# **Case Studies Series 2023**



Case Study: Collaborative, co-designed and youthcentred community benefit sharing – empowering young people in regional Tasmania



# Highlights at a glance

- During 2022, TasNetworks and its engagement partner, RPS Group, delivered a unique industryleading co-design process to develop a community benefit sharing program (CBSP).
- The CBSP is for the North West Transmission Developments (NWTD) project 240 km of new and upgraded transmission lines and other energy infrastructure in North West Tasmania. Earlier research revealed a CBSP for a transmission infrastructure project in Australia had not been developed before.
- At the centre of this unique co-design process was a Youth Panel. The Youth Panel was tasked with
  drafting the framework of the CBSP to ensure the values, concerns and priorities of the local
  community were reflected in the benefits program. Actively seeking the involvement of young people

was critical as they will be living the longest with these generational assets and are most often absent from community engagement.

- The deliberative Youth Panel process guided members through an exploration of the complexities of
  eligibility requirements, while supporting them to fully participate in challenging discussions about the
  trade-offs and associated consequences implicit in different eligibility rules. The Youth Panel were
  able to reach consensus on a recommended CBSP framework, including: the types of initiatives that
  the CBSP should fund; who should eligible for funding; and how the CBSP should be delivered.
- The co-design also included engagement with the broader community, to inform the Youth Panel's thinking, and with stakeholders on the governance arrangements for the CBSP.
- In early 2023, the TasNetworks' Board approved the Youth Panel's co-designed CBSP eligibility
  requirements and stakeholders' co-designed governance arrangements in their entirety, including the
  use of an Independent Community Assessment Panel to select initiatives for funding, ensuring the
  community's ongoing involvement in the CBSP. A \$10M budget was also allocated to the CBSP to be
  implemented during the construction stage of the NWTD project.

## Key outcomes demonstrating the impact of engagement:

- The Youth Panel's recommended framework of eligibility requirements, and stakeholders' preferred governance models for implementing the CBSP and substantial program funding were fully approved.
- Youth Panel members have continued to utilise TasNetworks' opportunities to build on the skills and
  experience gained through their participation: presenting their recommendations to the Board,
  attending community events to discuss the draft framework, and participating in the NWTD's
  Stakeholder Liaison Group.
- Demonstrated authenticity and high levels of trust in the CBSP and its implementation by stakeholders, resulting in their commitment to continue to participate in its implementation.
- TasNetworks committed to acting on advice and recommendations provided by the community, rating as Collaborate on the IAP2A Spectrum.

### Key engagement takeaways:

- Gaining a youth perspective would not have been achieved without involving a Youth Panel for this
  program. The success of this element allowed other stakeholders to consider how they can
  incorporate a youth voice into their work.
- The recruitment of local Youth Panel members was challenging. This was tackled by implementing a multipronged approach: engaging with youth bodies and disability organisations; engaging a recruitment agency; and via a social media campaign.
- Removing barriers, providing support to individuals, as well as investing in a well-credentialed
  facilitator to lead the process, highlighted that the benefits of working with young people far outweigh
  the challenges.

Key search words: Public, Utilities, Community Vision, Deliberative Engagement, Collaborate

# 1.0 Objectives

The NWTD project includes 240 km of new and upgraded transmission lines and other energy infrastructure in North West Tasmania, encompassing six local government municipalities, over 350 directly impacted landowners and a diverse range of communities. It will increase the capacity of Tasmania's electricity network and support Australia's energy transition. The CBSP will benefit affected communities by ensuring the fair and equitable distribution of project benefits.

# **Objectives** of the co-design CBSP approach:

- Create a coordinated, transparent approach to the development and implementation of the CBSP
- Provide a robust and defensible process that includes capacity building for future community leaders through the Youth Panel, delivering benefits to the community from the start
- Provide opportunities for insights from young people, stakeholders and community to strongly influence the development of the program and its implementation
- Understand the community needs that could be addressed by the program
- Build stakeholder and community trust in the engagement processes and the CBSP.

# **Purpose** of the co-design approach:

- Ensure the benefits delivered by the CBSP are ones the affected communities, especially young people, value most and are sustainable and positive
- Ensure an equitable, effective and transparent decision-making framework and appropriate governance structure for the CBSP.

### **Scope** of the co-design approach:

• Development of recommendations for the CBSP framework (what initiatives would be eligible, who would be eligible and how the program would be delivered), by the Youth Panel during a two-phase process. Five meetings in phase one to develop draft recommendations, and two meetings to finalise their recommendations based on community and stakeholder feedback

- TasNetworks developed a Community Sharing Benefits Program to share substantial benefits of the NWTD with impacted communities
- \$10M funding was committed to deliver a lasting positive legacy
- The co-designed CBSP featured a Youth Panel to develop the Program framework, as well as thorough engagement with communities and stakeholders
- The process ensured young people's perspectives were captured and acknowledged participants as future community leaders
- TasNetworks committed to act on community and stakeholders' advice and Youth Panel recommendations.

- Community engagement on draft recommendations, through drop-ins, online survey and focus groups
- Two phases of stakeholder engagement on the governance of the CBSP with affected stakeholders and the NWTD SLG (administration, oversight and reporting, and how successful initiatives would be selected, and by whom).

# Why choose a co-design process?

A co-design process involves community members, stakeholders and decision-makers working together collaboratively to develop an outcome that reflects the values, perspectives and needs of all parties. A co-design process was utilised to develop the CBSP to ensure the local community values the benefits the program will deliver.

Young people are the community members who will be living with the project for the longest but they are very often completely absent from community engagement. The Youth Panel guaranteed the involvement of young people and its delivery provided community benefit though capacity building of these potential future leaders.

### The role of the public in the decision-making process

TasNetworks' strong commitment to acting on advice and recommendations provided by the community from the outset facilitated maximum engagement from the public throughout the engagement and decision-making process. The co-design engagement process included community and stakeholders as follows:

Stakeholder	Role	Stakeholder Sentiment	Level of Influence	Level of Impact	IAP2 Spectrum
Youth Panel	Draft and finalise	Positive	High	High	Empower
	recommendations for the CBSP				
	framework of eligibility				
	requirements				
Community	Co-design governance and	Positive	High	Medium	Collaborate
Groups &	administration, provide insights				
Organisations*	to Youth Panel on draft				
	recommendations				
Community –	Provide feedback on Youth	Neutral	Medium	Medium	Involve
Public	Panel's draft recommendations				
NWTD	Provide insights into governance	Positive	High	Medium	Involve/
Stakeholder	arrangements and feedback				Collaborate
Liaison	about the Youth Panel's draft				
Group**	recommendations				

<sup>\*</sup> Representatives from local government, community and advocacy groups, Tasmanian Community Fund, community service organisations.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Key industry groups, peak bodies, education, skills and training sectors, state government organisations.

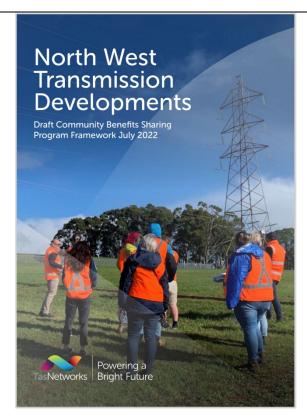
# **Supporting documentation**

Supporting documentation and materials were developed specifically to assist the Youth Panel throughout the process. These included:

- Presentations about the NWTD project, what it involves and how it may impact local communities
- · Presentation by independent community group, RE-Alliance, on community benefit sharing
- Presentations and handouts detailing the outcomes of Youth Panel discussions and their draft ideas to support the iterative development of their recommendations
- Site visit information to support understanding of project impacts.

Additionally, materials were developed to facilitate public engagement:

- · Fact sheets
- Website and Facebook updates
- Brochure Draft Community Benefits Sharing Program Framework
- Online survey
- Explainer video on the Youth Panel process and inviting community feedback on their recommendations on TasNetworks website (Click here to watch).



Cover of the Draft CBSP Framework brochure used to promote the opportunity for the community to provide feedback on the framework.

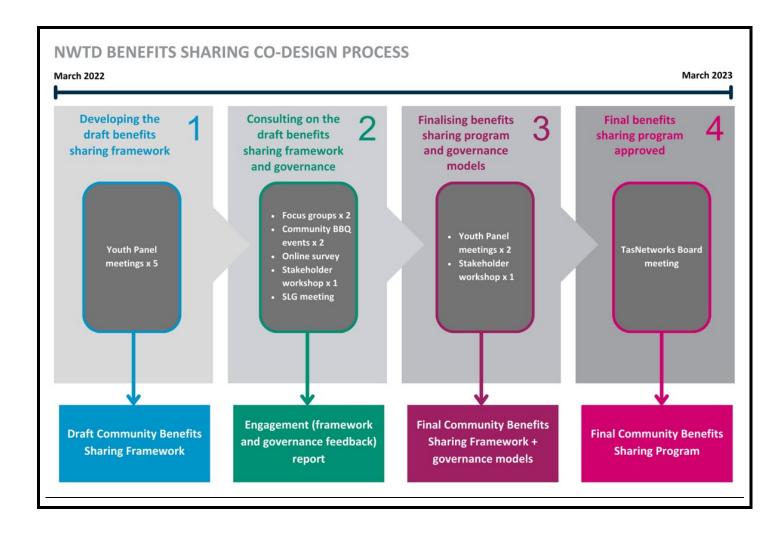


Last page of the brochure encouraging community feedback.

# 2.0 Methodology

While the TasNetworks' Board maintained responsibility for the final decision on the CBSP framework and proposed governance arrangements, it committed to act on recommendations developed through the codesign process to the maximum extent possible. This commitment included empowering the Youth Panel to develop the CBSP framework and collaborating with stakeholders to design the governance arrangements.

This co-design process was delivered over three iterative phases from March until November 2022, with a significant planning and preparatory phase undertaken during 2021 to inform the approach.



The following table details the engagement program, methods and delivery, and their sequencing, and key outcomes.

Timing	Method	Delivery	Outcomes	
Engagem	Engagement Planning and Preparation			
June to Dec 2021	Research	<ul> <li>National and international project scan to identify any CBSP for transmission projects</li> <li>Meetings and interviews with youth advocates, including young people with disabilities, young palawa, sporting groups</li> </ul>	Confirmed no national transmission     CBSP      Guidance on most effective methods to reach young people and encourage participation	
Jan to Mar 2022	Youth Panel recruitment	<ul> <li>Multiplatform promotional campaign focused on benefits to participants, support provided and working with other young people</li> <li>Stakeholders and youth advocates nominating future leaders for the Youth Panel</li> <li>Young people self-nominating through simple application process (via video)</li> <li>Random selection and social media recruitment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>15 eligible         participants from         impacted         communities</li> <li>Eight female, five         male and one non-         binary participants</li> <li>Two identified as         Aboriginal         (palawa)</li> </ul>	
Phase On	e: Developing	Draft CBSP Framework		
Mar to May 2022	Youth Panel	<ul> <li>3 x Saturday face-to-face sessions (central location, travel costs paid)</li> <li>2 x two-hour online evening sessions</li> <li>Introduction to project, its impact on local communities and what they are being asked to achieve, bus trip/site visit to understand project impacts and different communities affected</li> </ul>	Draft CBSP framework	

Timing	Method	Delivery	Outcomes
Phase Tw	vo: Consulting	<ul> <li>Facilitated deliberative exploration of issues associated with an equitable and sustainable benefits program</li> <li>Iterative development of their thinking about what initiatives should be awarded funding, who should be awarded and how the CBSP should be delivered</li> <li>Consensus agreement by final 14 participants</li> <li>On Draft CBSP Framework and Governance On</li> </ul>	otions
Jun to Aug 2022	Community engagement	<ul> <li>Campaign to promote online survey and community BBQs</li> <li>2 x randomly selected focus groups (23 local residents)</li> <li>2 x community BBQs Shorewell Park and Sheffield (78 participants)</li> <li>Online survey 25 July to 31 August, 2022 (12 respondents)</li> </ul>	Feedback about draft CBSP framework
	Stakeholder	1 x four-hour face-to-face stakeholder	CBSP framework
	engagement	<ul><li>workshop (15 participants)</li><li>2 x SLG meeting presentations/discussions</li></ul>	<ul><li>feedback</li><li>Key governance</li><li>elements for CBSP</li></ul>
Phase Th	nree: Finalising	the CBSP Framework and Governance Option	S
Nov 2022	Reconvene Youth Panel	<ul> <li>Direct invitation to Youth Panel members to participate</li> <li>1 x two-hour online evening meeting to share consolidated feedback about the CBSP framework</li> <li>1 x Saturday face-to-face session to review draft framework, reflect on feedback, deliberate refinements. Consensus agreement on final recommendations</li> </ul>	Final     recommendations     for CBSP     framework
	Stakeholder engagement	Direct invitation to stakeholders to participate in 1 x four-hour workshop (five attended)	Agreed     governance     preferences

Timing	Method	Delivery	Outcomes
		Share response to governance elements	
		raised in workshop one	
		Commit to implement stakeholders'	
		preferred governance arrangements	
		Three potential options shared for each	
		element:	
		<ul> <li>Funding structure</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Program administration</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Application process/es</li> </ul>	
		Participants agree their preferred options,	
		including an Independent Community	
		Assessment Panel to select applications for	
		funding	

## Supporting participation and inclusion

- Participants of the Youth Panel were actively supported during the process by:
  - o Simple and accessible recruitment process that sought diversity
  - Accessible practices through inclusive language, backing up verbal and written information with images, regular verbal and email 'check-ins' with individuals
  - o Providing help with written tasks for neurodiverse panel members
  - Acknowledging preferences for communication styles and methods
  - Offering technology support
  - o Scheduling catch-up meetings for those needing additional support
  - o Providing catering and accessible amenities
  - Meeting travel costs.

The wider community were informed and included by:

- Utilising various platforms to reach and seek input e.g. radio, social media, website, online survey, newspapers and community events
- Engaging youth advocacy groups and other stakeholders to communicate project information and share our social media campaign, and opportunities to be involved.

# **Budget and resources**

- Approximately \$120K to undertake the CBSP co-design process
- Approximately 1.5 full time equivalent employees were resourced to this project
- TasNetworks' engagement partner, RPS Group, designed and facilitated the co-design process, in conjunction with the TasNetworks' team of subject matter experts
- Youth Panel participants received a stipend for attending sessions and were provided a travel allowance to reduce barriers to participation.

# Alignment with IAP2 Core Values

Values	How project methodology addresses them
participation is	A multiphase and highly collaborative process ensuring
on the belief that	community members and stakeholders living in affected
vho are affected by	communities were at the centre of the CBSP development
sion have a right to	Youth Panel ensured young people, living with the infrastructure
olved in the	the longest, were strongly involved in decisions about the CBSP
n-making process	Affected stakeholders and community members provided insights
	and feedback throughout the process.
participation	TasNetworks' Board:
s the promise that	Commitment to the co-design process and maintaining a 'light-
olic's contribution	touch', allowing for the public's contribution to fundamentally
uence the decision	influence the CBSP
	Committed to acting on the Youth Panel and recommendations
	and engagement outcomes. Approved Youth Panel's
	recommended CBSP framework and the governance
	arrangements co-designed with stakeholders, including an
	Independent Community Assessment Panel to select successful
	applications.
participation	Early establishment of co-design process (the CBSP framework
es sustainable	or eligibility requirements, and how the CBSP would be
ns by recognising	implemented)
mmunicating the	Transparency about elements being co-designed by the Youth
and interests of all	Panel
pants, including	Insights sought from experienced stakeholders to ensure CBSP
n-makers	administration and governance would be effective, meet
	community expectations, and encourage participation.
	participation is on the belief that who are affected by ion have a right to olved in the n-making process participation as the promise that olic's contribution uence the decision participation as sustainable as sustainable ms by recognising mmunicating the and interests of all pants, including

Л	Public participation seeks	Vouth Donal required from effected accommission for the standard
4.	out and facilitates the	<ul> <li>Youth Panel recruited from affected communities, for diversity and representation</li> </ul>
	involvement of those potentially affected by or	Randomly selected focus groups to seek feedback from local residents
	interested in a decision	<ul> <li>Pop-up activities to encourage participation from affected residents</li> <li>Online survey promoted through local channels for feedback</li> <li>Affected stakeholders directly invited to participate in co-design.</li> </ul>
5.	Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate	<ul> <li>Iterative Youth Panel process continually sought feedback and refinements to be inclusive, accessible and empowering. Regular check-ins to identify different ways of working and further support</li> <li>Youth Panel agreed to working towards a consensus agreement set at 80% support. Stakeholders were invited to provide feedback into the broader engagement approach and their level of participation.</li> </ul>
6.	Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way	<ul> <li>Built a shared understanding by providing:         <ul> <li>Project and process information and resources (printed and online)</li> <li>Presentations and workshops</li> <li>Physical site visit</li> <li>Publicly accessible materials and events.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Youth Panel were offered additional support, including practical support during activities for neurodiverse participants.</li> </ul>
7.	Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision	<ul> <li>Transparency throughout this co-design process highlighting how feedback would influence decisions</li> <li>Highlighted commitment to implement Youth Panel recommendations throughout the process and reinforced it when panel presented draft recommendations to a Board representative</li> <li>Community and stakeholders advised their feedback would be considered by Youth Panel during the finalisation of the CBSP framework</li> <li>Stakeholders' governance insights demonstrated by the draft governance models provided for their prioritisation and selection</li> <li>Youth Panel members and involved stakeholders were directly advised of the Board approval of the CBSP and the \$10M budget.</li> </ul>



The NWTD project will impact communities within six local government areas located in North West Tasmania.



The first meeting of the Youth Panel held in March 2022.

NWTD Project Director presented to the panel.



The Youth Panel visited key locations to gain a better understanding of the project and how it will impact communities.

# From anonymous Youth Panel evaluation assessment:

'I valued the fact that I felt like I was actually "heard", and that my recommendations will shape the Tasmanian community.'

### **Executive Director, The Energy Charter**

'TasNetworks' commitment to community co-design and investment in a thorough, inclusive and accessible youth-led engagement process strongly aligns to the Better Practice Guideline. We also acknowledge strong alignment between this practice and the IAP2 Core Values.'

### **Sophie – Youth Panel Member**

'Information provided was thorough and presented in a way that was easily understandable for each participant through guest speakers, site visits and presentations. This showcases TasNetworks' commitment to engaging and empowering young people to participate in decision-making processes that affect their future.'

### **Chief Executive Office, Cradle Coast Authority (CCA)**

'CCA commends TasNetworks for their efforts in creating a well thought out process to support the co-design of a community benefits sharing scheme, and to support that process with high levels of stakeholder engagement, implementation of stakeholder feedback, and a governance framework that would facilitate the implementation of the community benefits scheme and guarantees that the process is sustainable well into the future.'

# 3.0 Manage engagement

# Risk and challenges

Risks/challenges	Communication and engagement mitigations
Youth Panel recruitment – not	Researched effective youth engagement
attracting enough and/or	<ul> <li>Interviewed Tasmanian youth advocates, including advocates</li> </ul>
sufficiently diverse young people	for young palawa and youth living with disabilities, to
	understand what works
	<ul> <li>Utilised youth advocates' networks to promote the</li> </ul>
	opportunity/nominate future leaders
	Geographically and demographically targeted social media
	promotion highlighting the benefits of participation and
	available support.
Retention of Youth Panel	Ongoing commitment generated by: actively supporting
members – due to process	equitable participation, providing a travel allowance above
length (seven meetings,	stipend payments and other practical support
including four full days, over a	<ul> <li>Guided participants to explore the topic and draft</li> </ul>
number of months)	recommendations based on their own deliberations, reinforcing
	the commitment to implement their recommendations
	Ongoing check-in and feedback processes with panel.
Complexity of designing	A deliberative process that guided the Youth Panel to, explore
community benefits sharing	issues such as equity, sustainability and accessibility, and the
programs	consequences of different eligibility requirements
	<ul> <li>Presentation on different models of CBSP by independent</li> </ul>
	community group RE-Alliance.
The extended timeframe	TasNetworks announced the CBSP prior to construction
between the NWTD project	commencing. This approach allowed the NWTD project to
being introduced to the	maintain positive, benefits-led discussions with community
community and substantially	members and stakeholders throughout the remainder of the
commencing the project	design and approvals phase.
Misalignment of scale of CBSP	A preliminary investment decision by TasNetworks Board at
program and the design of	the planning stage of the CBSP process (\$10M) was critical to
engagement	ensure that community engagement undertaken was
	commensurate to the scope of the investment
	CBSP investment was informed by extensive research of other
	Australian and international programs, which guided the basis
	for calculating an effective and transparent model.

# Perception by the public of the CBSP not being genuine

- The collaborative, co-design process of the CBSP with the Youth Panel, stakeholders and community to demonstrate TasNetworks' commitment to the CBSP reflecting local community values
- Board commitment to implement the co-designed recommendations and to allocate a significant financial investment in the program.

## Managing feedback and data

By using an iterative decision-making process, feedback from each stakeholder group contributed to next steps. Each engagement generated activity and outcomes, which are outlined below:

### Stakeholder/reach



# Youth Panel

- 14 young people from six Local Gov areas, aged 18 to 25 yrs
- 8 female, 5 male, 1 non-binary
- 2 participants identified as Aboriginal



# **Stakeholder Liaison Group**

 13 representatives from key industry groups, peak bodies, education, skills and training sectors, state government organisations



### **Stakeholder Workshops**

 19 representatives - range of organisations and community groups



# **Community Focus Groups**

 23 randomly selected community members from six Local Gov Areas



## **Community Events**

A cross section of community members - 78 community members engaged



### **Online Survey**

12 respondents

Stakeholder /	Activity / data	Outcomes
reach	•	
	Initial five meetings over three	<ul> <li>Engagement activity summaries,</li> </ul>
	months	feedback and action items
	Site visit to impacted areas	Draft CBSP framework for feedback
Youth Panel	<ul> <li>Two further meetings to</li> </ul>	from community and stakeholder
W.	consider community and	groups
	stakeholder feedback	<ul> <li>Presentation of draft framework by</li> </ul>
, in the second second	Each meeting was recorded and	Youth Panel participants to the SLG
	shared with participants.	and Board
		Final framework provided to Board.
	Two online focus groups	Community feedback about draft CBSP
	captured feedback about the	recommendations
Community Focus	Youth Panel's draft	Data collected for analysis of key
Groups	recommendations.	feedback themes for Youth Panel to
		consider.
	Two community events	As above.
	encouraged community	
Community Events	feedback about the draft	
	recommendations.	
	Survey on draft CBSP	As above.
	recommendations hosted on	
Online Survey	TasNetworks' Your Say page	
	from 25 July to 31 August 2022.	
	Initial four-hour workshop on	Insights captured informed the CBSP
	CPSP governance and	governance and assisted the Youth
Stakeholder Workshops	administration	Panel to refine their recommendations.
Workshops	Second workshop to consider	
	potential governance models.	
Stakeholder Liaison	Presentations and discussions	Feedback recorded to inform the final
Group (SLG)	at SLG meetings.	stage of the co-design process.

# 4.0 Outcomes, impact and insights

# Reflection and evaluation of engagement

The approval by the TasNetworks' Board of the CBSP framework and governance arrangements, including the allocation of \$10M funding, demonstrates the effectiveness of this co-design engagement program. Youth Panel members aged 18 to 25 from impacted communities were empowered to develop the eligibility requirements for the program, and local stakeholders worked collaboratively with TasNetworks to deliver a fit-for-purpose program governance and administration approach. This includes an Independent Community Assessment Panel that will ensure TasNetworks' ongoing community collaboration as the CBSP is implemented.

# Insights and lessons learned

Stakeholder group	Insights and lessons
Youth Panel	<ul> <li>Valued the facilitator and the team running the sessions, having a direct line of communication with TasNetworks decision-makers</li> <li>80% of participants indicated they were interested in being involved in future collaboration opportunities</li> <li>Placed value on catering options, sustainability of materials used and the meeting of transport costs</li> <li>The recruitment was challenging. This was tackled by a multipronged approach: engaging with youth bodies and disability organisations, a recruitment agency and via social media.</li> </ul>
Community Groups & Organisations	The successful use of a Youth Panel allowed other stakeholders to consider how they can incorporate a youth voice into their work.
Community – Public	Having Youth Panel members directly involved in community events demonstrated their first-hand contribution in designing the framework, providing greater community confidence.
NWTD SLG	<ul> <li>Provided important insights consistent with their own networks and understanding of their communities</li> <li>Utilising experienced stakeholders was invaluable in guiding the governance needed to effectively administer a benefits program.</li> </ul>
TasNetworks	Youth Panel brought significant authenticity and legitimacy to     TasNetworks' engagement activities as the process and     recommendations were positively received and respected by community     members and stakeholders.

# Reporting processes to decision-makers, key stakeholders and participants

At the end of the co-design process, a report was provided to the TasNetworks' Board, which detailed the Youth Panel recommended CBSP eligibility requirements and stakeholders' preferred governance arrangements for the implementation of the program.

Following Board approval, Youth Panel members and stakeholders involved in the co-design process were advised of the approval of the recommendations they developed and the financial commitment for implementation.

Communications activities are also ongoing to detail the CBSP, the eligibility requirements, and how the program will be implemented for wider community distribution.

Stakeholders and Youth Panel members will continue to be kept informed as the preparation for the formal launch of the CBSP progresses and to seek their insights and feedback, when required.

### Evidence of participant, stakeholder and organisation satisfaction

Youth Panel members were asked to complete a short evaluation survey at the conclusion of the Youth Panel process. These indicate satisfaction with the co-design process (100% agreed or strongly agreed the process was genuine and their feedback shaped the project) and 100% trusted or strongly trust that TasNetworks will be influenced by their recommendations. Since the Youth Panel provided this feedback, they have been advised that their recommendations for the CBSP have been fully approved and will be delivered via a \$10M program budget.

Qualitative feedback from other participants and stakeholders has also been received. These indicate a high level of satisfaction with both the co-design process itself and with resulting outcomes. References are included to support this application and provide detailed comments on the CBSP. Select examples are provided below:

### **Youth Panel**

'I think it's been about being a part of something bigger, and learning more about this process has made me realise how important it is for me to have my say in how I think the community should be developed.' (Kiah)

### Stakeholder

'This was not about paying lip service to community consultation and stakeholder engagement – it was about asking "what do you think?" and "how can we improve the process and the scheme?" and then demonstrating that they (TasNetworks) had listened, because our input had shaped the next steps.' (CEO, Cradle Coast Authority)

## TasNetworks' Board member about the first phase of the Youth Panel process

'The opportunity to meet members of the Youth Panel, listen to their ideas and concerns about what is really important to them and learn about how they want to influence and shape the future of our community was quite inspiring.'

# Innovation and uniqueness

This is the first time in Australia that a CBSP has been developed for a major transmission project. Given the rapidly changing energy market and the national need to develop significantly more transmission infrastructure, this unique and highly successful co-design process provides a template for other infrastructure providers to follow.

A quote from Sophie, Youth Panel participant, sums up the opportunity this program has created for other organisations to learn from: '...it is important to recognise TasNetworks' efforts to engage with the youth of the six municipalities in a meaningful way. I strongly believe that other organisations could benefit from following this approach to ensure that young people have a voice in decision-making processes that impact their future'.

# **Acknowledgements and to find out more:**

We would like to thank TasNetworks and RPS Group for agreeing to share this case study and insights to advance engagement practice. This case study was co-authored by Chris Warr, Nicola Wass and Leesa Butler.

At the time of publishing, Chris Warr (Leader Major Projects Engagement) and Leesa Butler (Media and Events Specialist) were employed by TasNetworks and Nicola Wass (Director – Engagement) at RPS Group. Collectively, they have experience in co-design and deliberative engagement.

For more information about this project see:

- <u>Draft Community Benefits Sharing Program framework TasNetworks</u> (website)
- North West Transmission Developments TasNetworks (website)
- Youth Panel North West Transmission Developments YouTube
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