REDWOODS
WORK COLLABORATIVE

Navigating Politics and Making Informed Decisions: Embedding data into collaborative practice
Workbook

Collaboration is the most efficient, sustainable and cost-effective way to achieve community and common goals.

However, a lot can go wrong in collaborations if the structure is not set up to:

- Establish and implement shared goals;
- Include collective ownership; and
- Put the beneficiaries at the centre of the collaboration.

In essence,

- Start with the beneficiaries (young people): define the problem, listen to their solutions. Is this wanted?
- Build the 'Who', 'Why' and 'What' around ideas and research together.
- Stakeholder Analysis: What can go wrong? Who can block the process, when or where? How will it facilitate change? Might there be unintended consequences?
- Motivation is simple if you understand the project and stakeholders' purpose, priorities and mission.
- Share ownership, challenges and all communication!

Success indicators, consider:

- What are the current metrics? What is your starting point — what do you want to change?
- What are our aspirations? Expectations of outcomes?
- What do you need to count and record to demonstrate each element above?

Once you know your scope, then you can actively seek out people, programs and collaborations. Aligning stakeholder priorities helps you to navigate politics, stakeholder priorities and agendas. It offers a starting point to plan approach, success indicators and stakeholder communication.

https://redwoodswc.com.au

Stakeholder Analysis – common examples

Stakeholder contact details Hint: include collaboration partner and decision maker(s)	Priorities, KPIs, required outputs Hint: Mission, Strategy priorities, role KPIs	Contribution Hint: what can they bring to the collaboration?	Potential risk or barriers to success Hint: what might stall their contribution, or what might change?	Communication Hint: preferred communication style, method and timing
Beneficiaries: Youth in the community • Youth Advisory Committees / Reference Groups • Young Community Leaders • Students, Young people in programs • Youth that do not engage	• Enhance the lives of themselves and their peers • Access to support • Be listened to • Establish activities and programs to address changes and issues	• Lived experience • Valuable insight • Creativity and ideas • Time • Connections	• Need to ensure safety, appropriate communications and support to the young people. • Record of validated WCC of all stakeholders aged 17 years +	Examples • Do not share contact details • Protocol for communication may include only communicate via X stakeholder
Council facilitator Contact person Telephone & Email	• Community Connection • Enhance access to services • Build capacity of services • Improve lives of vulnerable residents	• Partnership coordinator • Venues • Leadership / Administration • Small grants	• Staff turnover • Change in priorities • Work schedule • Reputational risk	Works Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays
Council decision maker(s) Contact person Telephone & Email	• Integrated reporting • Value for money • Specific priorities	• Potential funding • Release of staff to contribute to project	• Staff turnover • Change in priorities • Reputational risk	Communicate via Council facilitator contact
Health agencies, peaks, private practice Contact person(s) Telephone Email Location	Examples may include: • Local Health District: safe care in all settings; people are healthy and well; research, innovation and digital advances inform delivery; health system managed sustainably. • Primary Health Network: mental health; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health; population health; alcohol and other drugs.	• Leadership / administration • Potential funding • Research, data, fact sheets • Collaboration team member(s) • Venues • Education and training	• Staff turnover • Change in priorities • Work schedule • Reputational risk	Communicate directly with team member – email preferred
Police and Justice	• Connected Community • Victim focus • Next generation	• Connections, advice, support • Host activities, speak at events • Community engagement	• Staff turnover • Change in priorities	Communicate via email and mobile where available. Do not share direct contact details.
Youth-related services	• Young people are supported to be mentally health and engaged in their communities (headspace example)	• Project/Program leadership • Youth participation • Training and education	• Staff turnover • Service funding • Change in priorities	Communicate directly
School representatives	• Strengthen student wellbeing and development • Provide meaningful post-school pathways	• Youth participation • Venues • Training and education • Data	• Staff turnover • Competing priorities • Policy changes and funding	Contact hours: 8:30am to 9:00am; 3:00pm to 4:00pm
Potential funders	• Community engagement • Alignment with priorities • Value for money	• Funding • Facilitation / guest speaker • Promotion	• Will require policies and agreements when working with for-profit organisations	Communicate directly

Stakeholder Analysis template

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THE REDWOODS STORY

After 8 years in local government and previously 15 years in health, small business, training and IT, the founder, Tania Krasinski, observed the gradual change in funding, priorities, and resourcing for community services. In some communities, the gap between policy and the consequences of those decisions in the community was widening. Many of the resources required to support vulnerable people in the community were used to seek out funding. Most often this funding would not exactly address the service mission, as a result many services evolved to suit the funding.

Now, with emerging technologies, we all require new skills to adapt, change and drive ethical, safe and effective use of the emerging technologies to enhance and support out communities.

Redwoods upskills, resources and connects community, business and government so that we can collaborate, innovate and create meaningful change.

Our services include:
- Consultancy: research, problem solving, optimisation and measurable outcomes.
- Value creation: through grants workshops, policy and alignment.
- Governance and ethics in AI & emerging technologies.
- Staff development: understanding data and reporting; evidence-based decision-making and best practice for change and project management; work transition coaching.
- Creative and Innovation services: helping you to identify and test ideas and new ways of working.
- Project and Event Management.

Contact Tania directly on:

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Workbook and slidepack can be downloaded from:
https://redwoodswc.com.au/logframe