## Australasian Study of Parliament Group National Conference

Canberra 2019



## **Taking on Digital Disruption**

4 October 2019 Lisa Penman, Alex Hickman and Maddison Evans Legislative Council of Western Australia



# Introduction









# Literature review





# Literature review

Existing literature has recognised:

- the importance of democratic renewal and the part the use of innovative methods to engage the public can play in enhancing participatory democracy
- how parliaments often use social media to report on activity rather than as a platform for engagement.
- But, this is changing, with recent examples including the use of an online questionnaire to obtain feedback.

Literature has also highlighted the following challenges:

- The application parliamentary privilege
- Cultural shift by committees
- Loss of control of the message.



# Scope and methods

## **Case study questions:**

- 1. What did you hope to achieve?
- 2. The results did you engage more people than you would have otherwise, or a broader cross-section of people?
- 3. How did you use or incorporate the results of the engagement into your final work?
- 4. Is there anything you would have done differently?



# User generated content





9,492 posts

3.9m followers

259 following

### Australia

Tourism Australia's official account.

Tag @Australia, #SeeAustralia or #RestaurantAustralia to give us permission to repost

toD

bit.ly/instagramFAQ











# User generated content





australia 🗇 • Follow Maria Island



australia 🔮 It's safe to say that this isn't Teddy's first modelling gig. 🙄 @jakobdezwart met this absolute charmer during a hike on @tasmania's #MariaIsland, a little island off the mainland of @eastcoasttasmania. This is one of the best spots to see #wombats in the wild in #Australia: and as you can see, they'd happily pose for you, just make sure you give them some personal space. Our tip: Book a @mariaislandwalk guided walk, which is part of both @greatwalksofoz and @australianwildlifejourneys, for some extra special #wildlife encounters over four days.

### #seeaustralia #discovertasmania

. .. .

 $\heartsuit \bigcirc \uparrow$ 

5 8

47,684 likes

1 DAY AGO

Log in to like or comment.

•••



# User generated content

#lushtime 61,982 posts

TOP POSTS





# The state of the roads in Wales



National Assembly for Wales Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee

## The State of Roads in Wales

October 2018





# Online discussion forums



## ME ANYTHING



# Case study 1 – an online discussion forum to engage older adults



## Get Involved. Make A Difference.



# Case study 2 – The 'Your Thoughts' website of the Town of Victoria Park



Town of Victoria Park @TownofVictoriaPark

Home

About

Posts

Photos

Videos

Events

eNewsletter

Community

Create a Page



## August 12 · •

Your comments are sought on the draft Urban Forest Implementation Action Plan, which sets out actions that the Town and the community will undertake over the next five years to implement the Town's Urban Forest Strategy.

....

Read the draft and provide your comments on our Your Thoughts page by 20 August.

http://yourthoughts.victoriapark.wa.gov.au





# Case study 2 – The 'Your Thoughts' website of the Town of Victoria Park

VICTORIA PARK

Home > Urban Forest Strategy Implementation Action Plan

## Urban Forest Strategy Implementation Action Plan

#### Consultation has concluded

In 2018, the Town and in partnership with its community, developed and adopted its first Urban Forest Strategy. The aim of the strategy is to achieve a 20% tree canopy coverage, contribute to the health and well being of our community and a sustainable liveable city.



In order to achieve the six strategic outcomes in the strategy a draft Implementation Action Plan has been developed. The draft plan sets out actions and tasks that the Town and the community will undertake over the next five years.

#### What is happening now?

Public comment period has now closed for this project. Feedback received is under review by the project team.

#### How can I find out more information?

- Contact Nicole Annson, Strategic Projects Manager or Brendan Nock, Environmental Officer
- Ask a question below and we will respond
- · Read the FAQs or the documents in the document library



CLOSED: This discussion has concluded.

Why don't you ask a question?

#### Document Library

Search

Home

Urban Forest Strategy (as endorsed)

DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN -Urban Forest Strategy (242 KB) (pdf)

Recommended Year 1 Actions Budget Allocation - UFS Transition - your thoughts (567 KB) (pdf)

What have we done so far (003) (002) (122 KB) (pdf)

#### Key Dates

Public comment period 06 August → 20 August 2019

#### Who's listening

Brendan Nock Environment Officer





Phone 9311 8143 Email brock@vicpark.wa.gov.au

#### Nicole Annson

Strategic Project Manager Town of Victoria Park

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#### Hayley Boyd

Community Engagement Advisor Town of Victoria Park



Phone 9311 8111 Email hboyd@vicpark.wa.gov.au



Q Sign In | Regist



# Case study 3 – "Women's Plan" by the Department of Communities

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## **Families WA**

Community groups are invited to hold consultation sessions to discuss issues facing women throughout the State. Feedback will help shape a women's plan for Western Australia. Limited funding is available for consultations in regional locations. Get your applications in now. Find out more from https://www.communities.wa.gov.au/wa-have-your.../womensplan/



#### Women's Voices: Building a stronger WA together

\* 1. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women defines gender equality as... "all people having the same rights, resources, opportunities and protections, regardless of gender".

Below are some issues that can influence a person's rights, resources, opportunities and protections and can affect their ability to fully participate in society.

Please select three (3) issues from the list below, or identify alternatives, that you think are the main issues for women in Western Australia

#### Accessible childcare

- Family and domestic violence
- Education and personal development
- Safety and security
- Attitudes to women
- Representation of women in leadership
- Financial security
- Employment opportunities
- Adequate saving for retirement
- Affordable housing
- Job security
- Opportunities for promotion

Gender stereotyping



# Conclusions

- Social media disruption can be successfully taken on.
- Parliamentary committees can use social media in innovative ways to obtain feedback from people who would not have otherwise engaged.
- Parliaments are not so far behind other sectors.
- We welcome feedback from the audience on their experiences of evidence gathering techniques by parliamentary committees through the use of social media.



# Questions or comments?