

# Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue

## 2018 UHMD Annual Forum Report

20 November 2018

Muswellbrook Race Club, Muswellbrook



Forum attendees visiting the industry procurement stalls.

## Introduction

### About the forum

On 20 November 2018, around 130 participants from a diverse range of backgrounds came together to learn more about the Upper Hunter and the key projects and initiatives being undertaken. Participants were able to review the progress of the Dialogue during 2018 and have their say on key issues and potential projects for consideration by the Dialogue's Committees and Working Groups in 2019.

This was the seventh annual gathering for the Dialogue's Forum. The first was held in December 2012 and concluded that an annual gathering of the many individuals and groups involved in the Dialogue was a helpful way to keep track of the progress of the many Dialogue projects and to consider broad issues such as how the Dialogue is managed, whether it is making good progress and the issues it should be tackling.

It is important that the Dialogue remains relevant and can continue to evolve to meet its goal of bringing together the Upper Hunter community to promote co-existence with mining and deliver the best overall outcomes for local communities.

The 2018 Forum sought to implement a new format compared to previous Forum events which were more focused on a series of presentations and Q&A formats. For 2018, participants were able to engage in a networking and information session and encouraged to have discussions with a range of stallholders that are directly involved in key Dialogue projects or other initiatives underway that relate to the Upper Hunter.

### About this report

This report captures the written feedback from the afternoon workshop session. The discussion points have been transcribed verbatim however some small additions and/or amendments have been made to the written feedback where it is necessary to assist the reader (grammar and spelling corrections, expansion of acronyms etc.). It will be the task of the working groups and/or industry to determine which suggestions are to be actioned or explored further. Thank you in advance to the UHMD Joint Advisory Steering Committee that reviews the feedback.

### Next steps

Valuable feedback provided attendees on the Dialogue was provided during the Forum's discussion session. The Joint Advisory Steering Committee and Industry Steering Committee, together with the various working groups will consider the feedback in this report during their first meetings in 2019. Where actions are relevant to particular working groups, these will be assigned for their review and discussion.

### Thank you

The Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue and its industry members would like to thank everyone who participated in the forum and throughout the year, particularly the hard-working members of the various Joint Working Groups and Joint Advisory Steering Committee. The Dialogue could not exist and achieve the results we have without community buy-in from such members. We thank you for your continued involvement and engagement.

The Dialogue wishes to extend a special thanks to:

- All organisations that assisted with hosting an information stall (The University of Newcastle, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Resources Regulator, NSW Department of Planning and Environment, NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet, NSW Environment Protection Authority, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage)
- Industry members (including those involved with the Dialogue's Working Groups and Committees, as well as Procurement and rehabilitation personnel in attendance) from all Upper Hunter operations including Glencore, The Bloomfield Group, Mount Pleasant Operation, BHP, Bengalla Mining Company, Muswellbrook Coal Company, Peabody Energy, Yancoal, and Malabar Coal.
- The UHMD Chair David O'Brien.
- Our Forum facilitator, Di Sneddon for providing her continued commitment to facilitating the day.
- Muswellbrook Race Club and its staff for hosting the forum's guests.
- All our Dialogue Committee and Working Group members across local and state government, community and environmental groups, the business sector and interested individuals for their continued commitment and efforts to help the Dialogue continue.



Forum attendees visiting the air quality themed stall.



## Forum Program

The full program for the 2018 Annual Forum has been included below:

Tuesday 20 November 2018		
<b>8:30am</b>	<b>FORUM OPEN</b>	
<b>8:30am</b>	Arrival and networking	Coffee, tea
<b>9:00am</b>	Welcome to country	Scott Franks, Tocomwall
<b>9:05am</b>	Welcome from facilitator and venue	Di Sneddon, Facilitator & Duane Dowell, GM, Muswellbrook Race Club
<b>9:15am</b>	Dialogue 2018 Year in Review: Realignment and Reinvigoration	James Barben, Director Policy, NSW Minerals Council & David O'Brien Chair, Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue
	Networking and Information Session between forum participants and invited guests	Such information will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mining Industry Procurement and Purchasing information for SMEs;</li> <li>• School Mine Tours Program and Virtual Reality technology;</li> <li>• Water Quality and Stewardship projects;</li> <li>• Air Quality Emissions and Health projects;</li> <li>• Land Management and Rehabilitation projects; and</li> <li>• Synoptic Plan update and post-mining land use opportunities.</li> </ul>
<b>9:35am</b>	This session will enable forum participants to learn more about key Dialogue projects and engage directly with representatives on topics of interest.	
<b>11:05am</b>	<b>MORNING TEA BREAK (during Networking and Information Session)</b>	
<b>11:30am</b>	Table discussion on key projects	Participants will discuss the morning session in smaller groups and have the opportunity to identify key issues and ideas for potential projects to address them.
<b>12:00pm</b>	Feedback and discussion session	Tables will provide feedback from the discussions and enable participants to discuss ideas and projects to determine future priority issues for the Dialogue.
<b>1:10pm</b>	Summary of forum outcomes and closing remarks	Di Sneddon, Facilitator & David O'Brien, Chair, Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue
<b>1:30pm</b>	<b>NETWORKING LUNCH</b>	
<b>2:30pm</b>	<b>FORUM CLOSE</b>	



Forum attendees visiting the rehabilitation themed stalls.

## Presentations

David O'Brien (UHMD Chair) welcomed all attendees and thanked them for their interest and participation in the Dialogue's Forum, as this is the most important event in the yearly Dialogue calendar. Together with James Barben (UHMD Secretariat), attendees were provided with an overview of the Dialogue's history and key activities, noting the various projects the Dialogue currently progressing, and results of the Dialogue's ongoing stakeholder surveys.



UHMD Chair David O'Brien addressing the 2018 Forum attendees.

The Dialogue's highlights for 2018 include:

- Realignment and reinvigoration:
  - Consolidating the existing Environment Working Groups to reduce duplication.
  - Creating a new Communications Working Group.
  - Creating new Working Groups focused on Economic & Social Development, and Communications.
- Continued work on key projects:
  - HRSTS Water Quality Study completed in 2018.
  - Commencement of ACARP Study into past and present mine rehabilitation to grazing land, supporting NSW DPI in gathering industry data.
  - Full implementation of School Mine Tours for students from Years 5 & 9 to visit a mine site in the Upper Hunter.
  - Development of Virtual Reality awareness modules.
  - Release of air quality resources - 'Clearing the Air' weather forecasting video, and two Upper Hunter Air Quality Fact Sheets.



- Continued delivery of annual reporting projects – Water Accounting Framework and Rehabilitation Principles and Commitments.
- Continued support for the development of the Synoptic Plan Review process.
- Communication and Engagement Activities:
  - Targeted stakeholder re-engagement plan:
    - Attending Community Consultative Committee (CCC) Meetings; and
    - Face to face meetings with a range of NGO's, community groups and industry organisations.
  - Commencement of social media profile through Facebook.
  - Development of regular Dialogue newsletter and email updates.
  - Continued presence at major regional shows and events across the Upper Hunter, including the 2018 Hunter Coal Festival, which had a focus on providing rehabilitation information and demonstrations from all industry partners.
  - Over 100 additional community surveys collected to build on existing data.
  - Extensive updates to Dialogue website content, with current reports and working group papers added to better inform stakeholders.



Forum attendees visiting the water-themed stalls.

## Discussion sessions

The discussion sessions provided a chance for attendees to raise issues and discuss potential solutions across a number of key Dialogue themes, including:

1. Stakeholder engagement and communications
2. Air Quality, emissions and health
3. Rehabilitation and final land use
4. Water quality and stewardship
5. Economic development, mining and business

Each table had 30 minutes to discuss the key questions amongst their table. During this time, participants were asked to identify and prioritise a list of key issues and potential solutions that the Dialogue could work on.

Following the discussion session, a Table Facilitator was provided a 5-minute window to report back to the forum on the top 3 issues and potential solutions from each group.

The Dialogue was pleased to see such a high level of involvement in the discussion sessions from many first-time attendees as this has provided a fresh perspective on the key issues and actions for the Dialogue to consider throughout 2019.

We heard honest feedback from attendees on the performance of the Dialogue throughout 2018, including where we are performing well and where we can we make improvements. A number of recurring and emerging issues were identified for the Dialogue to consider, primarily regarding sustained engagement with the various stakeholders that comprise the Upper Hunter community.



Forum attendees during the afternoon discussion session.

## Discussion Session Summaries

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS (TABLE 1-2)
<p><b>Goal:</b> Engage and communicate effectively with relevant stakeholders to inform and engage people on the Upper Hunter Mining Dialogue.</p>
<p><b>Relevant Projects and Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School tours program</li> <li>• VR materials</li> <li>• Newsletters</li> <li>• Social Media</li> <li>• Website</li> <li>• News articles</li> <li>• Targeted stakeholder engagement plan</li> <li>• CCC Meetings</li> <li>• Comms Activities Poster</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Questions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who should the Dialogue be engaging with? Identify any key stakeholders not engaged with?</li> <li>2. How can the Dialogue engage better with the wider community and reach the interested stakeholders? Identify any methods not covered.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Actions:</b> Refer all issues and solutions to Communications Working Group for consideration.</p>

### TABLE 1/2

**Issue:** Improving engagement with students through the School Tours program

- Are we aiming for the right age group?
- How can we tie in better with what they're learning to generate sustained interest into adulthood?

**Solutions:**

- Ongoing work to engage with students interacting through the tours program. Ensure relationship is reinforced by going back to schools and providing hands-on experiences.
- Target year 11/12 rather than year 9, as they may be more focused on what is being presented. Focus on Geography students - need to choose industry cluster to study - viticulture is more popular but could be an opportunity for better engagement.
- Have a greater presence at career expos at various locations
- Utilise VR materials where possible.
- Target and inform new teachers about the mining industry to improve their knowledge, which will flow to students.
- Align better with school's subjects and curriculum - if we can tailor work to these subjects and provide content that works for the teachers, this would help.
- Consider engagement with university students.

**Issue:** Lack of mine worker knowledge about the Dialogue

- How do they get their information?

**Solutions:**

- Provision of Crib room materials by the Dialogue - Newsletters, general and site-specific Dialogue posters.
- Help them understand how what they do can impact on community.
- Backyard BBQ - reinforce key messaging.



- An engaged workforce will lead to ambassadors.

**Issue:** Engagement with the business community

- How to engage better and more frequently?
- Individual companies doing a lot of work.

**Solutions:**

- Dialogue can feed info into businesses - demonstrate multiplier effect.
- Create a narrative about mining's role in this region.
- Establishing pathways is the key.

**Issue:** Greater involvement of not-for-profit and community groups

**Solutions:**

- Seek presentations at their meetings
- Involvement of groups like CWA, Youth Express, Cancer Council - Need more community people in the room for these sorts of discussions to have validity.

**AIR QUALITY, EMISSIONS AND HEALTH (TABLES 3-4)**

**Goal:** Improve air quality in the Upper Hunter and community understanding of air quality and its management.

**Relevant Projects and Resources:**

- Weather Forecasting Project
- Clearing the Air video
- UH Air Quality Fact Sheets
- Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network
- EPA/OEH Dust Risk Forecasting Scheme

**Key Questions:**

1. What are the key issues related to air quality in the Upper Hunter? This might include physical issues as well as information or knowledge gaps. Please be as specific as you can.
2. What projects or activities could the Dialogue undertake to address these issues?

**Actions:** Refer all issues and solutions to Industry and Joint Environment Working Groups for consideration.

**TABLE 3**

**Issue:** Lack of community understanding of air quality criteria, NEPM assessment process.

- The air quality monitors and the mines say it's generally okay, but there are still visible issues with dust.

**Solutions:**

- Provide basic information on what the air quality numbers mean, including information on criteria that has been developed and how assessment is undertaken.
- How do we communicate air quality/dust? Can people understand it? Need to have these presented in plain English and in an accessible way.
- People don't like 24-hour averaging results, as they don't capture localised events as they happen.

**Issue:** People don't understand the many sources of dust generation.

**Solutions:**

- Provide clear information on types and sources of dust, including information that dust exists in many areas across NSW, even in those that don't have mining operations.

- How do we communicate it? Use plain English.

**Issue:** Lack of education about air quality, particularly students, who can be influenced by parents and other community members.

**Solutions:**

- Integrate more air quality information as part of the School Mine Tours process
- Take students to the Upper Hunter Air Quality Monitoring Network sites and demonstrate how they work and their purpose in regulating air quality.
- Remember that not everyone has the internet, particularly elderly residents across the Hunter. May need to consider alternatives to web-based information, such as newspapers, magazines, mailouts, tv/radio as well as newer formats like social media.
- Provide information on what to do when air quality is bad? E.g. stay indoors, close your windows.

**TABLE 4**

**Issue:** Capacity for current operations to maintain air quality

**Solutions:**

- Investigating feasibility of underground operations in the future.

**Issue:** Air quality forecasts not timely or accurate enough

**Solutions:**

- Refinement of forecasts for the broader community
- Leads to better planning
- Mine design, alternate dumps

**Issue:** Review of dust risk sources at sites

- Has this changed in the past few years?

**Solutions:**

- Dust and its impacts on health
- Rostering - 12/8 hrs - impact on health of mine workers
- Best practice for dust management in the Hunter Valley - dust handbook

**Other feedback:**

**Issue:** Merriwa Plateau Air Quality and Mining Dust

- Whenever the farming area to the west of Merriwa experience a strong easterly or south easterly wind, which is happening a lot of late, we are experiencing a high incidence of fine dust from the mines arriving over the Merriwa plateau. Dust levels from the mines has been so high that we are sometimes getting a white out effect, literally obscuring our view of the Liverpool Range. It is an extremely fine whitish dust that remains suspended in the air.
- When we aren't getting the wind and dust from the mines east and southeast of us, we are getting south westerlies bring in in the same sort of dust from the Wollar and Ulan mines. Our air quality is impacted as is our health. Our once pure clean plateau air is now polluted by mine dust on a regular basis.
- This is different from the 'drought dust' coming in on the wind from the west and north west winds which, when it does arrive, is red and in colour and grainy red soil and quite different.

**Solution:**

- Merriwa Air Quality seriously needs to be monitored especially on the plateau west of Merriwa township.

## REHABILITATION AND FINAL LAND USE (TABLES 5-6)

### Goal:

Progressively rehabilitate land disturbed by mining and identify opportunities to beneficially reuse rehabilitated lands including final voids.

### Relevant Projects and Resources:

- Rehabilitation Principles and Commitments
- Beneficial Reuse of Voids Project
- ACARP Cattle Grazing on Rehabilitated Mine Land Studies
- Synoptic Plan Review
- DPE Mine Rehabilitation Visualisation Tool

### Key Questions:

1. What are the key issues related to mine rehabilitation and final land use in the Upper Hunter? This might include physical issues, planning concerns or information and knowledge gaps. Please be as specific as you can.
2. What projects or activities could the Dialogue undertake to address these issues?

**Actions:** Refer all issues and solutions to Industry and Joint Environment Working Groups for consideration.

## TABLE 5

**Issue:** Need a strategic planning approach to rehab final land use

### Solutions:

- Focus on finding best land uses to offset economic impacts of closure - avoid site by site planning.
- Incentivises opportunities for alternative land use.
- Change terminology of rehab to reflect things other than environment.
- Win/win approach to rehab. At present, its antagonistic approach: mining vs. agriculture.
- Involvement of land care - different levels available
- 2-way information flow.

**Issue:** Lack of detailed records, documenting processes, and monitoring results for rehabilitation

### Solutions:

- Industry making sure that information is more available to share across industry, with the regulators and the community to increase transparency.
- Improve the retention of corporate knowledge by keeping better and more detailed records, documenting processes, and recording good longitudinal rehab monitoring results to track progress
- Communication of quality rehab stories to media, outlining process of rehabilitation, via VR headsets

**Issue:** Buffer lands/voids land not being used to full potential

- What is stopping this land being used?

### Solutions:

- How can the Dialogue facilitate this between industry and other potential users?
- Transparency, sharing of information between mines with regulators and community.
- Focus on final voids and ignoring general rehab areas
- Develop real life case studies of successful closure pilot sites for m8ne closure
- Better awareness of sites coming up to closure.



**TABLE 6**

**Issue:** Synoptic Plan lacks a vision and focus.

**Solutions:**

- Requires a clear vision, and implementation plan.
- Final land use - flexibility
- Education to all stakeholders
- Clear communication to key stakeholders
- Integrate with sub-regional plan
- Run LEM for x years on proposed landform
- Model costs

**Issue:** Not enough information on final voids and sustainable final land use options

**Solutions:**

- Greater investigation of sustainable final land use options. E.g. consideration of pumped hydro, energy hub, floating solar, recreational use
- Detailed assessment of water quality
- Develop guiding principles around final land use options - increase flexibility
- Need to find a greater balance between native bushland and agriculture.

**Issue:** Lack of education on EA's/Approvals Process

**Solutions:**

- Communicate to stakeholders with accessible, clear and usable information to increase awareness.
- Education of EA's / Approvals and their commitments and communication

<b>WATER QUALITY AND STEWARDSHIP (TABLES 7-8)</b>
<p><b>Goal:</b> Preserve water quality in the Upper Hunter and ensure responsible water use by industry.</p>
<p><b>Relevant Projects and Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Accounting Framework</li> <li>• HRSTS Water Quality Study</li> <li>• Synoptic Plan Review - Water Quality Assessments &amp; Monitoring Guidance Notes</li> <li>• Bioregional Assessments Programme</li> <li>• Common Ground - Water Resources Map</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Questions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the key issues related to water management in the Upper Hunter? This might include physical issues, planning concerns or information and knowledge gaps. Please be as specific as you can.</li> <li>2. What projects or activities could the Dialogue undertake to address these issues?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Actions:</b> Refer all issues and solutions to Industry and Joint Environment Working Groups for consideration.</p>

**TABLE 7/8**

**Issue:** Poor water quality in tanks

- Concerns with the original study may have been too selective.
- Concerns over capturing an accurate sample group - something to revisit.

**Solution:**

- Look at inter-relation of air quality dust and impact on tanks - could this be used as predictive measure in doing our EIS/EA assessment impacts? Inter-relation between climate patterns

**Issue:** Lack of information/access to company water data/projects

- Concern over allocation of water resources
- Concerns for public access to and understanding of water quality

**Solutions:**

- Improve access to water use data and operations' water stewardship projects. Outline what companies are doing in terms of stewardship.
- Education on water usage - making data more readily available.
- Outline what is captured, what is discharged, how water is managed onsite, and reused?

**Other issues:**

- Quality and amount of water in main waterways
  - What is available for the waterway, and how is it allocated
  - What sharing is happening between titleholders
  - When mines expand?
  - Water quality in tanks?
  - How do you get it out to the average person?
- Tie up licences
- Where does a small business get access? Name and contact details?
- UoN's HRSTS Study - sampling mid-river - not capturing data from top/bottom

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, MINING AND BUSINESS (TABLES 9-12)
<p><b>Goal:</b> Strengthen the local economy by facilitating improved business opportunities between the mining industry and local businesses.</p>
<p><b>Relevant Projects and Resources:</b> Upper Hunter Economic Diversification Project Industry Local Buying Programs</p>
<p><b>Key Questions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What barriers or issues exist that prevent businesses from accessing procurement opportunities with the mining sector? For example, are payment terms too strict? Are insurance or induction requirements too complex?</li> <li>2. What projects or activities could address these issues and provide improved opportunities for local businesses?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Actions:</b> Refer all issues and solutions to Industry and Joint Economic and Social Development Working Groups for consideration.</p>

**TABLE 9**

**Barrier:** Access to mines (in terms of process, contacts)?

**Solutions:**

- Create and publicise an access point (preferably a specific person to contact) for all mines wishing to advertise procurement opportunities.

**Barrier:** Different qualifications/requirements needed across different sites.

**Solutions:**

- Industry to consider pre-qualification for suppliers, standardised across sites.
- Make this information available to businesses through Chambers, Council, NSWMC

**Barrier:** Global procurement issues

- Issues with large companies often having these decisions made at a far higher level.

**Solutions:**

- Develop a policy to recognise and demonstrate the value and importance of local suppliers.

## TABLE 10

**Barrier:** Communication issues

- Do we have the right person? Staff changes and position changes
- New suppliers getting their foot in the door - available to the right person
- If a problem arises, small issues may be able to help
- Issues with the style of communications for different size businesses (small/mid)

**Solutions:**

- Make industry procurement personnel approachable.
- Procurement Networking Event - How suppliers can engage with industry and ensure they have access to the right people, not lost through a gatekeeper,
- Education on engagement - supplier and industry
- Understanding best practices - sharing of knowledge
- Make information publicly available - contacts, process
- Communicate processes and defined channel (e.g. group email)
- Talk at, not just ask questions. Sell at rather than ask/listen - both industry and supplier
- Regular feedback - semi formal and formal

**Barrier:** Lack of understanding on capabilities on either side

- Industry is unaware what suppliers offer
- Challenge for small businesses with no BD role
- Local suppliers' expectations
- Shortfalls around soft skills

**Solutions:**

- Industry/supplier working group on capability
- Education on capability sharing and tendering process, e.g. webinars
- Workshops with procurement individuals bringing industry supply staff
- Value understanding
  - Suppliers to better understand business needs
  - Buyers to gain understanding of value
- Local suppliers need to sell competitive advantages, not just rely on buying local - tendency to undersell.
- Information re. How purchase and where to go - enquiries targeted and to the point, not just general enquiries.

**Barrier:** Cultural realignment needed

- Mining companies looking for culture alignment.
- SME definitions of culture are less defined.
- Compliance state vs. culture state (e.g. safety)



**Solutions:**

- Value alignment
- Developing business sophistication - Workshop facilitating industry and suppliers together.

**Other comments:**

- Austmine / Bengalla
  - Start with supplier
  - Interface project - 28 companies
- Shortfalls around soft skills
  - Development improvement plan - including managing relationship and communicating capability
- GAP analysis to develop improvement program
  - Initiate quarterly/half yearly catch ups
  - Structured conversations/questions
  - Large businesses - key account managers
  - Small business - owner 'multiple hats'
- Get Supplier - WPS
  - Communication is the greatest issue - ID needs, improve
  - Right person
  - No feedback channel - fear of jeopardizing relationship
- BEM/DEM
  - Custody of new plant
  - Knowing what's onsite
  - Communicating capability

**TABLE 11**

**Barrier:** Different Procedures and Requirements Across Sites for Small Businesses

**Solutions:**

- Industry agree to standardisation across sites

**Barrier:** Payment terms/timeframes - too slow for SME's

**Solutions:**

- Go back to 30 days, will help improve cash flow.

**Barrier:** Not enough awareness of opportunities, or pathways

**Solutions:**

- Create pathways and avenues so businesses know who to contact about tenders i.e. portal.
- Will also help industry find out what businesses are out there.
- Better understanding of capabilities so they can target the right people.

**TABLE 12**

**Barrier:** Misperceptions about the procurement process

- Access - who is the point of contact? Definition of local? Do I qualify?
- Payment Terms - too long between supply and payment.
- Process - Less time and resources to manage the procurement/tender process, don't understand exactly what is required. Where do I start?
- Intimidating - putting your company out there, perception of capacity of suppliers
- Fear of the unknown and initiating contact - don't want to look stupid dealing with large companies
- Response - what response will I get?
- Mining POV - Knowing which suppliers are out there.

**Solutions:**

- Local points of contact
- Additional Forums for Suppliers (with Chambers, Councils, Dialogue, Minerals Council), Chamber breakfasts
- Bite-Size Engagement - keep it short and sharp. Don't need to tell everything at once. Whole day events are a big impost.
- Interactive website with Webinars
- Multi-faceted comms - quick response to queries
- Portals - get a 2-way understanding happening. Companies know the capabilities of businesses, businesses know what work is being offered.
- Better understanding of targets
- Flexibility of payment terms - reducing/extending

**Barrier:** Coal Miners Insurance

- Misunderstanding about requirements, difficulty understanding definition of a coal worker and obligations under the Act. Confusion regarding who needs it/doesn't need it.
- Only one supplier of insurance is the regulator

**Solutions:**

- Increased provision sources, not monopoly.
- Third party authority



Forum attendees during the afternoon discussion session.

## Conclusion

The Annual Forum provides an opportunity each year to bring together a diverse range of participants involved in the Dialogue to review the progress of projects and the Dialogue more broadly. This helps the Dialogue continue to evolve to meet the expectations of the community and promote coexistence with mining in the region.

The feedback received in 2017 provided significant direction for the 2018 activities the Dialogue sought to undertake, particularly in relation to communication and engagement, and looking at economic and social development issues. The key issues of air quality, water and land management remain high on the list of priorities and the Dialogue will continue working towards addressing these through various initiatives in 2019.

The discussion sessions provided a range of project ideas that will be explored by the Dialogue's key committees and working groups in 2019 and we look forward to reporting how we have tracked at the next Forum, which is to be held in Singleton in November 2019 (details TBC).



Forum attendees visiting the rehabilitation themed stalls.





Forum attendees visiting the industry procurement stalls.