



SMART TRANSFORMATION

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Smart Transformation Advisory Council (STAC) Meeting – Dysart

12 February 2024 – Meeting 22

Attendees

Jasmine Cadd
Chris Cowan
Brianna Jahnke
Glenn Kirkpatrick
Carley McDonnell
Sandy Moffat
Jacqueline Smith
Richelle Toshack

Apologies

Tim Fahey
Liz Fox
Seamus Taylor

Secretariat

Mitchell Innes (Facilitator)
Melanie Stott

Guests

Nil

MEETING NOTES

- Meeting commenced at 6.07pm with apologies advised.

MINUTES

- Minutes from Meeting 21 were moved by Chris Cowan, seconded by Sandy Moffat and approved by all.

AROUND THE GROUNDS – OPEN DISCUSSION

- SM informed the STAC that the Lady Gowrie Child Care Centre has developed a relationship with the Childcare Leadership Alliance (CLA) and has asked for assistance in

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locating staff. SM said this is a positive and all parties can move forward now the relationships are cemented.

- CC discussed the C&K Kindy and SM said because they are an “affiliate” instead of a branch, it’s a complicated situation. One of the biggest challenges is it’s a new committee running the Kindy each year.
- SM said there are now 17 new educators in the pipeline through the CLA, which has prompted Lady Gowrie’s new request for assistance.
- JC said those 17 staff members are currently located in Australia and ready to work. SM also said now that Moranbah has made great progress, Dysart will be the CLA’s main focus over the next 12 months.
- JC reminded the STAC members that the Bright Minds consultation is underway and encouraged anyone who hasn’t yet done so, to participate.

ACTION LIST AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Database has had a big jump, reaching 320 subscribers as a result of the Outback Futures (OBF) community forum and the new YAC membership. This is the highest number of subscribers since inception.
- Engagement highlights included the meeting with the IAHT in December, a separate IAHT meeting to discuss an EoI, an enviroMETS meeting with Allan Morton and the first YAC meeting in February.
- February’s local media will feature the 21st STAC meetings, while the Volunteering Project will feature in March.
- MI reminded the STAC of the Phase 4 Communications Framework; we are currently in the ‘Embed’ phase.
- Actions from previous minutes have all been acted on, with further work underway:
 - MI to present the findings of the YAC alumni survey at the February meeting. AGENDA ITEM
 - MI to continue working on a Smart Transformation flyer for home delivery detailing the projects and achievements. DONE
 - MI to continue dialogue with IRC regarding Housing, with ongoing negotiations and discussions underway. AGENDA ITEM
 - MI to receive Outback Futures’ ‘scoping report’ by late January for discussion at the February meeting. AGENDA ITEM

ROADMAP PROJECT UPDATES

- Digital Connectivity – MI will let the Dysart STAC members know what the Moranbah STAC’s decision is about a Digital Connectivity launch event (*See Actions*).

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- Volunteering Project – kicking off this month, with articles appearing in local media and a social media campaign planned.
- Childcare – JC said the CLA is meeting with the QRC tomorrow to present the solution and the model, which might lead to future funding. JC said this is a big milestone.
- Innovation Project – Regional Transformation plan yet to come; enviroMETS work is continuing.
- MI asked the STACs if there were any other issues they wanted to raise and SM said “basically all the essential services”.
- YAC Meeting #1 initial survey – MI showed the breakdown of issues and said “the big ones for the kids collectively are Housing and Childcare but for the Dysart kids, Dysart Wellbeing was high.”

HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE

- Meeting in Dec with IAHT was really useful.
- The meeting outcomes were:
 - ST has been invited onto the IAHT board.
 - IAHT requested ST support to lobby mining companies for social housing funding.
 - Progression of an EoI to develop a Childcare Alliance solution for housing – note this has a high cost but there is an option of pursuing State Government funding.
- Additionally there has been an invitation from GWC for ST to be represented on the Regional Housing Alliance Board.
- Re the EOI – MI met with Chris Wright
- Everyone agrees that housing is a huge, number one issue, and MI has been discussing how to have a coordinated approach with Tonia Wilson from GWC. There has been an invitation from GWC for ST to be represented on the Regional Housing Alliance Board.
- RT said she agrees totally; SM said there’s a lot of work for IAHT to do. RT said the social housing stock has been getting sold in Dysart for years. SM said IAHT wants to get into the provision of housing for those people who want to get into affordable housing but can’t access social housing.
- SM said we need to rethink the way we think of construction: “Modular housing is much more affordable.”
- The STAC members agreed there is frustration with the lack of building work in Dysart. CC said, “There’s been a lot of talking and not a lot of building, for a long time.”

DYSART COMMUNITY WELLBEING – Outback Futures

- MI summed up the report findings and recommendations from the OBF Wellbeing Windmill.

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- Health: poor indicators around health, sleep and work life balance; challenges included exhausted, stressed leaders.
- RT said when any health-related funding ends, things stop – “You are constantly ringing to check that a service provider who was coming, is still coming or has the funding run out?”
- GK said the Number 2 recommendation ‘Develop a non-clinical leadership support program to help community leaders intentionally invest in their own mental health and wellbeing’ is “really important”.
- SM said one of the positives of the OBF proposal is that service providers come into town but don’t live here, “so you won’t run into them at the shops”.
- MI said there is still a body of work to do before proceeding, to make sure these recommendations are going to work.
- Growth and Purpose: general conversation about tapping the potential from people who move to Dysart with a ‘five-year plan’.
- RT said the key to achieving that is getting STAC members to ‘tap people on the shoulder’ to get them to be involved and encouraging them to put their hands up.
- Resources: JS said the problems of low resources are not just in Dysart, “they are Australia-wide”.
- Connection: MI said this is very strong, rating the highest result of all.
- Summary of recommendations – general discussion. RT said there are already plans for community events at the Community Centre and she raised concerns of double ups, for example she is approaching Deadly Choices to come and hold an event in Dysart.
- MI said there will be opportunities to discuss different options with OBF.
- RT said there is a growing demographic in the Dysart community that is not going to fit into the “clean-cut ideal”.
- MI said OBF would need to report back to the STACs and the STACs would need to know what’s going on, how the program is progressing.
- RT said the community wellbeing stuff might not be needed forever: “The town needs to get back on its feet from Covid etc, and at some point the State Government will have to take responsibility because we can’t plug up all the holes in their bucket forever.”
- CC asked can we look at approaching IRC and other groups for funding to make the OBF program more sustainable? (*See Actions*)
- MI agreed yes, there’s got to be a Plan B for future funding.
- STAC members agreed that the next step is to progress the recommendations and talk to OBF to ask them what the next steps are. CC suggested OBF attend the next meeting (*See Actions*).

YAC 2024 – Survey and Meeting #1

- MI said the first YAC meeting for 2024 was a great success and “this year’s group is a really good bunch of kids”.
- A short video has been produced to show all other students at both high schools what the YAC is all about and spread the word, as part of the YAC+ commitment.

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- Next YAC meeting could be a trip to Mackay to the RCoE and a number of other interesting locations.
- MI outlined the results of the YAC Alumni Survey, and noted the student feedback from the previous weekend has also been positive.
- JC said the Bowen Bright Minds survey has also been completed by the YAC students, asking them what they want to learn more about.
- MI also said the next YAC meeting will cover skills and training.

ACTIONS – DYSART

- MI to notify the Dysart STAC members what the Moranbah STAC's decision is about a Digital Connectivity launch event.
- MI to initiate conversations with IRC and other groups for long-term funding to make the OBF program more sustainable.
- MI to investigate options for charging or receiving funds from the State Government for providing essential health services through OBF.
- MI to establish whether OBF can attend the next STAC meeting to discuss these many questions.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday 15 April 2024, 6pm.

Meeting closed at 7.55pm.

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