



The Hon Stuart Robert MP
Minister for Employment, Workforce, Skills, Small and Family Business

MEDIA RELEASE

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New project to get hospitality job seekers back into work in the Hunter

The New South Wales Hunter region will benefit from a \$95,000 investment to help local hospitality job seekers back into work, as part of the Australian Government's Local Recovery Fund.

The Local Recovery Fund is an important part of the Local Jobs Program, which is being expanded as part of the 2021-22 Federal Budget.

A hospitality mentoring and employment project run by Smart Training and Consulting Group in the Hunter region is part of the first release of 15 local employment projects funded under the program.

Minister for Employment, Workforce, Skills, Small and Family Business, Stuart Robert, said the 'Jobs in the Valley & Vines: Transforming Lives' project will deliver a six-week non-accredited training program for up to 30 participants, including a 30-hour work placement to secure hospitality jobs in the Hunter Valley.

'We want to see as many job seekers as possible in the Hunter upskill and reskill, using solutions developed by our local community, Minister Robert said.'

'The Morrison Government is supporting local communities in the Hunter through the Local Recovery Fund so they can help find people work and meet local employer demand, through these region-specific projects that are the result of collaboration between Employment Facilitators and their Local Jobs and Skills Taskforces.

'This is just one of an initial 15 locally-driven, tailor-made projects across the nation, addressing the workforce priorities of each region.

'The Morrison Government is expanding and extending the Local Jobs Program so that it will cover all 51 Employment Regions across Australia, as well as establishing a National Priority Funding Pool of \$50 million over four years.

Organisations with ideas for Local Recovery Fund projects should talk to their local Employment Facilitator and Taskforces in their Employment Regions.

More details about the Local Jobs Program can be found at <https://www.dese.gov.au/local-jobs-program>

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