

AITPM Board Communique – June 2023

The AITPM Board met in June in Sydney. The following key matters arising from these meetings, may be of interest to AITPM members.

Membership

Membership & Subscription Policy

The Constitution sets out the overarching requirements for membership. AITPM has developed a Membership Policy to provide clarity around the various membership classes, membership grades and criteria for membership to guide and assist AITPM staff and Branch Committees. The Policy has recently been reviewed and updated to reflect several changes to the approach to AITPM membership, particularly Government Subscriptions, and an updated version (V4) was adopted by the Board.

Proposal to Change the Name of ‘Young Professionals’

The Young Professional Network committee presented a proposal to the Board to change the name of ‘Young Professionals’ to a different name. It has been recognised that the name ‘Young Professional’ (particularly the ‘Young’ component) does not fully capture all the relevant people intended to be the primary audience of the activities organised by the Young Professional Networks of each Branch. The selected name, which was endorsed by the Board, is Emerging Professionals Network. The new name will be launched at the National Conference in September.

Governance and Strategy Matters

Policy & Advocacy Platform Development

In conjunction with the governance review process earlier this year the Board gave in principle support to AITPM engaging in advocacy. In doing so it has been noted that the employment of a CEO enables officer bearers to maintain at arm's length to avoid conflicts of interest with their employment. Following on from the last workshop with the board, the draft Policy Platform document was prepared. This builds on the existing website policy content, as a base platform for AITPM to develop further policies or position statements on key topics to have a clear, established AITPM position.

At the June meeting the Board agreed in principle agreement to adopt an overarching policy platform on the value of the transport community in shaping our transport systems prepared by the CEO as the basis for further detailed work on a policy platform. The Board also agreed in principle to two documents: a set of draft

guiding principles for policy development and a set of principles and concepts for advocacy, with opportunity for the Board to provide further feedback before a finalised version is brought to the next Board meeting.

Board Governance Review Workshop

The Board undertook a final workshop as part of its governance review program and agreed a set of recommendations to be made to the members to change the constitution. The board agreed this consistent message to be delivered when required, particularly to branch committees, while the Board continues to work on the preparation for the launch of proposed changes, including development of a discussion paper:

Over the last 9 months, the AITPM Board has taken a lot of time to consider several key governance issues that pertain to the future of AITPM – particularly we have been looking at some structural pieces that will require member engagement.

We have taken time to survey key stakeholders and we now want to take our time to deliver a clear and consistent message to all members. We want to make sure that all members get the information at the same time, so we are pulling together some material to assist the membership to understand the process we have gone through and the rationale as to why we have considered some options better for AITPM and its members.

The National President will introduce all the board's thinking at the AITPM AGM in August and there will be a discussion paper released shortly after that.

Finance, Audit and Risk Matters

EOFY FY23 Financial reports

The draft final EOFY financials confirms the profit projected at the last Board meeting, in excess of the budgeted profit for the year. The company remains solvent, has excellent liquidity, low levels of debtors and sufficient cash at hand to meet its operational requirements.

Activity-based tracking measures

The Board reviewed the new activity-based tracking measures, which are providing some insights into the deployment of resources. Supported by appropriate interpretation and commentary to provide context, these measures will continue to provide indicators of where efforts are being focussed.

Other Business

CEO Report Items of note

The Board noted the CEO's operational report including these key items:

Industry Briefings

Industry Briefings were held in Melbourne (hosted by Stantec), Adelaide (hosted by WSP), Brisbane (hosted by SMEC) and the day prior to this Board meeting in Sydney (hosted by Arcadis) with key industry partners and stakeholders.

Inclusive Mobility Steering Committee

The first Steering Committee for the Inclusive Mobility Steering Committee has been held and a term of reference endorsed by the committee.