

Springfield Regional Jobs Committee

MEETING MINUTES



1. Date and Time:

10th December 2024 | 8.00am – 9.30am

Venue:

Haydn Bunton Meeting Room, Brighton Homes Arena, Springfield Central

Chairperson:

Rees Banks, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia Ipswich & West Moreton Inc

Dr Richard Eden – Executive General Manager, Education and Smart City, Springfield City Group

Sarah Prest – Principal Economic Development Officer, Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning

Neil Coupland – President, Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce

Rouz Fard– Associate Director, Industry & Community Partnerships, Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Uni SQ

Tom Rowe– Executive Director, Education and Training, TAFE Queensland South West

Jo Andrews – Head Of Department - Career Education & Pathways, Springfield Central State High School

Dan Heenan - Economic Development Manager, Office of the General Manager - Ipswich City Council

Glen Watson – Regional Director Department of Trade, Employment and Training

Paul Clarkson, Senior Manager, Strategic Workforce Planning & Insight, Mater


Jeril Thomas – Regional Manager, Multicultural Australia


Alfio Balsamo – Dean of College WesTEC CEO

Sarah-Jane Gourley – Manager, Regional School Industry Partnerships Program, Department of Education

Secretariat:

Liz Conroy – Project Manager

1. Welcome and Open				
Item	Agenda & Discussion	Agreed Action	Action Officer	Required By
1.1	Welcome and Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting was opened 8.00am, Tuesday 10th December 2024 by Rees Banks Acknowledgement of Country Attendance and apologies 	Apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neil Coupland Sarah-Jane Gorley Kylie Newey Jeril Thomas 	Rees banks	
1.2	Declaration: Conflict of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil 		-	
1.3	Committee Member Terms of Reference and Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminder of Terms of Reference to all Committee Members 	 Springfield RJC Terms of Reference 1.	Rees Banks	

2. Standing Agenda				
Item	Agenda & Discussion	Agreed Action	Action Officer	Required By
2.0	Confirmation of previous minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes from the previous meeting held were accepted as a true and accurate record with the correction of Tom Rowe as an apology. 	 Minutes SRJC Committee Meeting C	Rees Banks	All agreed
2.1	Update from the Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Displayed on the Boardroom Table was the Award won by RDA Ipswich & West Moreton at the National RDA Awards for the work undertaken by the SRJC for the Multicultural Jobs Forum. We wanted to bring it along to share with the Committee. Workforce Plan – the work to conduct and review the survey with Uni SQ to develop a Workforce Plan for Greater Springfield is underway. The Plan will be released for comment to the Committee early next year and feedback will be welcomed. 	Working groups in Health, Education, Retail/Entertainment and Innovation will be consulted commencing January 2025 Draft of the Plan available late January, early February for consultation and feedback Workforce Plan released March 2025	Rees Banks	

2. Standing Agenda				
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2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A grant application has been submitted for a Strengthening Multicultural Queensland Grant to increase CALD residents from Springfield to skill and obtain employment in Aged and Community Care roles. Support for this initiative was given by employers such as Blue Care and Bolton Clarke who both have workforce needs in the corridor. Local employers in the Community Care space will benefit. <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CALD candidates can source the qualifications, need the soft skills on how to communicate with companies to gain placement and transition into their workforce. Employers need to know how to communicate with their employees <p>Update from Project Manager</p> <p>With the activation of the new funding arrangement, the last 12 months has seen progress in key initiatives to support workforce development and industry growth in Springfield. We have undertaken several noteworthy activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated website and jobs portal refresh Launch to Employment incorporating the Multicultural Jobs Forum – over 100 job seekers Workforce Survey Workshop held in May Delivery of results and links to government support in June Connect to Employment Two Business Hubs in conjunction with ICC <p>We are excited about the remaining six months of the funding arrangement. In March, we are set to deliver the Springfield Workforce Plan, a strategic framework designed to address local workforce needs. In May, during small business month the focus will shift to enhancing business resilience through targeted cybersecurity training from Uni SQ aimed at equipping local businesses with the necessary skills to protect against evolving cyber threats.</p> <p>Finally, we are developing immersive experiences for young people in collaboration with key partners, offering hands-on learning opportunities that will prepare the next generation for</p>	<p>Program would develop resources and provide practical support to participants.</p>	<p>Liz Conroy</p>	

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	<p>careers in vital sectors. These initiatives underscore the SRJC's ongoing commitment to driving employment, training, and skill development within the community.</p> <p>Robust discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cybersecurity training for business should also cover psychological component and AI use in the workplace • Energy Skills Queensland SQW program demonstrated the need and the massive exposure to the risks to business. • Workforce Scan revealed Cyber Security as the number one concern to businesses and reported as being a reason for not expanding workforce capacity. 			

3.0				
Item	Agenda & Discussion	Agreed Action	Action Officer	Required By
3.1	<p>Communication/ Strategy update</p> <p>Springfield Jobs website portal (July 2024 – November 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 410 - Jobs Advertised ○ 88 - Employers ○ 4,828 - Registered Job Seekers ○ 35,358 - Jobs Viewed ○ 165,991 - Page views ○ 1,887 - Jobs applied <p>Springfield RJC Community E-Newsletter (July 2024 – November 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 - Campaigns ○ 4,085 - Emails ○ 41 % - Open Rate 	<p>Meta has change parameters regarding posts. Not seeing the organic reach we were however not in a position or want to pay for reach at this time.</p>	Liz Conroy	

	<p>Springfield RJC Website (July 2024 – November 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 19,025 Views <p>Springfield RJC Facebook (July 2024 – November 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 77 - Posts ○ 375,054 - Reaches ○ 7,011 - Followers 			
3.2	<p>Update from Committee Members</p> <p>Jo Andrews – Springfield Central State High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First time that the ability to gain two Certificates was offered to the Year 10 cohort. ● Not intentional but now have all but 12 students who have attained their QCE points before entering senior years. ● Will allow more flexibility to develop a solid resume of skills and walk out of senior years more employable. ● NextStep Data reflects what they have implemented is working. ● ILO working so that all get work experience ● The new Year 7 to 9 career education program developed by Dept. of Ed is excellent, has a consistent message and is well written. <p>Richard Eden – Springfield City Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next development precinct confirmed - City West (Spring Mountain, facing Sinnathamby Blvd). ● Large format retail with a motel, hotel and amenities. ● Will be slow progress as staged build does not commence for another year. ● In the market seeking a partner for City North. ● This precinct will be a sport and entertainment precinct ● Capitalise on the success of BHA and Brisbane Lions; will contain high-rise accommodation for sporting teams as well as hospitality offerings 	<p>Share NextStep Data for region and two state high schools with Committee</p> <p>Investigate how Springfield can be further involved in Olympic opportunities.</p>	Liz Conroy	11.12.2024

<p>Dan Heenan – Ipswich City Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with a company looking to build a green steel mill in Ipswich • Potential for 200 long-term jobs • Facility will cost circa \$450 million to build • Unique manufacturing process results in an 80% reduction in carbon from traditional processes. Manufacture rebar from scrap metal • Want to be operational in 2027 • \$40 million upgrade to Ipswich reserve – opportunities for local businesses to be involved. 2,000-seat grandstand, function room etc • A deal in progress for a new hotel to be built in Ipswich Central. <p>Paul Clarkson – Mater</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mater Springfield Stage 2 is well underway, currently on level 8, in terms of construction things are on track and very close to completion. • Workforce Plan has been developed, has gained internal approval and is now at the steering committee before submission to Qld Health for approval. • The Springfield EOI has had 1,600 responses; 60% come from the Ipswich region. • Support function roles (procurement, administration and leadership) may start recruitment in February 2025. • Approx 1000 staff required, 60% nursing. Doctors and specialists will be the most challenging to recruit. <p>Alfio Balsamo – WestEC Trade Training Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WestEC has doubled its staff this year with Jo Andrews commencing one day a week to work on WestEC Next – a pathway and industry placement program to set them up for life post year 12. • In 2025 every student will have two weeks of industry placement. • New ILO will track their students from Year 10 to the end of Year 13 • 3 sites operational in 2025 • 22 courses from Cert I to Diploma (diplomas in health and social media) • 10 RTO’s on-site delivering • 15 industry groups want to partner • 8 partner schools, 20 feeder schools 	<p>Investigate what time of skills and qualifications would be needed by the employer.</p> <p>SRJC to continue to support the link between Mater Education and Mater Hospital. Tapping into the programs run locally is now an organisational priority. Previously barely hired 10% of graduates but now a real pathway supported from EN to RN</p>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 WestTEC industry events • Their own driver education program • 88% completion rate with 562 graduates this year <p>Tom Rowe – TAFE South West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Tasters to be expanded and no longer have to be accredited modules; aimed at year 10 students it is a great opportunity to explore careers for young people. • New range will commence in July and students can undertake two per year. • TAFE has noted a gap when businesses want to obtain government work they are unsure or unable to meet the ISO level. • The new Smart Factory at TAFE Bundamba has been a large undertaking for many involved, great to have industry support to get it up and running for 2025. • Student retention and industry connection is the focus for the next 12 months. <p>Glen Watson – Department of Trade, Employment and Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change of Government has triggered a machinery of government • Now Department of Trade, Employment and Training with core focus on training and employment. • Very early days however the new Assistant Minister is keen to get out and about. • Applaud the schools undertaking work experience, we don't have an attainment problem, we have a transition issue. <p>Sarah Prest – Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also had a machinery of government, planning has returned to this area. • Department Name - Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning 	<p>Suggestion made to see how more offerings can be made to year levels below year 10.</p>		
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4. Close and Next Meeting				
Item	Agenda & Discussion	Agreed Action	Action Officer	Required By
	<p>Meeting Close</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was closed by R Banks at 9.35am • Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 		Liz Conroy	

Attachments	
Attachment #	Description
1	No attachments required as attachments are embedded in meeting minutes above.

Version Control			
Version	Edited by	Date	Comments
1.0	Liz Conroy	10/12/2024	

Minute Authorisation:

Rees Banks
 Chief Executive Officer
 Regional Development Australia Ipswich and West Moreton

