

2017-18 INITIAL RESPONSES TO REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT



Murraylands and Riverland

Jobs & Skills for Regional SA

In response to the [Jobs and Skills for Regional SA](#) engagement project, the Government of South Australia is investing an additional \$226,000 in new skills, training and employment projects in the Murraylands and Riverland region in 2017-18.

In 2017, the State Government 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:

- local people need mentoring and career counselling to successfully engage in work experience and transition to the workforce
- we should support people experiencing intergenerational unemployment and socio-economic disadvantage, including helping them to develop numeracy and literacy skills
- more Adult Community Education (ACE) projects are needed to help jobseekers develop foundation and employability skills to become work-ready
- jobseekers need extra support to develop interpersonal and communication skills and to have the right attitude and work ethic.

What the data says:

43%

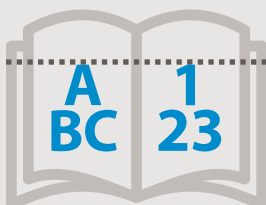
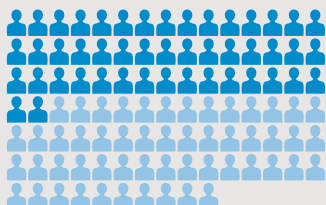


According to the *ABS Survey of Education and Work*, **43 per cent of unemployed people** in the south east of South Australia, which includes the Murraylands and Riverland, **are long-term unemployed** (i.e. looking for work for more than 52 weeks).

50.6%



The *2016 ABS Census* showed that **50.6 per cent of working age unemployed people** in the Murraylands and Riverland **have low levels of educational attainment**. Of this cohort, 43.3 per cent are not studying.



The 2012 program for the international assessment of adult competencies revealed that nearly half of South Australians (**47 per cent**) **have a literacy skill level below that required to participate in a modern skilled economy**. In addition, less than half (44 per cent) have the required numeracy skills.

We will:

- deliver a **Pathways to Participation project**, in partnership with community-based organisations with strong connections to regional opportunities, to address the employability skills and work-readiness of 20 long-term unemployed jobseekers in Murray Bridge.
- deliver **ACE projects** in the Murraylands and Riverland to help 40 regional participants improve their foundation skills.

Employment and training

Through the engagement process, you said:

- individuals need tailored mentoring and career counselling to assist them to successfully transition to the workforce
- culturally appropriate support for Aboriginal people is needed to help them thrive in the workforce and community
- we need to link projects happening in the region to upskill employees and jobseekers in specific industries and keep people in the region.

What the data says:



The **unemployment rate for young Aboriginal people (15-24 years)** residing in the Murray and Mallee State Government Region is **29.2 per cent** (Source: 2016 ABS Census).

We will:

- deliver a **training and mentoring project** that assists 10 Aboriginal people to transition into traineeships in the region
- fund a **Jobs 4 Riverland** project with a focus on the agriculture and horticulture sectors to support employers to find suitable workers and provide 30 employment pathways for local unemployed jobseekers.

Business and industry

Through the engagement process, you said:

- transferrable skills, such as management and leadership, are required across all industries to upskill employees and jobseekers and retain them in the region
- management and leadership training is needed to create new jobs, as well as to improve the knowledge and skills of leaders and mentors
- management and leadership training should be tailored to industry sectors to build business capacity and enable businesses to grow and create new jobs.

We will:

- deliver an **emerging leaders project**, in partnership with industry, to support and retain staff in the region and to develop the knowledge of five local emerging leaders while expanding their professional networks and community connections.

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Jobs & Skills for Regional SA



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