

13 May 2022



Local Jobs Program for the Warrumbungle Region

The Local Jobs Program has been expanded to the Far West Orana Region, including the Warrumbungle Shire, bringing expertise and resources to focus on employment for people across the region.

"The Australian Government has funded the Local Jobs Program initiative that will allow Council to work with the Far West Orana Employment Facilitator to develop and maximise benefits of this program for local businesses," said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Ambrose Doolan. "The Program is committed to developing long term sustainability for our region by establishing strategies to address employment and training challenges and provide opportunities."

"Council and the Employment Facilitator will collaborate to establish business networking opportunities within the LGA, which was identified as a key priority from 'Building Our Warrumbungle Communities' with Peter Kenyon. The Employment Facilitator will have one on one sessions with interested businesses and will forward the information to Council who will develop plans for businesses to attract and retain suitable staff," said Cr Doolan.

The first network session, which is free to attend, is set for Thursday 26 May 2022 from 5:30pm – 7:00pm at the Coonabarabran Golf Club. All businesses across the Shire are invited.

Last year, the Local Jobs Program expanded to all 51 Employment Regions throughout Australia, bringing together expertise, resources and access to funding at the local level to focus on reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways for people in each region. An Employment Facilitator has been appointed to oversee the delivery of the Local Jobs Program in the Far West Orana Region, including the Warrumbungle Local Government Area.

In March 2022, Council hosted a regional Jobs and Skills Taskforce meeting for the Local Jobs Program, where local businesses from key industries were invited to share their challenges around staffing and skill shortages. The taskforce is comprised of stakeholders from across the Far West Orana region and is designed to help develop solutions to move as many people as possible back into work or training as quickly as possible by putting local employer needs at the centre of their actions and addressing the employment barriers of local people.

To find out more information and to register your attendance contact Council's Manager Economic Development and Tourism, Jo Houghton on (02) 6849 2000 or email info@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au

"This is a great opportunity for local businesses to establish place-based strategies to address employment and skills challenges and provide opportunities for those who are unemployed or at risk of unemployment," Cr Doolan concluded.

Media: Leeanne Ryan | (02) 6849 2000