



Strategy

Purpose, Vision, Principles, and Pillars

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Hello to our valuable SActa members, welcome to our April 2022 Newsletter which contains information pertaining to your peak community transport body here in South Australia.

Since taking over the reins as Interim Chair for SActa, your committee and myself in a noticeably short space of time have made vast positive progress. We are excited to be representing you, collaborating with you, and acting on your behalf as we strive to “Build A Better SActa.” We are gaining greater recognition with Government as a key voice for Community Transport here in South Australia.

Here is an overview from our SActa Planning Day in March 2022 and recent activities for your perusal and consideration:

STRATEGY:

We now have a defined Purpose and Vision:

Purpose: *“Provide information and advocacy for transport disadvantaged communities to secure equitable transport throughout South Australia”*

Vision: *“To be supportive of members and transport disadvantaged communities to ensure sustainable transport services in South Australia”*

Guiding Principles:

- *Commitment to support members and community with positive transport outcomes.*
- *Demonstrate a best practice governance model.*
- *Build effective relationships with stakeholders, government agencies and transport providers.*
- *Implement strategies and goals identified in our Strategic Plan.*

Our Four Strategic Pillars:

- *Policy Influence*
- *Sustainability*
- *Growth and Innovation*
- *Appropriate Funding*

GOVERNANCE:

Constitution:

We are in the process of completely rewriting the SActa Constitution which is outdated and does not meet the standards of best practice, virtuous governance, and legislative compliance requirements. This has been a huge task, which we expect to complete by May 2022 for further review and circulation to all members for consideration. Once finalised we will table for resolution at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) 12 Noon Tuesday 8 November 2022



Policies and Procedures:

To strengthen our governance several, policies and procedures have been developed. These include but not limited to the following:

- Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy
- Code of Ethics and Conduct Procedure
- Leadership, Continuity and Accountability Policy and Procedure
- Delegations Authority Policy
- Document Control register

These documents ensure we have robust and transparent process in place to govern office bearing and committee members roles and duties for our members.



Role Descriptions:

During our planning day and based on experience it became noticeably

clear that roles within SActa were not defined so that responsibilities were recognisable. This was remedied with the following roles being clarified: -

- Chair
- Secretary/Public Officer
- Treasurer
- Communications Officer
- Committee Member

Committee Skills Matrix:

In support of our roles review a "Skills Matrix" was also completed. Legal skills are an identified area our committee would like to strengthen. Whilst it is adequate at present, we plan to advance this gap in the future. If you feel that you possess strong legal skills, we encourage you to nominate for the committee closer to our 2022 AGM.



SWOT Analysis:

A thorough Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis was undertaken which highlighted the following key "Burning Issues":

- Constitution
- Strategy – Purpose, Vision, Plan and Goals
- Marketing – Lack of Brand Awareness
- Poor Communication and Relationship Building
- Weak Membership Advocacy, Policy Influence
- Poor Governance

We are pleased to report that all the above issues have now been actioned or, addressed by your committee as per our Strategy and Business Plan 2022 – 2025.



Political Changes:

We have recently welcomed in the following: -

- [SA Premier – Peter Malinauskas](#)
- [Tom Koutsantonis](#) as the new Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.
- [Nat Cook](#) will be our new Minister for the Department of Human Services (DHS).



The above people and their respective offices as well as SA Health Chief Public Health Officer [Professor Nicola Spurrier](#) will be some of our key targets. Consistent with our 2022 - 2025 strategies to forge stronger relationships with key political figures and government departments to have "Political Influence" on behalf of our members.



Advocacy:

We recently met with the following people from DHS: -

Ruth Ambler - Executive Director, Community Investment and Support.

Caroline Lock - Director Community and Social Investment, Community Investment and Support.

Sandra Robinson - Manager Community Connections (CCP), Community and Social Investment, Community Investment and Support.

It was an extremely productive meeting building a constructive and progressive professional relationship for the future. This will enable us to work collaboratively with DHS to shape better outcomes for all

concerned. Some of the initial feedback is as follows: -

New Minister Hon Nat Cook informed of the need to consider CPN issues.

These Issues include:

- State-wide coverage of CPNs and equity of access.
- Metropolitan services and the principle of transport disadvantage.
- What CPN service model will provide SA with the highest impact within the current funding envelope?
- Understanding data on nature of trips – medical reasons and social connections.
- Ruth is hoping to meet with Chief Executive – DHS, Lois Boswell, and the Minister soon.

Once feedback is provided, it will be distributed to all members at our earliest convenience.



ACTA:

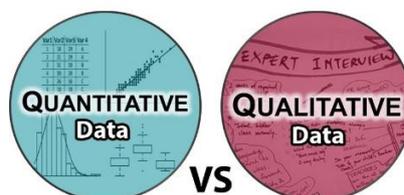
SActa interim Chair and South Australian representative on [Australian Community Transport Association](#) (ACTA) board, David McDonald will be attending a Department of Health (DOH) workshop in person in Canberra on Tuesday 19 April 2022. Nick Morgan, Assistant Secretary, Home Support and Assessment Branch, Australian Department of Health invited us. Some, SActa committee members will also be Zooming in for the workshop. During this four-hour workshop, several critical issues affecting our respective futures will be debated and discussed, optimistically, with positive outcomes. These will include but not limited to; units of service, flexibility provisions, managing fixed costs of fleets etc., funding model, scale issues, supplementary grants, transport as a separate service and regulation.

ACTA is doing great advocacy work for its members, particularly around maintaining Block Funding as opposed to a “User Pays” model or combination of both. Following the workshop any confirmed outcomes will be distributed ASAP. An ACTA Strategic workshop will be held immediately prior to the afternoon workshop maximising time whilst we are there in person, for those who are able to do so.

New Initiatives:



On another matter to assist with our members advocacy work, we are currently working with Charles Mountain – Senior Manager, Road Safety – RAA. Our collaborative aim (with our members support) to build a “Dashboard of Community Transport Data.” This collective data, once collated and summarised will paint a vigorous advocacy snapshot of how important and vital Community Transport is to all transport disadvantaged South Australians. This quantitative form of measurement will be promoted by both SActa and the RAA to heighten the awareness and necessity for a strong, secure equitable community transport service within South Australia. One that should be appropriately funded and reinforced by both State and Federal levels of Government. Stay tuned for more information on this crucial initiative coming soon. Further talks are scheduled with Charles to identify the best collection method of confidential and secure data so that providers identity remain anonymous.



Plans are well under way for SActa to represent all current members at this year’s, “MyLife Choices” – [Disability, Ageing and Lifestyle Expo](#) at the Wayville Showgrounds Friday 28 and Saturday 29 October 2022.

A SActa representative will be in touch over the coming months to gain relevant information to best represent both SActa and your community transport operation.



On behalf of the SActa Committee as your Interim Chair may I take this opportunity to say thank you for your patience and ongoing support for SActa as we work together to “Build A Better SActa.”



Feel free to contact me on my mobile 0419 362 519 or email info@sacta.net should you have any questions or comments you would like to raise with either myself or your SActa committee.



In closing we hope you enjoy the awesome Autumn weather this weekend, may you all have a happy, hoppy Easter with family and friends!

Yours sincerely,
David McDonald
Interim Chair
[SActa](#)