

GROW Social Procurement Network/Compact Action Network Meeting Notes

Friday November 27 2015

Welcome and introductions:

Jennifer Labourne - Colac Area Health; Tina Perfremet – Future Proofing Geelong; Peter Walker - CoGG; Ian Clifton - Deakin Uni; Annette Gill - Karingal; Angela Campbell - Fagg's Mitre 10; Chris Newman, Joanne McNeill, Therese Philippa - ArcBlue; Rob Birch - GForce; Jo Powell - Viva Energy; Mark Farrugia - Whittington Works Alliance; Anne O'Brien, Liz Everist - GROW.

Background:

- GROW Social Procurement Network Update – refer to presentation, below.



GROW Social
Procurement Network

Role and purpose of GROW Social Procurement/Compact Action Network

Members discussed the success of the GROW Compact Signing Event and the potential actions of the Compact signatories related to Social Procurement and Employment.

GROW activity update – opportunities for participation

1. Regional Procurement Economic Modelling (RPEM) Project
 - Purpose and progress update

The purpose of the RPEM project is to develop a model of the economic and employment impact of increased local procurement expenditure and a strong and locally targeted business case for increasing local and social procurement activity in the region. A survey will be widely distributed through local networks in December, and research is being undertaken.

- Process for data collection

Tier 1: CoGG (City of Greater Geelong) and Deakin University – high level detail

Tier 2: 20 GROW Compact Signatories – to complete spreadsheets and interviews in 2016

Tier 3: Survey with wide distribution across G21

Members discussed the need to access data about employment and training, for example number of employees from key postcodes, and involvement in local employment programs.

- Feedback and Discussion

Members discussed the following items:

- Social enterprises – identifying opportunities and gaps in G21 region (existing work from Karingal, RMIT and Deakin).
- Definition of social enterprise – organisations who return profits to support employees or for direct social benefit but also deliver price parity and quality (not charity).
- Existing and new platforms for social enterprises eg Social Traders.
- Potential to also develop platform for-profit businesses with social outcomes.
- Investigation of key expenditure for the 20 Compact Signatories, including “what if” conversations, will offer potential for individual brokerage of solutions.
- Support of champions within organisations to work with internal structures.
- Development of supplier capacity in G21 – business case for new and existing resources.
- Need for further local Demand Led Employment brokerage to support employment outcomes, with a focus on the employer needs.

- Measuring employment outcomes needs to ensure quality, not just numbers.
 - Forward procurement – evidence of capital works projects as well as routine.
2. Case Studies and Social Procurement Toolkit
- Compact Signatories to work with GROW to develop case studies.
 - GROW to develop local supply lists dependent on key spend categories, noting that local businesses are seeking supply lists that identify local and social enterprises.
 - Social Procurement templates and examples of tender documents being sourced by Social Procurement Australia and will potentially collaborate with GROW.

Actions and next steps

- Compact signatories to nominate representative for RPEM Project data collection.
- GROW to provide matrix of all groups for ease of reference.
- GROW SPN or Compact Actions Network to resolve membership and Terms of Reference for next iteration of Network.
- Bi-monthly meetings suggested, commencing **11:00am - 1:00pm Feb 12 2016, at G21 Level 2 Conference Room, 131 Myers Street, Geelong.**