is today without all of you – giving your time to participate in our Housing Summit



Smart Transformation's Housing Project aims to help families, workers and young people deal with housing challenges in Dysart and Moranbah.

in November, the follow-up Working Groups in the lead up to Christmas, through to attending today's Virtual Roundtable."

Consultants AEC have conducted the studies and engagement, with the Roundtable facilitated by AEC's Jonathon Pavetto.

"This is a very complex issue. Many of the challenges are interrelated and many of these challenges have developed over time – there is no one particular person who is responsible for where we are, but I think everyone on the call has a stake in carrying the project forward," Jonathon said.

Continued page 2.

From page 1

Key market challenges identified include volatile property prices, high population turnover, construction costs, vacant lots and low levels of home ownership.

Draft recommendations for the action plan included:

- Detailed population and housing projections
- Audit of vacant homes
- Updating Dysart planning scheme
- Expanding the role of the Isaac Affordable Housing Trust
- Trunk infrastructure to Belyando Estate
- Explore opportunities for incentives for owner-occupiers
- Market research – non-resident worker domicile of choice
- Engagement with financial institutions
- Provision of additional social housing.

Each of the 16 recommendations was then allocated to a particular organisation for action, with supporting organisations also identified.

"I thank you on behalf of my fellow Smart Transformation Advisory Council members, the Youth Advisory Council and most importantly the communities which we call home," Anthony said.

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We love our towns. All of us that live in these communities want them to thrive and we hope you do too. //

ANTHONY EDWARDS
- MORANBAH STAC MEMBER

The Living is Easy in Moranbah and Dysart

Smart Transformation's popular 'Discover Dysart' and 'Discover Moranbah' videos on YouTube are both being used as recruitment tools by business, government and industry.

The videos show residents enjoying the lifestyle of both towns, discussing the many benefits of living in the Isaac region.

'Discover Dysart' has now been viewed over 11,500 times while 'Discover Moranbah' has been viewed almost 16,000 times.

All residents and businesses are encouraged to share the videos, which are available through the links below:



 Moranbah Scan or visit: www.smarttransformation.com.au/transform-in-moranbah/	 Dysart Scan or visit: www.smarttransformation.com.au/transform-in-dysart/
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Milestones hit for Childcare Project

Smart Transformation's Childcare Leadership Alliance (CLA) is going from strength to strength, celebrating a number of new milestones in recent weeks and setting goals for its second year of operation.

Efforts are underway to recruit qualified educators from overseas, while the CLA is also actively encouraging students from Moranbah High State School to complete their Certificate 3 in Early Childhood Education and Care, with an information session held on campus in July.

Another professional development opportunity for childcare staff is planned for September 2, with educators invited to attend a full-day workshop with renowned children's behaviour expert Dr Louise Porter.

And in further good news for our local childcare workers themselves – the CLA has launched a Local Rewards program where businesses can register to offer childcare workers discounted goods and services, such as 10% off, as a way of showing their support for the childcare sector.

YAC investigates future careers



Members of the Smart Transformation Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meeting at BMA headquarters in Brisbane.

“Working in the coal industry is still going to be a good option in the future. There are going to be more jobs opening up – they’ll just be different.”

MOLLY JOHNSTONE – MORANBAH STATE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

A trip to Brisbane has helped members of Smart Transformation’s Youth Advisory Council (YAC) map pathways to one of the biggest decisions of their lives – the careers they may pursue which are opening up due to technology.

The YAC members, students in Years 9 to 12 from Dysart and Moranbah high schools flew to the Queensland capital to visit BMA’s Integrated Remote Operations Centre, Komatsu’s Innovation Hub, the Queensland Museum and the Tertiary Studies and Careers Expo.

The epic annual tour is the highlight of their year-long roles on the Youth Advisory Council, where they bring a younger perspective to the community-led Smart Transformation program that’s building a more sustainable future for the townships of Dysart and Moranbah.

Moranbah State High School Year 9 student Molly Johnstone, 14, said the trip made her think more about how technology is changing the mining industry.

“Working in the coal industry is still going to be a good option in the future. There are going to be more jobs opening up – they’ll just be different,” Molly said.

“It made me think I’d like to do a Uni course, and maybe even two degrees – one of them definitely in technology. Even for an apprenticeship now, you need to know about technology.”

Dysart State High Year 12 student Morris Suliana, 17, said seeing the new technologies affecting the mining industry was interesting.

“The best thing about it was it gave us a lot of exposure to the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and how automation is going to affect jobs in the future,” Morris said.

Moranbah State High School teacher and YAC Coordinator Rebecca Huggett said the trip was a great experience for all involved.

“I think it’s made quite a few of our students rethink their subject choices, and decide that it’s actually a really good idea to take on some technology subjects,” she said.



YAC members stopped in at the Tertiary Studies and Careers Expo while in Brisbane.

STAC Profile – Liz Fox

A Compliance Specialist at BMA Saraji Mine, Liz Fox has been with BHP for more than a decade and has been a STAC member since Smart Transformation's inception in 2019.

Especially keen to see Dysart flourish, she agrees she has a special connection with the community.

"It's where I raised my family and forged lifelong friendships," Liz said.

"A community that is forward thinking encourages people and families to not only work here but to build those memories and relationships."

"The flow-on effect helps to create stable workforces for employers all throughout the region."

Smart Transformation's future focus was what primarily encouraged Liz to join the STAC, and she's proud of the work she's completed voluntarily to date.

"We need to focus on the future with perhaps less emphasis on the problems of the past," she said.

"I think our biggest achievement is getting the Childcare Leadership Alliance up and running. There's still work to do, but we have made the first steps."

Liz believes there's a long and strong future for the mining industry ahead, and she's keen to further explore the impacts of technology through her work on the Dysart STAC.

"I'd like to better understand exactly what it is that our communities require in relation to the technology that's coming, and in many cases, the technology that's already here," she said.

"There are lots of new and exciting changes ahead in innovation and technology, and now is the time to learn as much as we can about them."



Liz Fox, STAC Dysart member

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*A community that is forward thinking encourages people and families to not only work here but to build those memories and relationships.***//**

LIZ FOX - 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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