

Case Study

Manning Community Hub

Commissioned by

Community Hubs and Partnerships

Produced by

Deloitte Access Economics

December 2017

Case Study 7: Manning Community Hub



Western Australia, Australia

Overview

Manning is a quiet residential suburb in the inner City of South Perth. The Manning Community hub was initiated by the City of South Perth in response to studies undertaken demonstrating that the existing community facilities were ageing and reaching the end of their useful life.² The hub opened in February 2017 and aims to create a new “heart” for Manning through providing a multi-purpose welcoming precinct integrating a range of community and social services¹.



Source: City of South Perth

Context/setting



Health



Community Infrastructure



Community Services



Wellbeing



Brownfield



Urban



Public/private

Service mix



Health, including the Manning Child Health Clinic¹

Community infrastructure, including a community hall, a relocated library and two playgrounds¹

Community services, including early years services, Moorditj Keila Aboriginal Group (a not-for-profit organisation supporting the Aboriginal community),¹ and Manning Playgroup association

Wellbeing, including sporting clubroom housing the Manning Rippers Football Club¹
The hub intends to expand into **commercial** activities in the future^{2,3}

Level of integration

No integration to date as the priority of the hub has been to attract and set up the services. However potential synergies between providers have been identified and there is increasing effort being put into creating joint activities to foster collegiality and the true sense of a hub, such as an upcoming Christmas fair

Site characteristics



Brownfield, purpose built facility
Urban

Funding



Public/Private⁶, \$14 million, with funding contributions from LotteryWest and Western Australia Department of Sport and Recreation

Partners (inc. lead agency)

Lead agency: City of South Perth

Partners: Lottery West and WA State Department of Sport and Recreation, Moorditj Keila Aboriginal Group

Foundations for success

This hub exhibits three success factors that have been identified in the literature review.



Focus and Vision



Collaborative and detailed planning



Funding

Focus and vision

The vision of the hub has been driven by a place-based approach; this approach emphasises the design and use of the site to be specific and relevant to the Manning community. This was evident in the development of a Place Vision for the use of the outdoor public space at the centre of the Manning Community Hub precinct. A third party provider Social Fabric was commissioned by the City of South Perth to design and facilitate the community engagement process for the development of this vision^{4,5}.

Collaborative and detailed planning

The design of the facility was mainly led by the City of South Perth, with inputs incorporated from the User Group representatives from the service providers in the hub.

The Council consulted with the community and found that an integrated neighbourhood hub was most desired.²

Funding

Securing adequate funding was critical in the fruition of the hub. Sufficient funding was not initially in place, which inhibited the project from getting off the ground right from the planning stage.

Outcomes

As the hub has only been operating for a short time, demonstrated or reported long-term outcomes are not yet evident. However, there are a number of perceived benefits from the hub staff and social media page, outlined below.

Community networks, cohesion and engagement

The hub has improved community ownership and connected groups that may not otherwise have been connected. The inclusion of the Moorditj Keila Aboriginal Group on site is perceived to have contributed to the better inclusion of Aboriginal culture into the community¹.

Safety

There is also perceived increase in community safety and crime prevention through encouraging passive surveillance¹.

Lessons

- The Manning Community Hub operates under a largely council owned and operating model. This is in the sense that the City of South Perth is responsible for initiating, funding and planning of the hub. Service providers located in the hub engage with the City of South Perth through leasing of the hub's spaces. Depending on each service provider's capacity to pay, they are charged either market rent or nominal rent.
- From the initial identification of the needs of the hub and early community engagement, it took nine years for the Manning Community Hub to eventually come to fruition. This reflects the long journey collaboratively planned social infrastructure projects could experience, as such projects do compete with other priorities of the providers, especially when it comes to funding and resources.
- Community consultation is vital. While there was consultation with the community through workshops, forums, questionnaires, advertisements and stakeholder meetings, it was recognised that more consultation could have been undertaken, particularly toward the end of the project when planning the Manning Community Centre Development Application³.
- The success of the architecture lies in its capacity to be sympathetic to the local area and understanding of the local community needs.

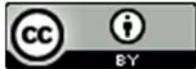
References

1. City of South Perth, 2017, Manning Community Hub, <https://southperth.wa.gov.au/our-future/projects-and-places/manning-community-hub#tab4-1>
2. City of South Perth, 2017, Manning Community Hub Factsheet
3. City of South Perth, 2017, Manning Community Hub Brochure
4. Social Fabric, 2015, Manning Community Hub, outdoor public space, place visioning project
5. Social Fabric, 2015, Manning Community Hub, outdoor public space, place vision
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Prepared for Community Hubs and Partnerships by Deloitte Access Economics Pty Ltd



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