



MEDIA RELEASE

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Supporting Job Seekers into Employment Pathways

The Huon Valley Council will establish a local jobs hub in Huonville to connect job seekers with employers.

Mayor Bec Enders said the community in the Valley, as well as in Kingborough, will benefit from having a service dedicated to supporting employment in regional areas.

“The jobs hub will provide a localised, flexible approach to delivering employment services to the community,” she said.

“It is designed to link local people with local jobs through providing job matching, coaching and referral services and will work with job seekers to address barriers to work, including skills and transport.”

The hub is expected to be up and running in mid-2022 and will provide a conduit for local employers seeking staff to access local job seekers and support industry to plan for future workforce demands and address shortages.

Mayor Enders said Council had spent the last two years advocating for opportunities to attract a dedicated resource to connect job seekers with employers.

“I am delighted that the State Government has allocated \$1.625 million over three years for Council to facilitate the establishment of a regional jobs hub to service job seekers and businesses in the Huon Valley, Channel and Bruny Island region in partnership with the local community.”

The hub will be the first to be established under the State Government’s new Jobs Tasmania model.

It will be governed by a regional jobs hub board that will be set up through an expressions of interest process. The role of the board will be to represent the views of employers, job seekers, diverse population groups within the community, business and government services on barriers to employment, workforce participation and education and training.

Communications & Media Officer

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The Council will now work towards setting up a single authority for the hub to operate independently. In accordance with the Government's funding commitment the hub will operate for three years.

Mayor Enders said while the board will consider transitional arrangements to extend its operations beyond the three years, Council will ensure the hub is setup with both longevity and sustainability in mind both now and into the future.

Background

In 2021, the Tasmanian Government announced a range of initiatives and funding to help Tasmanians into jobs through the *Delivering Local Jobs for Local People* agenda.

As part of its commitments made through the 2021 state election, the Government committed to establishing a network of local jobs hubs supported by a central point of contact within Government through the creation of Jobs Tasmania.

Jobs Tasmania have been formed to provide centralised support across all existing and newly established hubs statewide. The objectives of Jobs Tasmania are to:

- Increase local employment outcomes
- Increase workforce participation
- Increase engagement with work and training.

They will provide backbone and central support to the Network, including the following:

- Data
- Linkages across and between other Hubs, service providers, industry, job actives and intermediaries
- Evaluation
- Communication support
- Centralised Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system
- Facilitation of the Jobs Hub Network – 'Community of Practice'.

The Jobs Tasmania Network will encompass both existing and new Hubs established. Most of those Hubs focus on regional/rural locations and operate across local government boundaries.

The Government also committed to the establishment of a local jobs hub for the Huon Valley, with a physical presence being in Huonville. The local Hub will have responsibility for servicing the Huon Valley in its entirety, as well as the Channel and Bruny Island regions of Kingborough.

For more information: Mayor Bec Enders (03) 6264 0300

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