

**voice  
project**

improving organisations  
by giving people a voice

[www.voiceproject.com.au](http://www.voiceproject.com.au)

# capturing passion: unpacking the practices of a purpose-driven organisation

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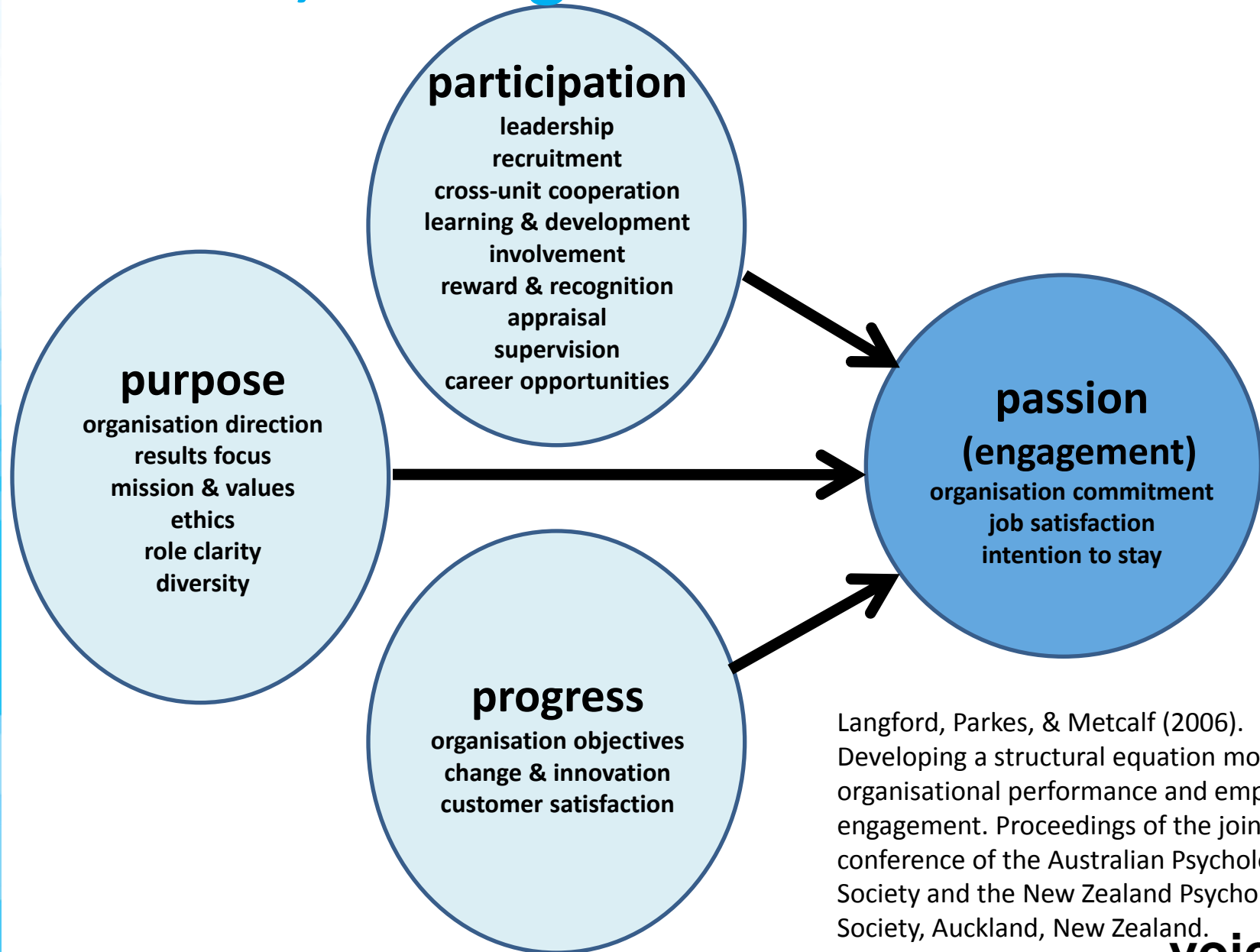
**2014 ACS State Conference, Sydney, May 15**  
**Aged & Community Services Association of NSW & ACT**

# voice project

- Our purpose and passion is **'improving organisations by giving people a voice'**
- We specialise in organisational surveys of **culture, engagement, leadership and service quality**

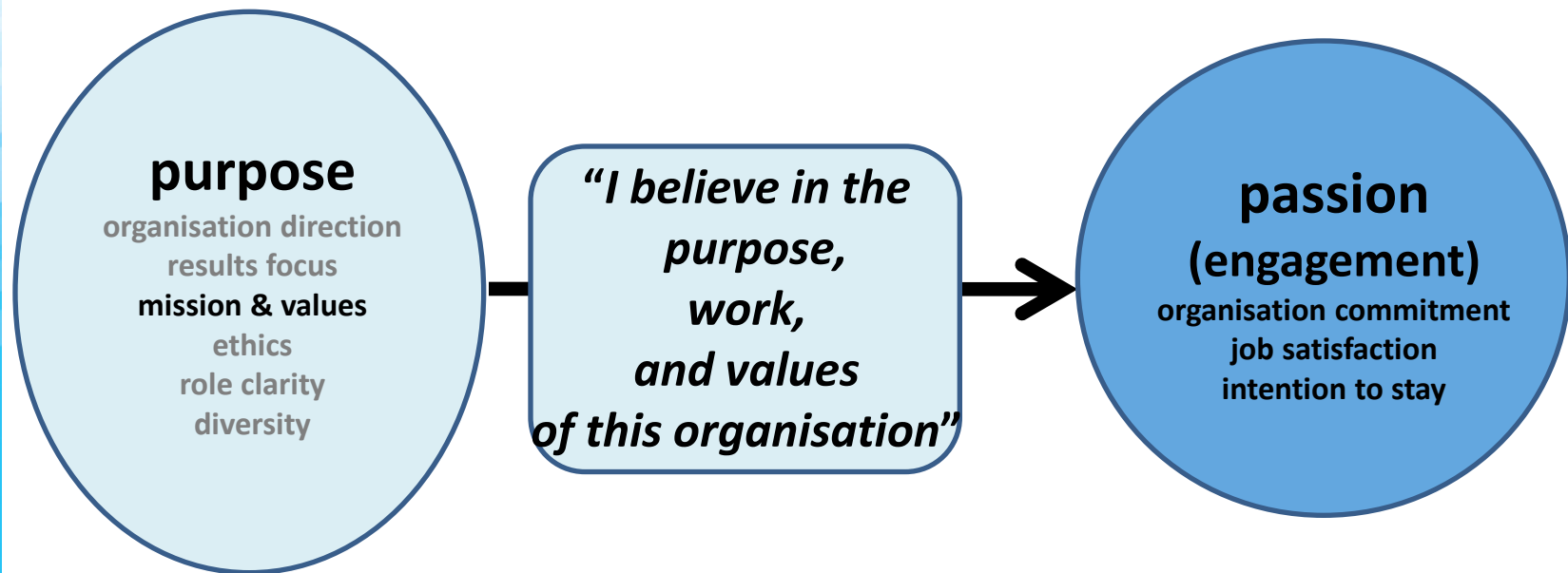


# believe, belong & achieve



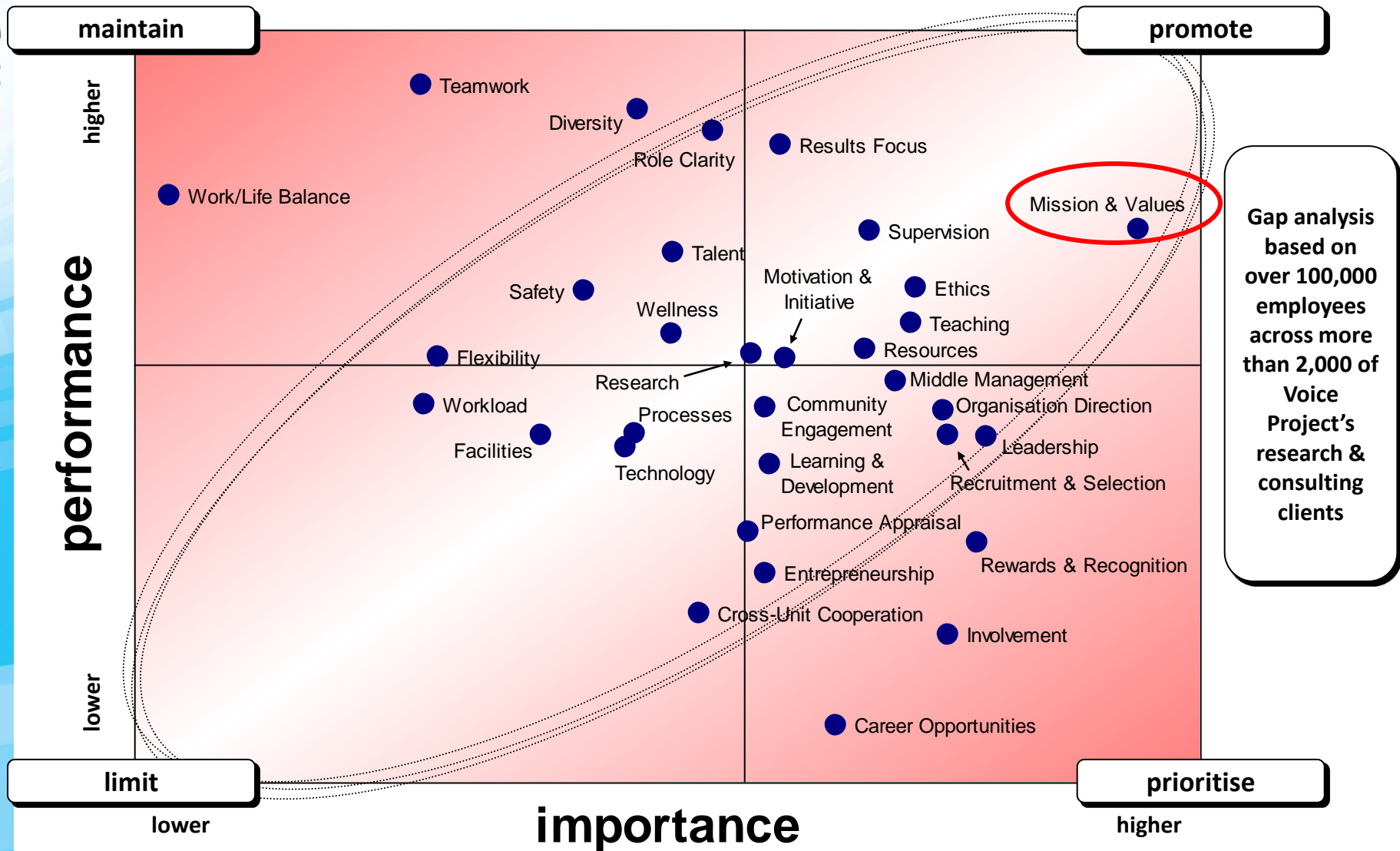
Langford, Parkes, & Metcalf (2006).  
Developing a structural equation model of  
organisational performance and employee  
engagement. Proceedings of the joint  
conference of the Australian Psychological  
Society and the New Zealand Psychological  
Society, Auckland, New Zealand.

# strongest driving practice



Parkes & Langford (2008) Work-life balance or work-life alignment?  
A test of the importance of work-life balance for employee engagement and intention to stay in organisations.  
Journal of Management & Organisation 14 (3) 267-284

# work practices & passion



# the aged care advantage

Industries with most **highly engaged** staff (>75%):

- Education - Secondary Schools
- Education – Primary and Early Childhood
- Aged Care
- Law
- Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing
- Disability Services

Industries with **strongest belief in mission & values** (>85%):

- Aged Care (90%)
- Disability Services
- Community Services
- Education – Primary and Early Childhood
- Education - Secondary Schools
- Law

# the aged care advantage

## Industries with **least engaged** staff (<65%)

- Accommodation, Hospitality, Tourism, Cafes and Restaurants
- Government Administration
- Retail Trade
- Cultural and Recreational Services
- Information & Communication Technologies
- Professional, Property & Business Services

## Industries with **weakest belief in mission & values** (<75%)

- Retail Trade
- Accommodation, Hospitality, Tourism, Cafes and Restaurants
- Government Administration
- Cultural and Recreational Services
- Construction & Engineering
- Professional, Property & Business Services

# purpose practices

**purpose**  
organisation direction  
results focus  
mission & values  
role clarity  
ethics & diversity





# talk about it!

words  
words  
words



VS



- *“This organisation has a positive impact on society & the community”*
- *“This organisation plays a role in society that goes beyond the mere generation of profits”*

# results focus – purpose in the spotlight



# select for fit and socialise

- [http://www.thomasholt.org.au/media\\_Kasey.html](http://www.thomasholt.org.au/media_Kasey.html)



# spell out the significance for support staff



**8 universities**



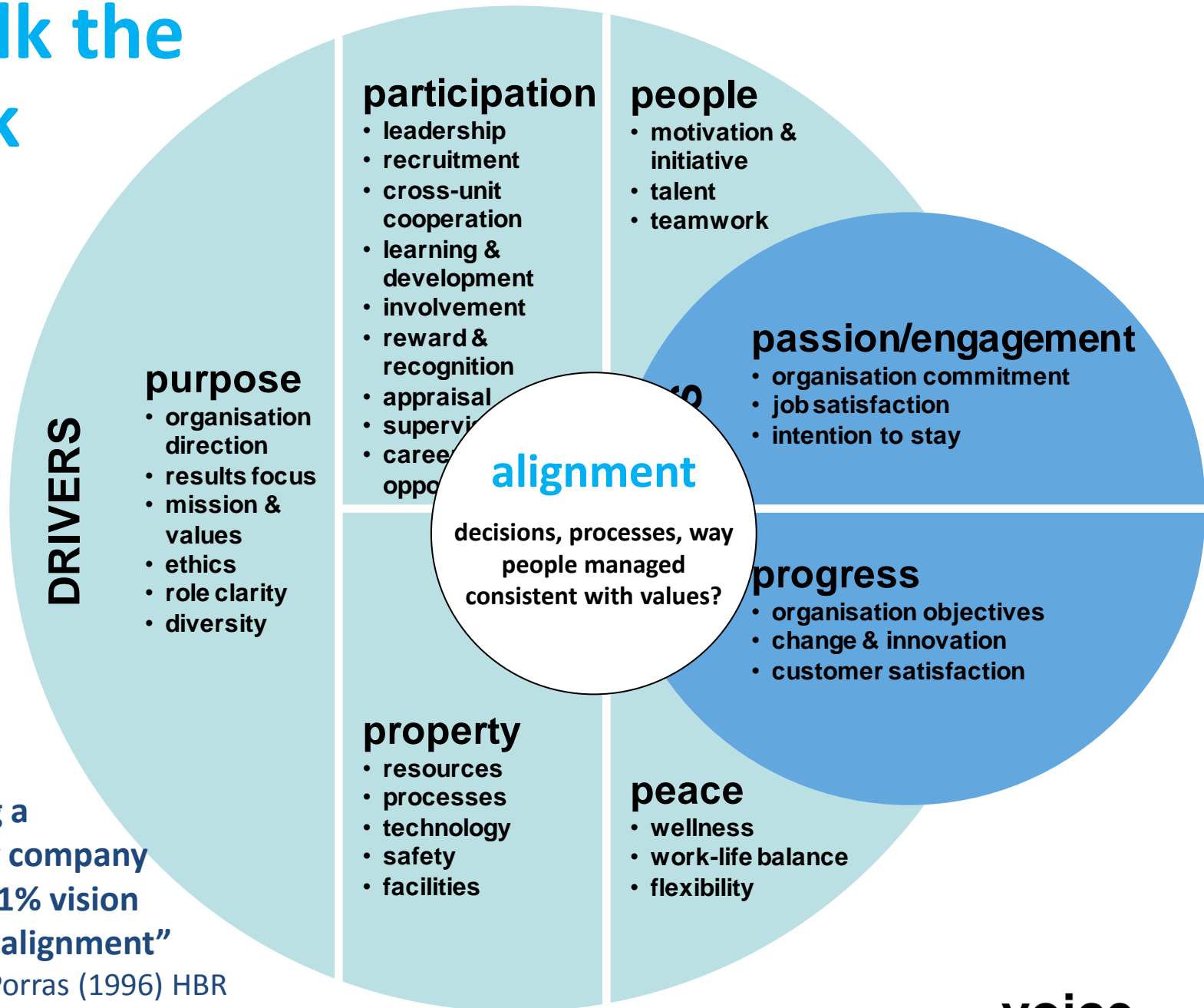
**5564 academic staff**

1. organisation success
2. mission & values
3. change & innovation
4. leadership
5. career opportunities

**8388 professional staff**

1. role clarity
2. career opportunities
3. organisation success
4. mission & values
5. rewards & recognition

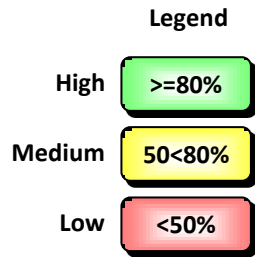
# walk the talk



“Building a visionary company requires 1% vision and 99% alignment”

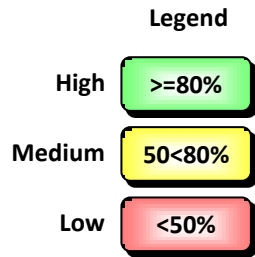
Collins & Porras (1996) HBR

# walk the talk



		Region A 2008	2006	Region B 2008	2006
	<b>PASSION / ENGAGEMENT</b>				
	- Organisational Commitment		69%		75%
	- Job Satisfaction		72%		78%
	- Intention to Stay		81%		85%
			55%		63%
	<b>PROGRESS</b>				
	Organisation Objectives		66%		75%
	Change & Innovation		45%		49%
	Client Satisfaction		71%		78%
	<b>PURPOSE</b>				
	Organisation Direction		58%		71%
	Results Focus				
	Mission & Values		82%		86%
	Ethics		73%		80%
	Role Clarity		89%		89%
	Diversity		77%		80%
	<b>PARTICIPATION</b>				
	Leadership		57%		66%
	Recruitment & Selection				
	Cross-Unit Cooperation		46%		47%
	Learning & Development		65%		69%
	Involvement				
	Rewards & Recognition		54%		52%
	Performance Appraisal				
	Supervision		74%		81%
	<b>OTHER</b>				
	Career Opportunities				
	Values in Action				

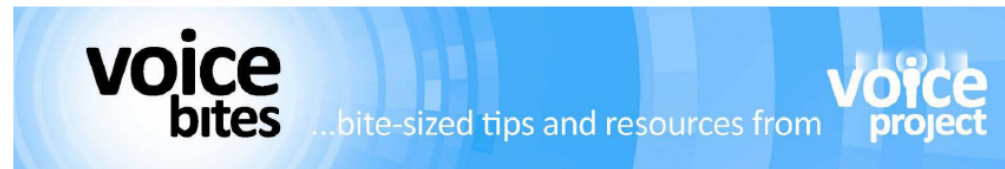
# walk the talk



		Region A		Region B	
		2008	2006	2008	2006
	<b>PASSION / ENGAGEMENT</b>	78%	69%	69%	75%
	- Organisational Commitment	80%	72%	68%	78%
	- Job Satisfaction	87%	81%	80%	85%
	- Intention to Stay	66%	55%	59%	63%
	<b>PROGRESS</b>				
	Organisation Objectives	79%	66%	59%	75%
	Change & Innovation	64%	45%	40%	49%
	Client Satisfaction	77%	71%	57%	78%
	<b>PURPOSE</b>				
	Organisation Direction	87%	58%	82%	71%
	Results Focus	83%		75%	
	Mission & Values	91%	82%	80%	86%
	Ethics	82%	73%	68%	80%
	Role Clarity	93%	89%	86%	89%
	Diversity	83%	77%	73%	80%
	<b>PARTICIPATION</b>				
	Leadership	70%	57%	54%	66%
	Recruitment & Selection	65%		48%	
	Cross-Unit Cooperation	59%	46%	38%	47%
	Learning & Development	75%	65%	54%	69%
	Involvement	61%		49%	
	Rewards & Recognition	57%	54%	40%	52%
	Performance Appraisal	64%		60%	
	Supervision	79%	74%	69%	81%
	Career Opportunities	57%		45%	
	<b>OTHER</b>				
	Values in Action	82%		69%	

# free online resources

- [www.voiceproject.com/research/voicebites](http://www.voiceproject.com/research/voicebites)
- Suggested actions for organisational development based on scientific evidence
- Case study of successful client change
- Follow-up resources



## mission & values

Staff belief in the purpose, work and values of their organisation

Research conducted by Voice Project has shown that employees' belief in the mission and values of their organisation is the strongest driver of employee engagement. This connection between purpose and passion is strong across sectors, industries and all types of staff – both front-line delivery and back-office employees. Practices that support organisational purpose and values meet basic human needs of meaning, stability, esteem, and belonging.

### suggested actions

- **communicate** Employees need a well-formulated purpose (not a mission statement that is little more than public relations play) that offers something for people to commit to, with leaders providing clear, consistent, frequent and inspiring messages about direction and values. Keep mission and values part of everyday conversation in the organisation, and on meeting agendas. Invite employees to discuss what the values mean in action to help ensure alignment. Put them in documents, posters, websites and other media to help staff remember them.



# you are invited: change challenge

## improving organisations by giving people a voice

- **Motivate and measure real change** in work practices, employee engagement and business outcomes
- Easy **online administration**
- **Free report** of team results against industry benchmarks
- Support and resources for change initiatives
- **Awards** for greatest measurable change

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challenge

