



SMART TRANSFORMATION

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Smart Transformation Advisory Council (STAC) Meeting – Moranbah

13 February 2024 – Meeting 22

Attendees

Vaughn Abrahms

Brianna Baggow

Jasmine Cadd

Ash Dowd

Carolyn Fritz

Michelle Pole

Amanda Raymond

Melissa Westcott

Apologies

Nil

Guests

Nil

Secretariat

Mitchell Innes (Facilitator)

Melanie Stott

MEETING NOTES

- Meeting commenced at 12.04pm.

MINUTES

- Minutes from Meeting 21 were moved by Melissa Westcott, seconded by Ash Dowd and approved by all.

AROUND THE GROUNDS – OPEN DISCUSSION

- General conversation about candidates and local government election.

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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 IAHT workshop attended by AD, CF, MI; a separate IAHT Eol meeting with Chris Wright, an enviroMETS meeting with Allan Morton and the first YAC meeting in February.
- February's local media will feature the 21st STAC meetings, and 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 investigate whether there are synergies between YAC Plus and the State Government's 'Advancing our cities and regions' strategy. DISCUSSION
 - MI to investigate further options and ways for MCWC to support the Volunteering project. UNDERWAY
 - Suggestion from AD to consider planning for another evening meeting in July – such as Christmas in July. AGENDA ITEM

ROADMAP PROJECT UPDATES

- Digital Connectivity – MI said the Dysart STAC finalised the delivery of a Digital Connectivity flyer to All Dysart letterboxes in December, and asked the Moranbah STAC if they would like to hold an event off the back of the next meeting in April? MW and BB said yes. MW said it's a "positive stakeholder engagement opportunity." Looking at approximately 30 people. General agreement that was a good idea to move ahead with (*See Actions*).
- Volunteering Project – agenda item.
- Childcare – MW said childcare is now a "runaway beast" but in a good way. She said waitlists aren't always an indicator of demand – centres are now delving into their waitlists and not everyone on the list wants to take a childcare spot after all. Also lower kindy numbers are creating vacancies and affecting demand. But CLA has brought in "quite a lot" of new staff. "The big issue now is to get funding for housing. Some centres are now renting nine properties." JC said one centre is operating at four days per week instead of five because of staffing. General conversation that centres are operating "on a

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knife's edge". Some staff have left, creating vacancies in 'critical positions'. MI said there is some positivity and there are opportunities moving forward. JC said the focus is now on international recruitment and fundraising. AD said to keep childcare businesses profitable, we need to solve the cost of housing the staff. AD said not all staff require large houses and many are happy with small houses, especially when they often arrive on their own.

- Dysart OBF update from MI – the Dysart STAC has decided to progress the OBF work. AR advised if a delivery model for health services is short in a town, there could be a possibility for discussion with Qld Health to find out if any funding could be accessed (*See Actions*). MI said the OBF work is looking at lots of things. AR also recommended people giving positive feedback to MHHS once OBF have begun work, which could help with future funding models.
- Innovation Project – MI still talking to Allan Morton regularly and “we are still in that space.” BB confirmed she has not heard any funding news from the REFF or progress in relation to the Regional Transformation Strategy.
- YAC Meeting #1 initial survey – MI showed the breakdown of issues and said “the big ones for the kids collectively are Housing and Childcare.”

MORANBAH VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY – Videos Review

- MI outlined the goals of the Volunteering Project for 2024 and confirmed that footage was shot with five clubs in November last year.
- STAC members were shown the draft edits of various videos edited from that shoot. There are 10 videos in total; five to be posted/publicised by ST, and the remaining five to be given to each of the clubs to use as they like.
- Feedback from STAC members was positive and the videos were well received.
- MW said their club (the Moranbah Miners) has done more to “protect volunteers” this year and that has helped boost volunteer numbers. AR said the worst ongoing problem is people treating volunteers badly with bad manners, especially on the bars. General conversation about volunteering war stories.
- MI said that a social media campaign ‘schedule’ would be “shared around” (*See Actions*).
- STAC members all discussed the fact that the BMX club was asking about the Volunteering Project and how they could be involved, and there was general conversation about using smaller clubs for the next shoot.
- JC said it would be good “to strengthen the message that you don’t need to take on an ongoing role”.
- AR said even just picking up rubbish at the end of a function is a job that needs to be done.

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HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE

- MI provided an update on progress: after extensive engagement with IRC, AD, CF and MI met with the IAHT in December. SM from Dysart also in attendance.
- 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
- General discussion of IAHT structure and very high costs of various solutions, including estimations from AEC.
- 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.
- BB said anecdotally her daughters will be renting a unit in Moranbah for \$950 per week from next week.
- AD expressed great interest in the IAHT “getting the right business model so it’s sustainable”.
- MI said “the communities have had enough and just want to get some houses being built.”
- JC said the conversation about modular building is an area to be explored, to reduce costs. General conversation about the longevity of those products with CF saying they last “forever.” (See *Actions*).
- CF said “construction creates confidence” and MP said there is an \$11M project starting at the high school too.
- Further general conversation about relocatable homes and costs.

STAC MEMBERSHIP

- MW asked if there was an option of advertising the STAC role because the University advertised for its board and lots of people applied. MI said yes (see *Actions*).
- BB suggested a younger person in their mid-20s; AD agreed that was a good idea.

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- MI said an option would be to make an EOI to get applicants to tell STAC members a bit about themselves, and then we could bring applicants in.
- AD suggested a former YAC member who is now in their 20s. MI to investigate (*See Actions*).
- CF and BB suggested the soon to be former mayor Anne Baker (*See Actions*).

YAC 2024 – Survey and Meeting #1

- MI said the first YAC meeting for 2024 was very successful, and “these kids make it 80 kids who have now participated in the YAC”.
- 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.
- MI also detailed the results of the YAC alumni survey, showing that all respondents ‘agreed or strongly agreed’ that ST is a useful way to increase students’ awareness of future opportunities created by technology.

ACTIONS – MORANBAH

- MI to investigate all options to incorporate a Digital Connectivity launch event into the scheduled April 16th meeting. Looking at approximately 30 people.
- MI to open discussions with Qld Health/MHHS regarding STAC conversations questioning whether any funding may be available to support OBF in providing essential health services that Qld Health/MHHS cannot currently provide.
- MI to follow up on the nature of the IAHT board role and report back, following a request for more information from MW.
- MI to investigate advertising vacancies on the Moranbah STAC to entice some high quality candidates who might otherwise not be aware of the opportunity.
- MI to check list of former YAC members to see if any young people may be keen and able to join the STAC.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday 16 April, 12pm (or TBA depending on Digital Connectivity function).

Meeting closed at 1.57pm.

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