# Culture Change in Action.

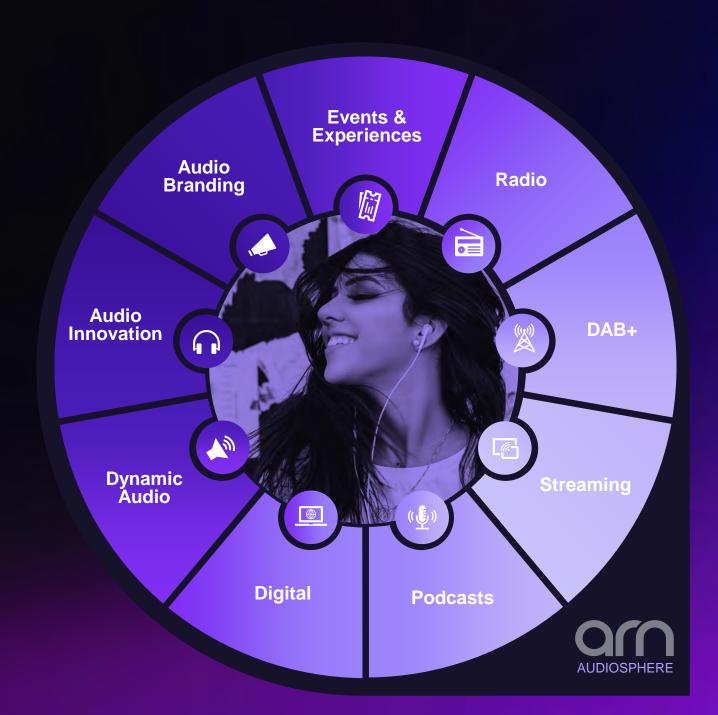
**Human Synergistics Conference 2024** 

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Chief Executive Officer & MD

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## Who is ARN?

- One of Australia's leading broadcast and ondemand audio companies.
- c1300 people.
- 58 radio stations across 33 markets, plus 46 DAB+ stations nationwide.



## June 2020.



- Successful radio business
- Well established ways of doing things
- Navigating COVID reasonably well



- Friendly culture
- Functionally driven
- Ambitious mentality



- A business in transformation
  - Acquisition opportunities
  - Changing consumer listening habits
  - New revenue and growth models
  - Emerging business models
- A radio model not fit for purpose



- Lack of clarity & alignment on business strategy
- Underinvestment in people & leadership
- Solid HR team, admin and compliance



- New, more dynamic ways of working
- Integration planning and capabilities
- Build a path to a more constructive culture

## February 2020.

### **Ideal Culture**

## **Casual Factors**

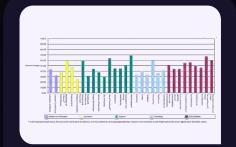
## **Actual Culture**

### **Outcomes**



ELT & Direct Reports, N=51 (85%)

Overwhelming preference for a highly constructive culture.



### Strengths:

- Respect for leaders
- Leadership of task

### Opportunities:

- · Clarity of vision & purpose
- Job design
- Reward & recognition
- 2-way communication



All people invited, N=459 (87%)

### Primarily defensive culture:

- · Be liked, avoid conflict
- Follow the rules
- Push decisions upwards
- Point out flaws
- Be the best at things



### Strengths:

- External adaptability
- Role clarity

### Opportunities:

- Advocacy for ARN
- Motivation & satisfaction
- Insecurity
- Collaboration & teamwork

## What We Did Next.

## Leadership

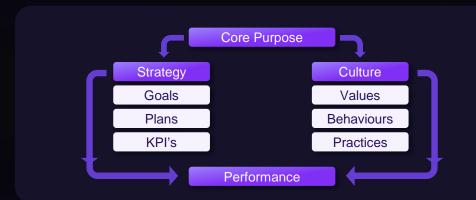
- Build understanding; the case for change
- Make it personal...LSI 1&2

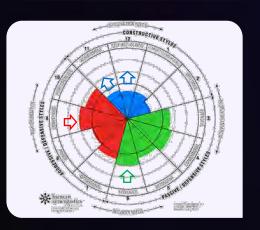
## **Clarity**

- Why = core purpose
- What = strategy & priorities
- How = aspirational culture

## Communication

- CEO Roadshow
- Debriefs with markets
   & functional
   leadership teams









## Our Plan Was Simple.

## Leaders

## Built capability and confidence

- Lead self (LSI 1&2)
- Lead others
- Disseminating leadership responsibility

## **Everyone**

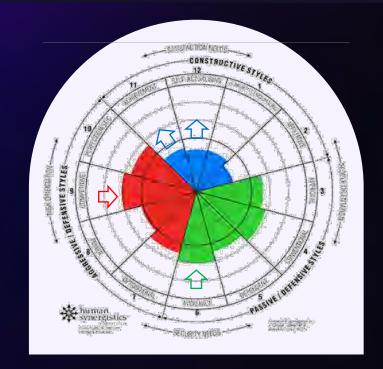
## Role-modelled the culture

- Behaviours
- Language
- Communication
- Feedback

media

## From Aspiration To Action.

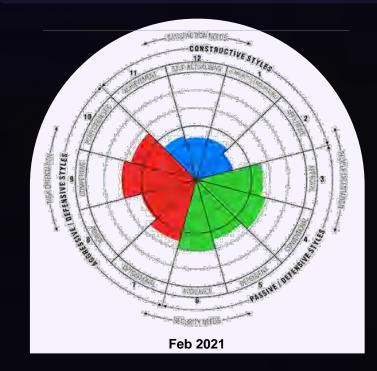
We translated our aspirational culture into *actionable behaviours*.

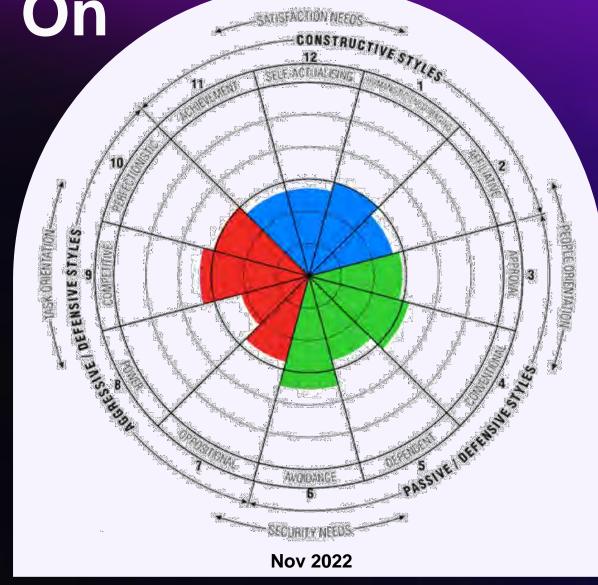




What We Worked On Improved.

After 18 months our actual culture was more *constructive*.



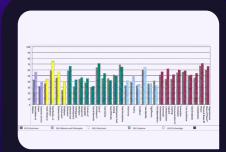


## November 2022.

## **Casual Factors**

## **Actual Factors**

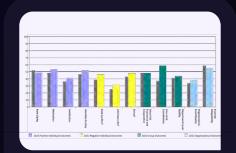
## **Outcomes**



- · Articulation of mission
- Leadership capability
- 2-way communication
- Empowerment



- N=881 (82%)
- ALL styles improved, now within average range
  - Constructive +5 to +15
  - Defensive
    -12 to -24



- Motivation
- Intent to Stay
- Teamwork across functions and teams
- Pride in ARN





## So, We Kept Working On The Same Things.

### Leaders

## Capability and confidence

- Lead self (LSI 1&2)
- Lead others
- Disseminating leadership responsibility

## **Everyone**

## Role-modelling the culture

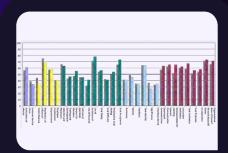
- CIA Behaviours
- Language
- Communication
- Feedback
- Goal setting

## **April 2024.**

## **Casual Factors**

## **Actual Culture**

## **Outcomes**



- Continued improvement
- Use of Rewards
- Respect for Members
- Communication & Leadership



- N=975 (92%)
- Primary style Humanistic-Encouraging +11 to 61
- Constructive styles all at or above the 50th percentile

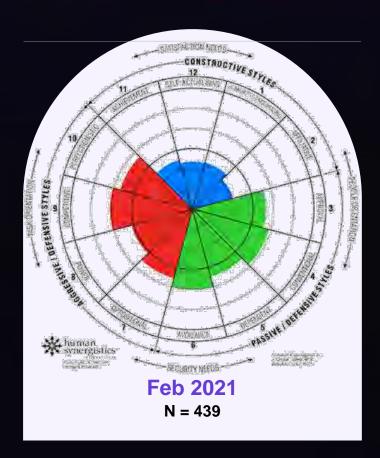


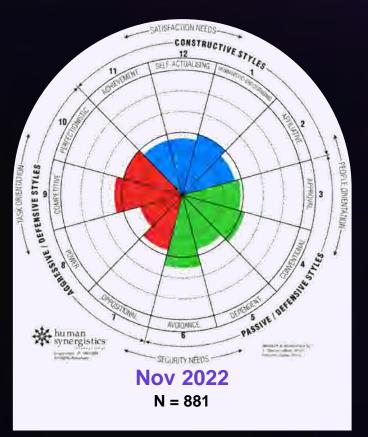
- Continued improvement
- Most now above the historical average
- Teamwork, role clarity, satisfaction strong

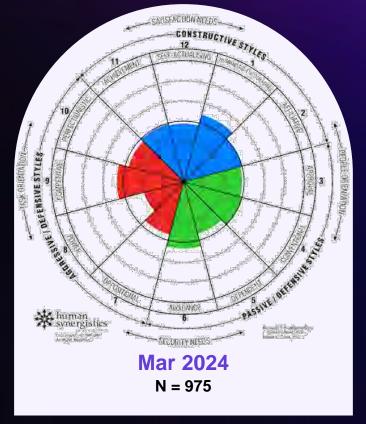


## A Positive Change In Culture.

Over the past 3 years we have really changed our Culture.







## Ange's Reflections.

- Meet people where they are.
- People can't do what they don't understand.
- "Learning by doing" trumps everything.
- Take every opportunity you can to demonstrate the culture you want through your actions.
- Simplicity and consistency is key.



## Ciaran's Reflections.

## What I learned

- Trust the process especially in challenging times.
- Get involved don't leave to 'HR'.
- Small things really matter.
- Continue to question the journey.
- It's good to know I'm 'red'.





## YOU