

AITPM Board Communique – November 2024

The AITPM Board met on 27 November and the following key matters arising from the meeting, may be of interest to AITPM members.

Governance and Strategy Matters

Board Appointed Directors

Announcement: New Board Director Appointment at AITPM

We are delighted to share an exciting update regarding the growth and governance of AITPM. Following a rigorous and competitive process, the AITPM Directors' have appointed Mary Haverland to join the AITPM Board.

The recruitment process and appointment of the position was undertaken by the Board with careful consideration to strengthen the current Board skills and capabilities, while ensuring representation across our diverse disciplines and membership. The alignment of AITPM's new governance arrangements has been an imperative part of the process which saw one of AITPM's strongest responses, in recent times, to the call for expressions of interest (EOI). The process resulted in an impressive pool of candidates who nominated and were shortlisted for interview through a rigorous and structured interview process, ultimately recommending the preferred candidate, Mary, who was approved by the Board and appointed to the position on the 27 November 2024. While the governance structure permits up to four additional director appointments, the Board has decided to appoint one director, with further appointments may be considered following any specific expertise identified as a result of the development of AITPM's new strategic plan.

Mary brings invaluable governance experience, with demonstrated strengths in financial acumen, risk management, and strategic decision-making. Her skills and perspective will undoubtedly enhance the board's capacity to drive AITPM's mission forward.

Proposed Members Code of Conduct

As part of the Board's continuous improvement approach to governance, the Board has continued to discuss the development of a Members Code of Conduct. The Board recognise that this important governance agreement is not currently available for Members and the AITPM. The Members Code of Conduct will provide clarity on expectations and provide leadership to enhance connection with Members, aligning behaviours and the broader culture of AITPM.

More information in relation to the progress and development of AITPM's Members Code of Conduct will be made in consultation with Members in due course.

Strategic Plan Review

Noting the expiring of the current Strategic plan in 2025, the Board agreed to develop a new Strategic Plan. *Think: Insight & Advice* have been engaged as consultant to undertake the strategic planning project including focus groups, interviews and a survey consultation with member, stakeholders and the broader industry, and an in-person workshop with the Board and a number of key volunteers and Member representatives. The new Strategic Plan is intended to be completed by early 2025.

Finance

The Board undertook a comprehensive review of the regulatory environment and audit best practice for the appointment of the audit firm and partner for the 2025 financial year. As a result, the Board approved the ongoing appointment of MFLA as the audit partner for FY25.

MFLA has been AITPM's appointed audit firm for 3 years and has delivered consistent, high-quality practice. They have provided in-depth analysis and actionable recommendations that have contributed to improved financial controls and operational efficiencies. Each year their audits have uncovered deeper insights, assisting AITPM refine its processes.

The Board have agreed that a review of auditor appointment will be assessed and considered on an annual basis.

Other matters

Policy Update - *The Path to Net Zero: Decarbonising Australia's transport system*

Following a period of Member consultation, a refined Policy Issues Paper was presented and considered by the Board. The paper prepared by a volunteer working group of AITPM Members, bringing evidence to bear on recommended actions that will get Australian transport moving on its overdue journey towards achieving Net Zero. The recommendations addressed governments at all levels in Australia. The recommendations reflect AITPM's own commitments as the body representing the transport community and together, these recommendations and commitments act as a call to the nation's transport professionals to take concerted action.

The Board considered the proposed action plan for *The Path to Net Zero: Decarbonising Australia's transport system Issues Paper*, including its dissemination and integration into AITPM's work program for 2025, with the intention for further consideration as a result of the Strategic Planning workshop held with Directors and Members in early December 2024.

The Board acknowledged the efforts and thanked the volunteer working group in the development of this substantial piece of policy work.