



SMART  
TRANSFORMATION



# THE TRANSFORMER

JUNE 2022

Welcome to the eighth 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 (or 4IR for short).

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.

## Housing summit planning underway

**The rising cost of housing has become a hot topic across the nation, but locally there is a plan underway to investigate long-term solutions, supported by Smart Transformation.**

The Smart Transformation Housing Summit will bring together key stakeholders, including state and local government officials, to look at ways to address the growing shortage of accommodation in Dysart and Moranbah.

Smart Transformation Project Lead Richelle Toshack estimated there had been a 30 per cent increase in the number of people unable to find affordable rental properties in Dysart.

"Rents have risen in Dysart just like they have across the state, but it's the increased costs of living here that have really added to the problems," she said.

"Out here, people have to absorb additional costs due to our location such as often higher prices on food or essential items and additional fuel usage to access regional centres for specialist or other services not available locally – so they already have less to spend on rent. We're now seeing a peak in demand for affordable accommodation."

Richelle said the Housing Summit would provide a unique opportunity to get everyone together to discuss the best solutions.

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## New members for Smart Transformation

Dysart's Jacqueline Smith and Moranbah's Amanda Raymond have been welcomed as new members to the Smart Transformation Advisory Councils in their respective towns.

Jackie is well-known to locals through her work at Dysart Library, while Amanda will be familiar to those involved in Moranbah Arts and Moranbah Guides.



Jacqueline Smith



Amanda Raymond

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"We need to figure out the most effective way to collaborate with one another. No one stakeholder can fix this on their own," she said.

"That's the beauty of Smart Transformation – it's bringing everyone to the table, so we can all find more sustainable long-term solutions."

STAC member and Moranbah State School principal Anthony Edwards recently met with Isaac Regional Council on the matter as part of a Smart Transformation delegation and is keen to look at ways to strengthen investment confidence in Moranbah and boost local construction.

"Moranbah is a good place to invest time and money. We're here, we see a future and we're adapting to that future," he said.

# Future-proofing Moranbah businesses

**It's tough running a business at the best of times, and never more so than during the pandemic.**

Smart Transformation and Moranbah Traders Association recognised the need to offer e-commerce training sessions to local businesses in Moranbah, and business owners jumped at the chance.

Project Lead Melissa Westcott said the sessions were popular and proved invaluable.

"We all found it really helpful to step out of our businesses and look at how to do things better. It's about working strategically and thinking smarter," she said.

Business owner Stacey Large from Tomaren Farm Fresh agreed.

"It was extremely helpful and really beneficial. Just the process of laying out where you want to be – it helped me to see the gaps in my social media marketing, and told me how to fix them," Mrs Large said.

The Large family currently produces 150 cartons of eggs for customers

each week, with plans to double their production next year.

"This training made me rethink my marketing plan going forward, which will help us expand," she said.

"Small businesses need help, and providing this training is a great way to do that."

Trainer Katy Burgess from Shortbread Consulting Services took on a diverse group of different local businesses for the first session but said they all enjoyed the process.

"It's especially valuable to do the training in person. It's important to get in front of people when you're asking them about their goals and the strategic direction of their business," she said.

"It went really well and I think the business owners got a lot out of it."

**“This training made me rethink my marketing plan going forward, which will help us expand.”**

STACEY LARGE - BUSINESS OWNER



**"Extremely helpful" was how business owners described the e-commerce training held in Moranbah, through a partnership between Moranbah Traders Association and Smart Transformation.**

# Autonomous future on show for Youth Advisory Council

**The next generation of potential mine employees gave the future a big ‘thumbs up’ after receiving a personal tour of BMA’s Goonyella Riverside Mine recently.**

Moranbah State High School Year 11 student and Smart Transformation Youth Advisory Council member Lochie Fuller said the mine tour was “awesome”.

“The tour introduced us to the mine site and its policies and procedures. It was really good to see,” Lochie said.

“It was great to go out there and experience it, especially the workshop.”

Lochie is currently completing his Cert. II in Autonomous Workplace Operations and said seeing the autonomous haulage operation at Goonyella was incredible.

**“*The future is all about IT, software, drones and coding. I’m confident we can keep up with it.*”**

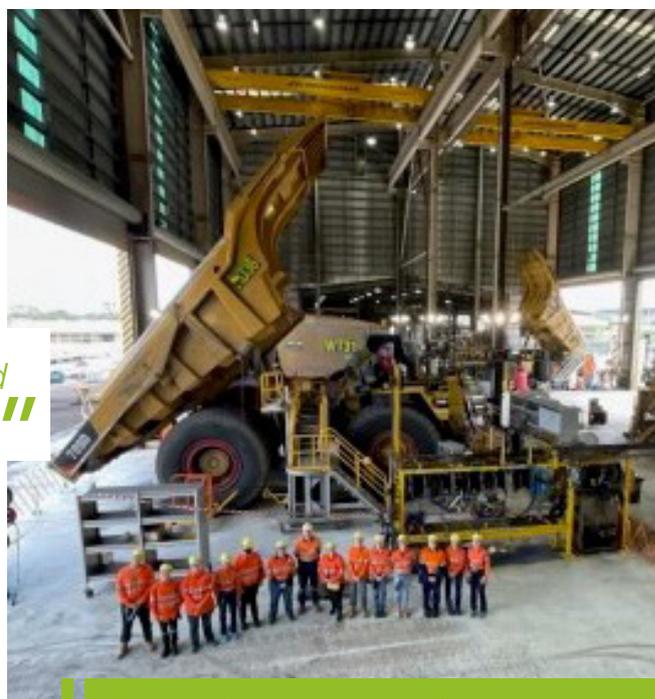
**LOCHIE FULLER - YAC MEMBER**

“It’s scary but impressive. Amazing how it can be done, and really interesting.”

Now 16, Lochie and his family moved to Moranbah in 2008 and have no plans to leave.

“I’m definitely very optimistic that there are lots of opportunities in the future. It’s important to have that technology knowledge though,” he said.

“The future is all about IT, software, drones and coding. I’m confident we can keep up with it.”



*Members of the Youth Advisory Council dwarfed by the machinery in the workshop at BMA’s Goonyella Riverside Mine.*

## Recruiting begins for Careers Navigator

**Up-to-date careers and training pathway advice will be provided to local high school students through Smart Transformation’s Careers Navigator Project.**

The Careers Navigator – a key priority for both the Smart Transformation Advisory Councils and Youth Advisory Council – is funded by BMA which is supporting the project through the Queensland Resources Council.

Suitably qualified people are encouraged to submit their applications for the role online here:

[Careers & Course Advisor \(Careers Navigator: Isaac Region\) Job in Mackay & Coalfields - SEEK](#)

**Applications close 27 June.**

# STAC Profile – Sandy Moffat

**Sandy Moffat is so full of energy and ideas, it's easy to understand why she's regarded as an active and enthusiastic member of the Dysart community.**

The former café owner is now a busy Isaac Regional Councillor, brimming with plans for the future of her beloved town.

"I personally think we are so much more than just a mining town. We've got much more to offer, but we need to think differently so we are still here in the long term," Sandy said.

"There's plenty to work on – issues like land development so we can grow our communities, childcare, health services – and we're taking those first steps."

Three years after the Smart Transformation Advisory Council (Dysart) held its first meetings, Sandy is quick to point out the team has made considerable progress.



Sandy Moffat and her husband Jason.

"Smart Transformation has been a good thing for Dysart. When you think about how far we've come, we've actually achieved a lot," she said.

"We're all on the same page. We're long-term residents who can see the potential, but we need to grow Dysart so our kids can stay here."

Sandy believes the Smart Transformation Project will succeed in future-proofing for the next generation.

"The opportunities for our kids are endless if we think differently. The way we've done mining in the last 20 years is different to the way it will be done in the next

20 years. It's up to us as a community to manage that for our kids.

"Our kids don't need to go anywhere; they can stay here. But we need them to look at engineering and software development, careers in automation. That's what I'm passionate about – planning for future careers and growing communities in Dysart."

Keeping current community members connected is another major focus for Sandy, who's been integral in plans for new Telstra towers to be built in Dysart in the coming months.

"Before the STAC, no one even wanted to have those conversations with us, not at state or federal levels. Now, through the STAC, we've got a bigger voice than just our own, and companies like Telstra are listening. It's great," Sandy said.

**“The way we've done mining in the last 20 years is different to the way it will be done in the next 20 years. It's up to us as a community to manage that for our kids.”**

SANDY MOFFAT - DYSART STAC MEMBER

"We're having conversations about childcare and health, and we'll have the communication towers going up by the end of the year."

Sandy agrees she has many projects ahead of her.

"The best thing about our STAC is that we're all working together. There's a lot of collaboration, it's great."



## Get involved in Smart Transformation

The Smart Transformation Project, now in its third phase, 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](mailto:smartransformation@outlook.com).

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