



Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee

Annual report 2021–22

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To obtain a hard copy of the annual report, contact the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health on +61 7 3096 6528 or commissioner@rshq.qld.gov.au.

Have your say

The Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee hopes you find this annual report informative.

The advisory committee welcomes any comments and feedback about the report. Please send your feedback to commissioner@rshq.qld.gov.au.

27 October 2022

The Honourable Scott Stewart MP Minister for Resources 1 William Street Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 77(1) of the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*, I am pleased to submit to you the Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee annual report for the year ending 30 June 2022.

Yours sincerely

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Kate du Preez

Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health

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From the Chair

I am proud to present this report outlining the achievements of the Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee for 2021–22. The report accounts for the first year of operation of the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee 2021–26 strategic plan*. Over the past 12 months, the advisory committee has achieved a number of significant milestones and has successfully advanced its mission to provide contemporary, evidence-based advice that focuses on making coal mine workers safe and healthy.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee provided advice to the Minister on issues including mine dust lung disease, the control of airborne contaminants, the causes of serious accidents and the controls in place to reduce risk, competency requirements for statutory positions, and the application of high reliability organisation theory in coal mines. The advisory committee has also significantly advanced its stakeholder engagement activities and its proactive examination of emerging serious risks to the safety and health of coal mine workers.

There has also been a strong focus internally to ensure that the advisory committee is able to function effectively to achieve the objectives of its five-year strategic plan. It has established effective governance arrangements and engaged with industry stakeholders to ensure the many decades of experience and knowledge of members is employed in the pursuit of its vision of *world leading safety and health for coal mine workers*.

Over the next 12 months, the advisory committee will be further exploring emerging safety and health issues by examining mental health and fatigue in the coal mining industry and continuing to examine the hazards associated with diesel particulate matter.

I would like to thank all members and substitute members for their enthusiastic participation in the advisory committee. Members often work many hours out-of-session to review documentation and complete projects and this is reflected in the robust discussions and high-level independent tripartite advice that is provided to the Minister.

Kate du Preez

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Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health

Year at a glance

Objective	Key achievements
A safe and healthy workplace	 Identified emerging safety and health issues/trends by reviewing relevant information and data including industry reported serious accident and high potential incident data, trends and regulatory audit findings, presented by Resources Safety and Health Queensland (RSHQ) airborne contaminants data mine lung dust disease type, occurrence, prevalence, and severity, including trends identified safety and health risks inherent in coal mining—including diesel particulate matter—as focus areas for working groups to consider and provide advice. Continued to address fatal and serious risks to workers by reviewing the findings and recommendations of the Brady review and Coal Mining Board of Inquiry (BOI) including implementing recommendation 16 of the BOI part 1 report commencing work on recommendation 22 of the BOI part 1 report understanding reporting culture by collaborating with the Commissioner's office to undertake an independent industry survey of safety reporting culture in the coal mining industry (finding 91 of the BOI part 2 report) considering the results of a report that examined how well the principles of high reliability organisations are being applied in the Queensland mining industry—advisory committee members engaged directly with one of the report authors on the practicality and application of high reliability organisation theory in the diverse operations found across the coal mining industry. In reviewing the effectiveness of the control of risk to coal mining workers, the advisory committee endorsed <i>Recognised standard 23: Fluid power safety in coal mines</i>.
Maintain a competent workforce An informed industry	 Engaged Simtars to complete a review of all competencies recognised and established by the advisory committee (283 competencies across 29 positions) to ensure they are current, and to perform a gap analysis where a competency has been superseded to highlight if technical components have been changed or removed. This will allow the advisory committee to determine if the original intent of the competency is still being met. Carried out a review of the competencies for working with electrical equipment in hazardous areas. Amended the open cut examiner competency—the addition of RIIENV301E. Informed the Minister about emerging issues, their potential impact and proactive best-
7.1. momed muusuy	 Informed the Minister about energing issues, their potential impact and proactive best-practice safety and health activities by the industry and RSHQ including a proposed new workplace exposure standard for carbon dioxide the use of steel casings in horizontal gas wells. Reviewed RSHQ performance summary report to the advisory committee to inform the Minister on RSHQ's performance.
Be an effective advisory committee	 Developed advisory committee terms of reference. Held an advisory committee meeting and industry forum in Moranbah. Visited Broadmeadow mine to discuss risk management practices in relation to the hazard of diesel particulate matter.

Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee

The Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee is established by part 6 of the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*.

The advisory committee is a tripartite body formed with the primary function to give advice and make recommendations to the Minister about promoting and protecting the safety and health of persons at coal mines and persons who may be affected by coal mining operations. The advisory committee is an integral part of the accountability framework that is in place to manage safety and health in the industry and to ensure coal mine workers arrive home safe and healthy every day.

Under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*, the chair of the advisory committee must prepare an annual report on the committee's operations for the year. The report must be given to the Minister for Resources as soon as practicable, but within four months, after the end of each financial year. The Minister must table a copy of the report in the Legislative Assembly within 14 sitting days.

Membership

The advisory committee is to consist of 10 members, one of whom is the Chairperson.

Members represent the Queensland Government, coal mine workers and coal mine operators. The independent chair of the advisory committee is the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health. Members are appointed by the Minister for terms of up to three years and there is no limit to the number of terms a member can serve.

The advisory committee includes members from the Mining and Energy Union, Electrical Trades Union, Queensland Resources Council and Resources Safety and Health Queensland. The Chief Inspector of Coal Mines is an *ex officio* member of the advisory committee.

Table 1: Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee members for 2021–22

Name	Representing	Organisation	Meetings
Kate du Preez	Independent chair	Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health	4
Ian Cribb	Coal mine operators	Queensland Resources Council	3
Shaun Dobson	Queensland Government	Resources Safety and Health Queensland	3
Stephen Evetts	Coal mine workers	Electrical Trades Union	4
Bobbie Foot	Coal mine operators	Queensland Resources Council	4
Peter Newman	Queensland Government	Resources Safety and Health Queensland	3
Stephen Smyth	Coal mine workers	Mining and Energy Union	3
Mark Stone	Queensland Government	Resources Safety and Health Queensland	3

Substitute members

Substitute members are appointed to take part in meetings of the advisory committee in place of a member from the same organisation who is unable to attend.

Table 2: Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee substitute members for 2021–22

Name	Representing	Organisation	Meetings
Kylie Ah Wong	Coal mine operators	Queensland Resources Council	1
Jason Hill	Coal mine workers	Mining and Energy Union	3
Clayton McCallum	Coal mine workers	Electrical Trades Union	0
Jim Randell	Coal mine operators	Queensland Resources Council	2

Meetings held

Under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999*, the advisory committee has an obligation to meet at least twice a year. In 2021–22, the advisory committee met a total of four times. When required, members also worked out-of-session to perform their functions.

The advisory committee is committed to holding some of its meetings in regional areas. The advisory committee held meeting 100 in Moranbah.

Table 3: Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee meetings in 2021–22

Meeting number	Date	Location
97	14 September 2021	Brisbane
98	8 December 2021	Brisbane
99	16 March 2022	Brisbane
100	14 June 2022	Moranbah

Functions of the advisory committee

The primary function of the advisory committee is to give advice and make recommendations to the Minister about promoting and protecting the safety and health of persons at coal mines and persons who may be affected by coal mining operations.

The advisory committee must discharge its primary function by periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the control of risk to any person from coal mining operations.

The advisory committee also has the following functions:

- recognising, establishing and publishing the following competencies
 - the competencies accepted by the committee as qualifying a person to perform the tasks prescribed by regulation
 - the safety and health competencies required to perform the duties of a person under this Act
- developing a five-year strategic plan for improving the safety and health of persons at coal mines and persons who may be affected by coal mining operations
- periodically evaluating, and at least once each year updating, the five-year strategic plan
- developing action plans to achieve measurable targets set in the five-year strategic plan
- obtaining information from Resources Safety and Health Queensland to assess the fulfilment of the five-year strategic plan and the action plans
- identifying and prioritising critical risks to the safety and health of persons at coal mines and persons who may be affected by coal mining operations
- providing advice to the coal mining industry about those risks
- providing information to the Minister about the performance of Resources Safety and Health Queensland.

Five-year strategic plan

With the commencement of the *Resources Safety and Health Queensland Act 2020*, the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999* was amended to broaden the functions of the advisory committee. The advisory committee must develop, and periodically evaluate and update, a five-year strategic plan for improving the safety and health of persons at coal mines and persons who may be affected by coal mining operations.

The advisory committee developed its first five-year strategic plan to improve the safety and health of coal mine workers in 2020–21, titled the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee 2021–26* strategic plan.¹

The advisory committee's five-year strategic plan is described in Figure 1.

¹ https://www.commissioner.rshq.qld.gov.au/advisory-committees/cmshac

Vision and mission

The strategic plan serves as a roadmap for the advisory committee to achieve its vision of:

World leading safety and health for coal mine workers.

To achieve this vision, the advisory committee is guided by the mission to:

Provide contemporary, evidence-based advice that focuses on making coal mine workers safe and healthy.

Values

The advisory committee has five core values which underpin its work:

- people first
- evidence
- collaborative
- responsive
- relevant.



Figure 1: Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee five-year strategic plan 2021–26

Work of the advisory committee

In 2021–22, the advisory committee completed a range of projects and activities that were aligned to the four strategic objectives under the *Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee 2021–26 strategic plan*:

- a safe and healthy workplace
- a competent workforce
- an informed industry
- an effective advisory committee.

A safe and healthy workplace

The advisory committee takes an evidence-based approach to its work and analyses relevant information and data to review, consider and discuss solutions and research. This approach enables the advisory committee to provide the Minister and industry with advice which fosters continuous improvement in safety and health for coal mine workers.

The advisory committee's priority strategies for achieving this objective are:

- shape safety behaviours
- identify safety and health risks inherent in coal mining
- review key safety and health outcomes
- review the effectiveness of the controls used in coal mining.

Shape safety behaviours

The advisory committee aims to shape safety behaviours by exploring the practicality and application of high reliability organisation theory in the Queensland coal mining industry and promoting improvements to safety reporting culture.

Application of high reliability organisation theory

One of the key recommendations of Dr Sean Brady's *Review of all fatal accidents in Queensland mines and quarries from 2000 to 2019* was that the mining industry should adopt the principles of high reliability organisation theory.

At its most fundamental level, high reliability organisation theory focuses on identifying incidents that are precursors to larger failures and uses this information to prevent these failures.

In September 2021, the Queensland Resources Council, with support from the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health, conducted an independent expert review of how high reliability organisation principles could be implemented in the mining industry. This review provided practical ways for high reliability organisation principles to be adopted across the Queensland mining industry, including identifying existing practices that align with those principles.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee considered the findings and recommendations of the review and recommended for the review author to present at the annual Queensland Industry Mining Safety and Health Conference.

As part of its consideration, the advisory committee heard Resources Safety and Health Queensland presentation on reporting *bad news* and on why workers do not report incidents and unsafe conditions, taking into consideration

academic research including the United States national safety council, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and findings from the 2021 industry safety reset.

Safety reporting survey

Finding 91 of the Queensland *Coal Mining*Board of Inquiry part 2 report² found:

An extensive study undertaken by CMSHAC on reporting culture in coal mines would benefit the industry in Oueensland.

In 2021–22, after considering presentations focussing on identifying precursors and reporting bad news, as well as finding 91, the advisory committee started a process, in conjunction with the office of the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health and the Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee, to conduct a survey of the reporting culture of the Queensland mining industry.

The advisory committee formed a working group to provide guidance and input into the survey project.

The survey objective is to establish a baseline understanding of the state of the safety reporting culture in Queensland's mining industry and to better understand safety reporting behaviours, including potential barriers to reporting. The survey is expected to be completed in 2022–23 and results will be communicated to industry. The advisory committee aims to repeat the survey periodically to encourage continuous improvement.

The advisory committee aims to identify safety and health risks inherent in coal mining by addressing fatal and serious risks and focussing on health risks to coal mine workers.

In addressing serious and fatal risks, the advisory committee has focussed on the recommendations made by the Queensland Coal Mining Board of Inquiry and the *Review of all fatal accidents in Queensland mines and quarries from 2000 to 2019*.

In its part 1 report, the Board of Inquiry made two recommendations for the advisory committee to:

- include RIIWHS601E—Establish and maintain the WHS management system as a competency required for an SSE (recommendation 16)
- work with registered training organisations to include critical control management in standard risk management training packages (recommendation 22).

The advisory committee has completed recommendation 16 and reviewed options for implementing recommendation 22.

In addition, the Board of Inquiry also made four recommendations in its part 2 report to Resources Safety and Health Queensland to take steps through the consultative process provided by the Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee to:

 ensure that a recognised standard based on best practice is developed for the monitoring and control of spontaneous

Identify safety and health risks

 $^{^2}$ https://www.coalminesinquiry.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0014/1621211/Queensland-Coal-Mining-Board-of-Inquiry-Part-II-Report.pdf

- combustion in underground coal mines (recommendation 10)
- ensure Recognised standard 16—Use and control of polymeric chemicals at underground coal mines is reviewed, and that consideration is given to including a requirement within the standard that site senior executives ensure a risk assessment is conducted in respect of the potential hazard arising from polymeric chemicals heating adjacent coal, resulting in spontaneous combustion (recommendation 15)
- include in *Recognised standard 11— Training in coal mines* a component on the roles of site safety and health representatives and industry safety and health representatives (recommendations 35, 38).

In June 2022, the advisory committee visited Broadmeadow coal mine in Central Queensland to observe and discuss the management and control of diesel particulate matter.

The advisory committee observed how Broadmeadow mine was modifying its existing fleet of diesel-powered equipment by installing low emission engine upgrades. These modifications have resulted in reductions in diesel particulate matter of up to 80 per cent. The mine also uses battery electric vehicles specifically designed to withstand the underground coal environment to transport managers and workers underground.

This is an ongoing program of work and the advisory committee will undertake further research in 2022–23 and 2023–24.

In December 2021, the advisory committee established a working group to develop a best

practice guide for controlling dust exposure when cleaning electrical enclosures.

The purpose of the guide was to provide best practice solutions for preventing dust from entering and depositing in electrical enclosures to reduce the need for cleaning and reducing exposure to dust for workers.

The guide will assist coal mines to reduce exposure of workers to dust to as low as reasonably achievable by identifying:

- the common electrical enclosure types that may accumulate dust and require cleaning
- current best practices to remove the build-up of dust that has not been prevented from entering these enclosures.

The working group is being led by inspectors from Resources Safety and Health Queensland and includes industry members with expertise in electrical maintenance and occupational hygiene.

The best practice guide is expected to be completed in the first half of 2022–23.

Review key safety and health outcomes

In reviewing key safety and health outcomes, the advisory committee reviews information on high potential incidents, serious accidents and airborne contaminants to identify current and emerging safety and health risks.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee received quarterly briefings from Resources Safety and Health Queensland on high potential incident and serious accident data and reviewed significant incidents that occurred in the coal mining industry.

The advisory committee used this information to help it identify trends and to provide advice

to the Minister and industry on improvements that could be made to enhance safety and health performance in the industry.

The advisory committee also received quarterly briefings from Resources Safety and Health Queensland on airborne contaminants data on respirable dust, respirable crystalline silica, diesel particulate matter and welding fumes. The advisory committee reviewed this data to monitor the effectiveness of controls in place to reduce risks to coal mine workers.

Review the effectiveness of controls

In reviewing the effectiveness of the controls used in coal mining, the advisory committee analyses the coal mining safety and health regulatory framework.

The primary function of the advisory committee is to give advice and make recommendations to the Minister about promoting and protecting the safety and health of persons at coal mines and persons who may be affected by coal mining operations. In making its recommendations and advice, the advisory committee can consider anything relevant to coal mine workers and persons affected by coal mining operations.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee provided advice to the Minister on proposed legislative amendments regarding the use of steel casings in horizontal coal seam gas wells.

In addition, the advisory committee provided advice to the Minister on the development and implementation of recognised standards for the coal mining industry.

As a result of the changes to the *Coal Mining*Safety and Health Act 1999 that came into effect
with the commencement of the *Resources Safety*and Health Queensland Act 2020, the process
for the development and review of recognised
standards has changed (Figure 2).

However, the advisory committee process has continued for recognised standards that were already under development or review prior to the change in legislation.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee endorsed one recognised standard and is currently reviewing three recognised standards.

On 12 July 2021, the advisory committee endorsed *Recognised standard 23: Fluid power safety in coal mines*.

The new recognised standard established minimum standards for managing risks from using fluids above or below atmospheric pressure.

The advisory committee is reviewing Recognised standard 16—Use and control of polymeric chemicals at underground coal mines as a result of recommendation 15 of the Queensland Coal Mining Board of Inquiry.

It is also continuing to review *Recognised* standard 4: Underground Non Flameproof Fire Protected Diesel Engines and Recognised standard 21: Underground Explosion Barriers. It is expected that these reviews will be finalised in 2022–23.

1. Initiation

Minister approves that a Recognised Standard (RS) be developed or reviewed or withdrawn, for his/her consideration, based upon:

- a) advice or recommendation¹ from RSHQ (or)
- advice or recommendation² from CMSHAC (or)
- c) Ministerial direction³

2. Development

RSHQ assigns an Inspector of Mines (IOM) to be the RS tripartite working group (RSTWG) Chair, who:

- writes to industry and coal mine worker representative organisations, regarding RS initiation OR review, the purpose and scope of the RS and expected timeframes
- establishes a RSTWG comprising industry and coal mine worker representatives, with a working knowledge of the matter of the RS
- 3. publishes RSTWG membership on RSHQ website

RSTWG develops:

- consultation draft RS
- final draft RS
- final RS

Footnotes:

- .. Advice or recommendation is underpinned by an evidence base (i.e., data-driven and risk-based)
- $2. \qquad \hbox{Flowchart on next slide refers to CMSHAC developed process to support whether RS is required} \\$
- Minister may request. Coroner or Inquiry may recommend
- 4. Returns to consultation or final draft RS, dependent on circumstances

3. Consultation

RSTWG Group Chair circulates consultation draft RS to industry and coal mine worker representative organisations, for their review and feedback

Consultation period is set by the RSTWG Chair, but is no less than 25 business days

RSTWG Chair circulates final draft RS to industry and coal mine worker representative organisations, and CMSHAC members for their review and feedback

Consultation period is set by the RSTWG Chair, but is no less than 21 business days

4. Approval

RSHQ seeks Ministerial approval of **final RS** and notification of making of RS by gazette notice

Ministerial brief includes decisions on inclusion and exclusion of consultation feedback and reasons for same, and statement of support or disagreement from CMSHAC

Minister considers final RS and:

- a) approves (or)
- b) requests further work⁴ (or)
- c) does not approve

RSHQ communicates Ministerial decision to industry and coal mine worker representative organisations and CMSHAC

- approved RS is gazetted
- RSHQ publishes approved RS
- (OR) RSHQ withdraws RS

Figure 2: Resources Safety and Health Queensland recognised standards development process

A competent workforce

The advisory committee has responsibility for establishing, recognising and publishing the competencies qualifying a person to perform the tasks prescribed by regulation and ensuring the Queensland coal mining workforce has the competencies needed to keep people safe and healthy.

The advisory committee's priority strategy for achieving this objective is to ensure the Queensland coal mining workforce is competent.

The advisory committee will achieve this by monitoring, evaluating and developing competencies.

Monitor, evaluate and develop competencies

In monitoring, evaluating and developing competencies, the advisory committee reviews the *Competencies recognised by the Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee*³ to ensure they remain relevant and current and

considers the recommendations related to statutory positions made in the expert legal assessment of the coal mining safety and health legislative framework conducted in 2020–21.

When developing or changing a competency, the advisory committee considers the following factors:

- Is there an identified risk?
- Is there evidence of need?
- Are there alternatives?
- Can registered training organisations deliver the quality of outcomes required?

In 2021–22, the advisory committee made amendments to eight competencies.

Competency updates

The competencies recognised for site senior executives were updated to include *RIIWHS601E—Establish and maintain the WHS management system* as a result of recommendation 16 of the Queensland Coal Mining Board of Inquiry.

³ https://www.commissioner.rshq.qld.gov.au/advisory-committees/mining-competencies/coal-mining-competencies

The competencies recognised for open cut examiners were updated to include *RIJENV301E—Conduct atmospheric monitoring* with transition period until 17 June 2022.

The following recognised competencies were updated to ensure they remained relevant by removing deleted competencies and taking into consideration new training courses developed by Australian Industry Standards:

- underground electrical engineering manager
- · surface electrical engineering manager
- persons repairing, overhauling and maintaining electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres at a coal mine
- persons carrying out work on extra low voltage systems associated with mobile plant for an underground coal mine.

The following recognised competencies were updated to ensure they remained relevant by removing deleted competencies:

- training designers, developers or deliverers and persons managing and implementing mines training schemes competency
- training assessors.

Review of published competencies

In June 2022, the advisory committee commenced a project to complete a review of the table of competencies to ensure they are current, and to perform a gap analysis where a competency has been superseded to highlight if technical components have been changed or removed. This will allow the advisory committee to determine if the original intent of the competency is still being met.

The review is expected to be completed by November 2022.

An informed industry

Engaging and communicating with the industry and the Minister about emerging issues and promoting relevant learnings from reviews of evidence-based data and research are essential parts of the advisory committee's roadmap towards world leading safety and health for coal mine workers.

The advisory committee's priority strategies for achieving this objective are:

- communicating emerging harms and risks
- informing the Minister about the performance of Resources Safety and Health Queensland.

Communicate emerging harms and risks

In communicating emerging harms and risks, the advisory committee identifies harms and risks to inform the industry.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee considered the issue of safety reporting and why coal mine workers report, or do not report, safety concerns, near misses and high potential incidents.

Resources Safety and Health Queensland presented to the advisory committee on *Why workers do not report incidents and unsafe conditions*.

In addition, an expert in psychological safety presented to the advisory committee on *The human cost of not speaking up*.

Inform the Minister about the performance of Resources Safety and Health Queensland

In informing the Minister about the performance of Resources Safety and Health Queensland, the advisory committee aimed to provide timely, accurate and relevant

information to the Minister on the regulator's performance.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee provided advice to the Minister about the performance of Resources Safety and Health Queensland on a quarterly basis.

Advice to the Minister was based on Resources Safety and Health Queensland's quarterly performance summary reports to the advisory committee.

An effective advisory committee

To be an effective advisory committee and achieve its objectives, it is essential to have clear governance arrangements and for members to work together on building tripartite collaboration.

The advisory committee's priority strategies for achieving this objective are:

- ensuring effective governance arrangements are in place to maintain the advisory committee's strategic focus
- engaging effectively with stakeholders
- ensuring the knowledge and expertise of members is employed.

Ensure effective governance arrangements

In ensuring effective governance arrangements are in place to maintain the advisory committee's strategic focus, the advisory committee implemented defined meeting protocols and ensured decision making with the *greater good* in mind.

In 2021–22, the advisory established a terms of reference to define the roles and responsibilities of members and stakeholders

and to set out agreed frameworks for the conduct of members and meetings.

To ensure members' time is used effectively, all members of the advisory committee committed to upholding an agreed set of shared values—as outlined in the five-year strategic plan—which guide their approach to advisory committee work and interactions with each other.

Members are committed to attending meetings prepared to contribute to the discussion and using the resources available to them to support the advisory committee in its work.

Engage effectively with stakeholders

In engaging effectively with stakeholders, the advisory committee has developed and implemented a communication and engagement strategy which takes advantage of the existing communication channels available to the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health and seeks to engage with stakeholders in regional areas.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee continued to communicate with stakeholders through a dedicated page on the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health's website⁴ and via the Commissioner's LinkedIn channel.⁵

On 14 June 2022, the advisory committee held a meeting and hosted a regional industry forum in Moranbah.

The regional forum was divided into two sessions to accommodate shift workers. The direct engagement with the industry provided an opportunity for coal mine workers to meet with members of the advisory committee to discuss upcoming projects, coal mining

⁴ https://www.commissioner.rshq.qld.gov.au/advisory-committees/cmshac

⁵ https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/queensland-commissioner-for-resources-safety-&-health-/

competency requirements, and safety and health in the coal mining industry.

A broad range of stakeholders attended including site safety and health representatives, coal mine workers, operational management and supervisors in operations, training and safety and health, and the families of workers. Stakeholders raised a range of issues, including:

- fatigue and the inadequacy of the current guidance note
- competencies and the ability for contractors to meet Board of Examiners requirements
- · fear for reporting
- the complexity of high reliability organisation principles—need to take the academic principles and transition to mining terminology
- transparency of the work of the advisory committee.

Employ knowledge and expertise of members

In ensuring the knowledge and expertise of advisory committee members is employed, the advisory committee establishes working groups to explore key strategic issues and engages expert groups to support strategic focus.

In 2021–22, the advisory committee established two working groups to explore the following key strategic issues related to the safety and health of coal mine workers:

- · safety reporting culture
- controlling dust exposure when cleaning electrical enclosures (led by Resources Safety and Health Queensland)

The advisory committee also engaged with expert groups on the following topics to support its strategic focus:

- psychological safety
- high reliability organisation theory
- safety reporting culture.

Expenses incurred

Advisory committee members are not entitled to any remuneration other than the reimbursement of reasonable expenses and travel allowances to attend meetings.

The total expenditure incurred by the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health in 2021–22 in relation to the advisory committee was \$6249 including GST.

Table 4: Expenses incurred by the Commissioner for Resources Safety and Health in relation to the Coal Mining Safety and Health Advisory Committee

Expense	Amount
Travel and accommodation	2237
Meetings (venue hire and catering)	4012
Facilitation and subject matter experts	0
Total	6249

