

2017-18 INITIAL RESPONSES TO REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT



Eyre and Western

Jobs & Skills for Regional SA

In response to the [Jobs and Skills for Regional SA](#) engagement project, the Department of State Development is investing an additional \$90,000 in new skills, training and employment projects in the Eyre and Western region in 2017-18.

In 2017, the department undertook comprehensive engagement with the community to better understand the skills, training and employment needs of regions and to collaborate on solutions. The initiatives below have been developed in direct response to what stakeholders said during the engagement process, complemented by available data.

Work-readiness and foundation skills

Through the engagement process, you said:

- jobseekers and other adults need extra support to improve their foundation skills, particularly literacy and numeracy skills
- holistic support for disengaged or unemployed people is needed to help them upskill and engage in work placements and employment
- local career development pathways for local people need better promotion.

What the data says:

31.8%



The *ABS Survey of Education and Work* shows that in the South Australia – Outback region, which includes Eyre and Western, **31.8 per cent of unemployed people are long-term unemployed** (i.e. looking for work for more than 52 weeks).



The *2016 ABS Census* for the Eyre and Western region showed an **unemployment rate of 7.7 per cent**. The Census also showed that **48.5 per cent of working age unemployed people have low levels of educational attainment**. Of this cohort, 40 per cent are not studying.

48.5%



We will:

- deliver a **Pathways to Participation project**, in partnership with community-based organisations, to address the employability skills and work-readiness of 20 long-term unemployed jobseekers in Port Lincoln.

Business and industry

Through the engagement process, you said:

- local business owners, or those in the workforce, could provide mentoring services to new workers or new business owners, particularly culturally appropriate mentoring for local Aboriginal people
- a mentoring program for all apprentices and trainees could increase retention.

What the data says:

The Eyre and Western region has a **youth unemployment rate of 15.5 per cent** - 3,392 young people are currently employed, which may include a percentage of underemployed young people.

15.5%
YOUTH
UNEMPLOYMENT



18%
CLASSIFIED AS
UNDEREMPLOYED



The *ABS Survey of Education and Work* shows that in the South Australia – Outback region, which includes Eyre and Western, **18 per cent of employed people are classified as underemployed.**

We will:

- deliver a **Youth Trade Mentoring project**, delivered through locally based not-for-profit organisation(s), to assist 40 unemployed or underemployed young jobseekers (aged 16 to 24) to access and remain in trade-based pathways that lead to training or employment in the region.

Next steps

Regional Managers will continue working with stakeholders on the development of Skills and Employment Regional Plans with short, medium and long-term responses for implementation from 2018-19.

Contact

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