



Regional Business Engagement Forum

Wheatbelt - Merredin



Acknowledgment of Country

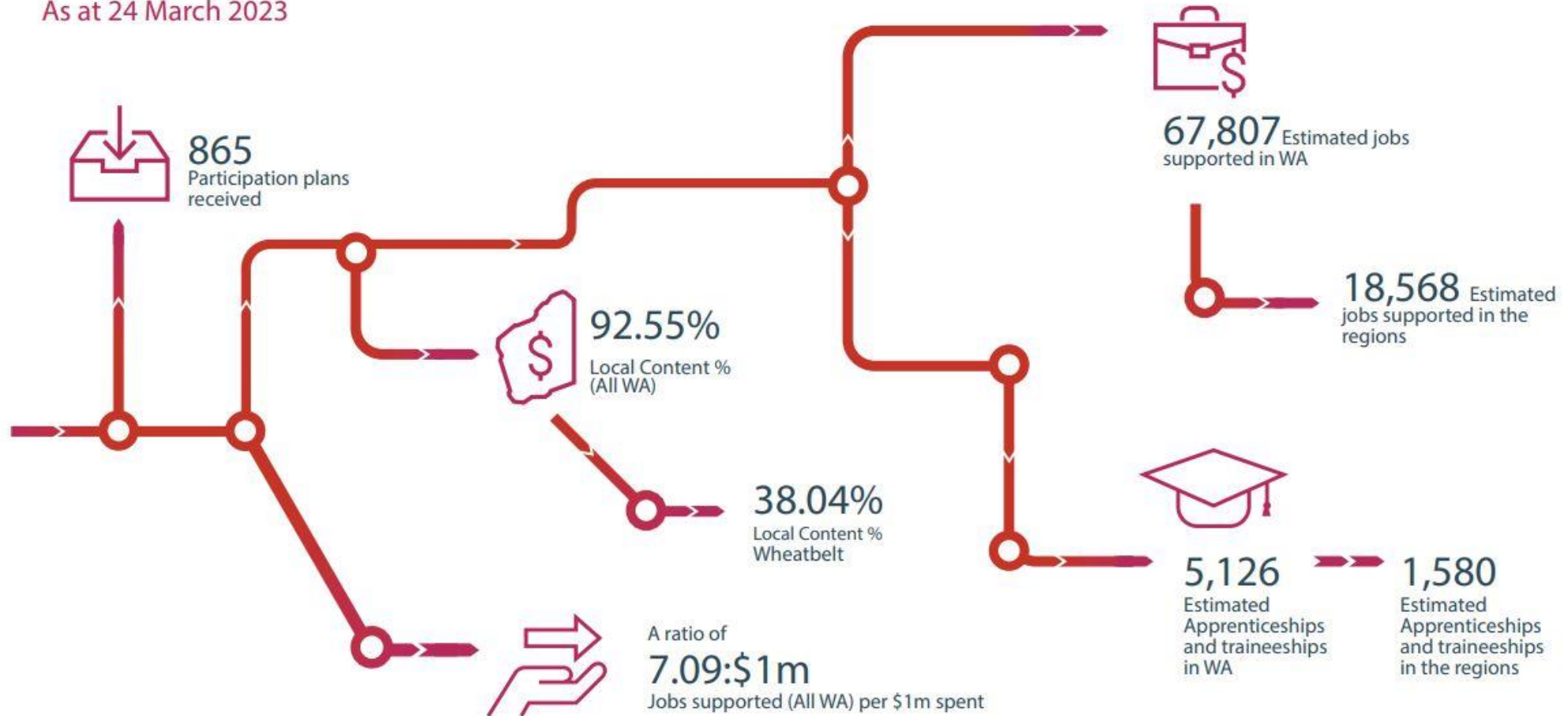
We acknowledge the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community.

We pay our respects to the Wilmen people of the Noongar nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today, to all members of Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.



Western Australian Industry Participation Strategy (WAIPS)

As at 24 March 2023





WA Buy Local Policy 2022 (WA BLP 2022)

Update released in April 2022

- Ensures the approx. \$30 billion spent in State Government contracts creates more work for regional WA businesses.
- Regional Price Preferencing:
 - Regional business preference;
 - Regional content preference.
- 43 Agencies have now signed Implementation Agreements and are applying WA BLP 2022.
- Changes made in April 2022 to help local businesses employing people with a disability win work.



Local Content Advisor Network

- Each region has a dedicated Local Content Advisor (LCA), based within the relevant Development Commission.
- LCAs take a lead role in promoting supply opportunities and facilitating regional business capability and growth.
- Wheatbelt Content Advisor details:
 - Megan Creagh
 - Based within the Wheatbelt Development Commission
 - Contact: Megan.Creagh@wheatbelt.wa.gov.au



Local Capability Fund

Building Capability, Capacity and Competitiveness



- Visit WA.gov.au for more information, and to apply.



Local Capability Fund

Wheatbelt Regional Round 2023

- To enhance the capacity, capability and competitiveness of Wheatbelt businesses to supply Government or the private sector.
- \$100,000 total fund – 75% of eligible costs up to \$20,000 per business.
- To be eligible, applicants must;
 - Hold an ABN, be GST registered, and be for profit;
 - Be principally based in the Wheatbelt region;
 - Have been in businesses for at least 12 months; and
 - Employ less than 200 people
- The grant closes **11 May 2023**. Visit [WA.gov.au](https://www.wa.gov.au) or scan the QR code for more information on eligibility and to apply.





Local Capability Fund

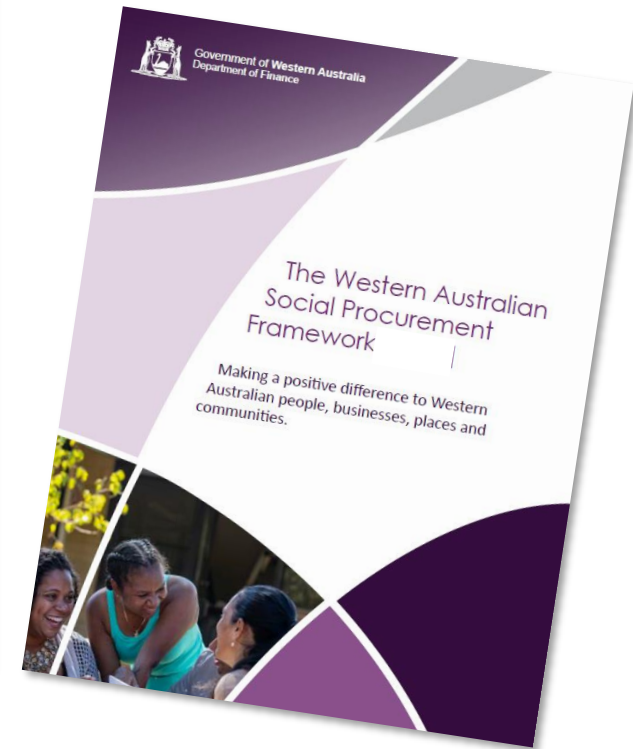
Past Successful Recipients in the Wheatbelt Region

- Wheatbelt Business Network
 - Successful in winning a LCF Grant in the 2020 COVID-19 Recovery Round
- Main Camp WA Pty Ltd
 - Successful in winning a LCF Grant in the 2022-23 National International Standards Compliance Round.

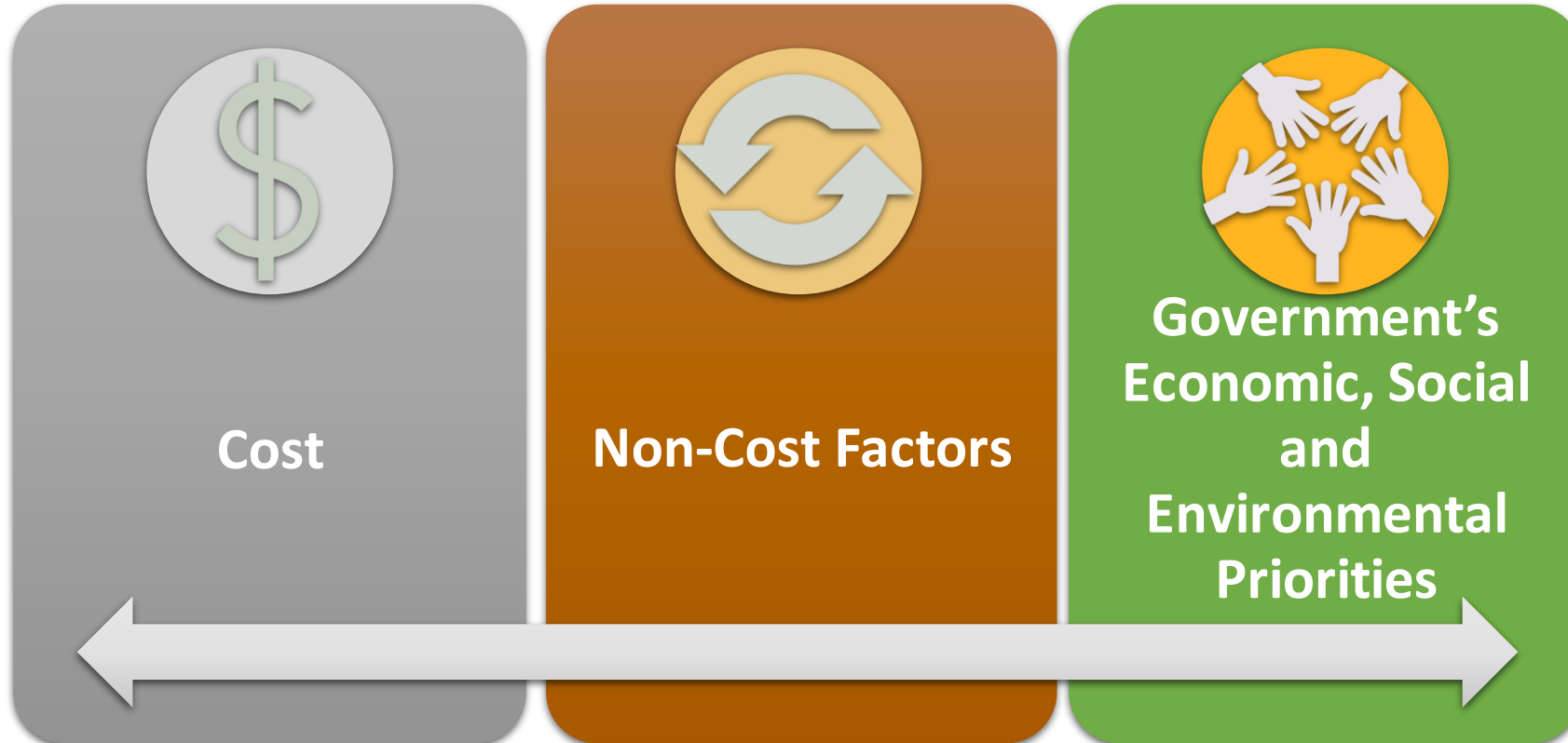




Procurement Act, Procurement Rules, Social Procurement Framework



Value for Money





Contact Details

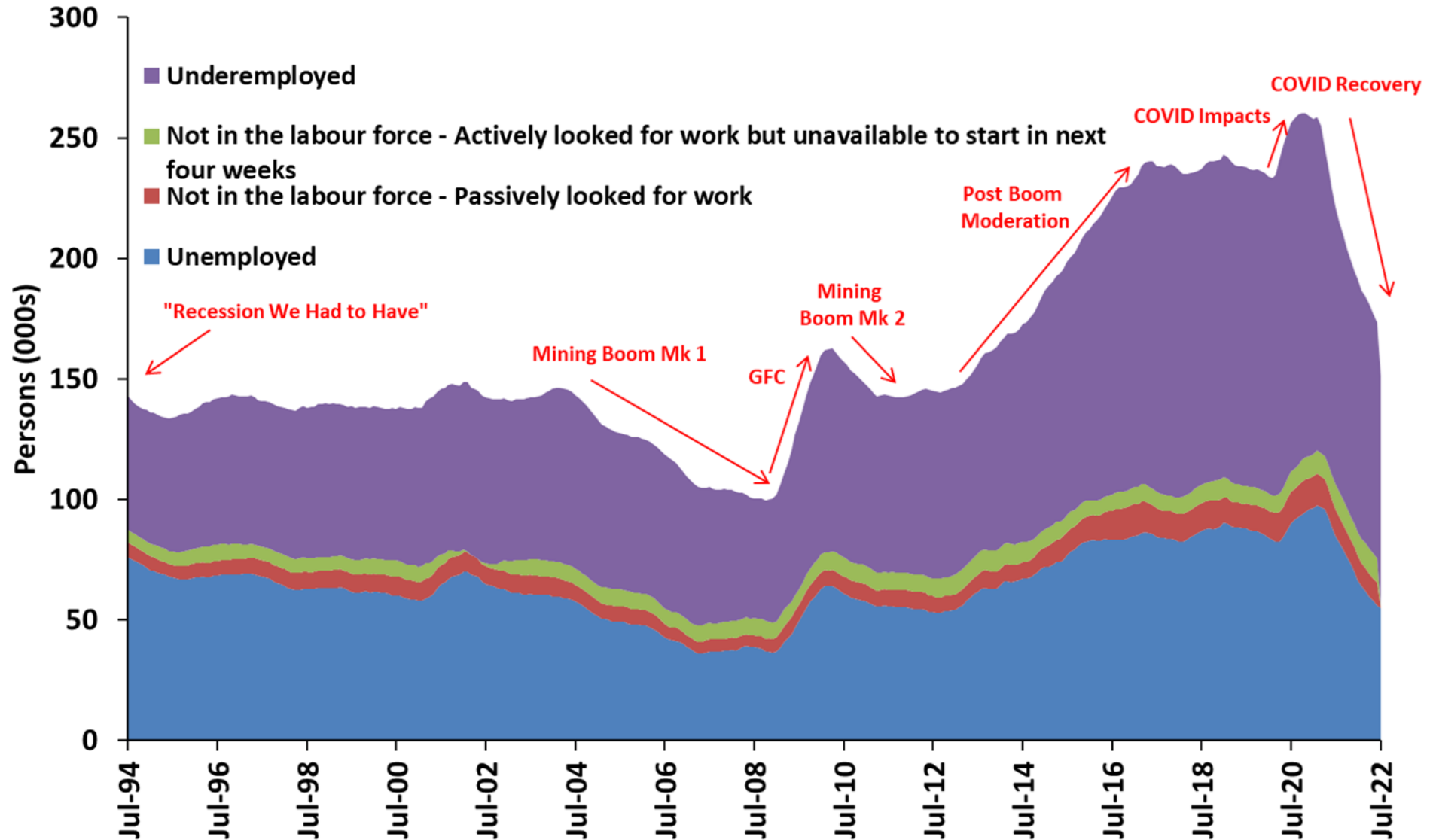
Department of Finance

Rowan Acton

Director, Regional Operations

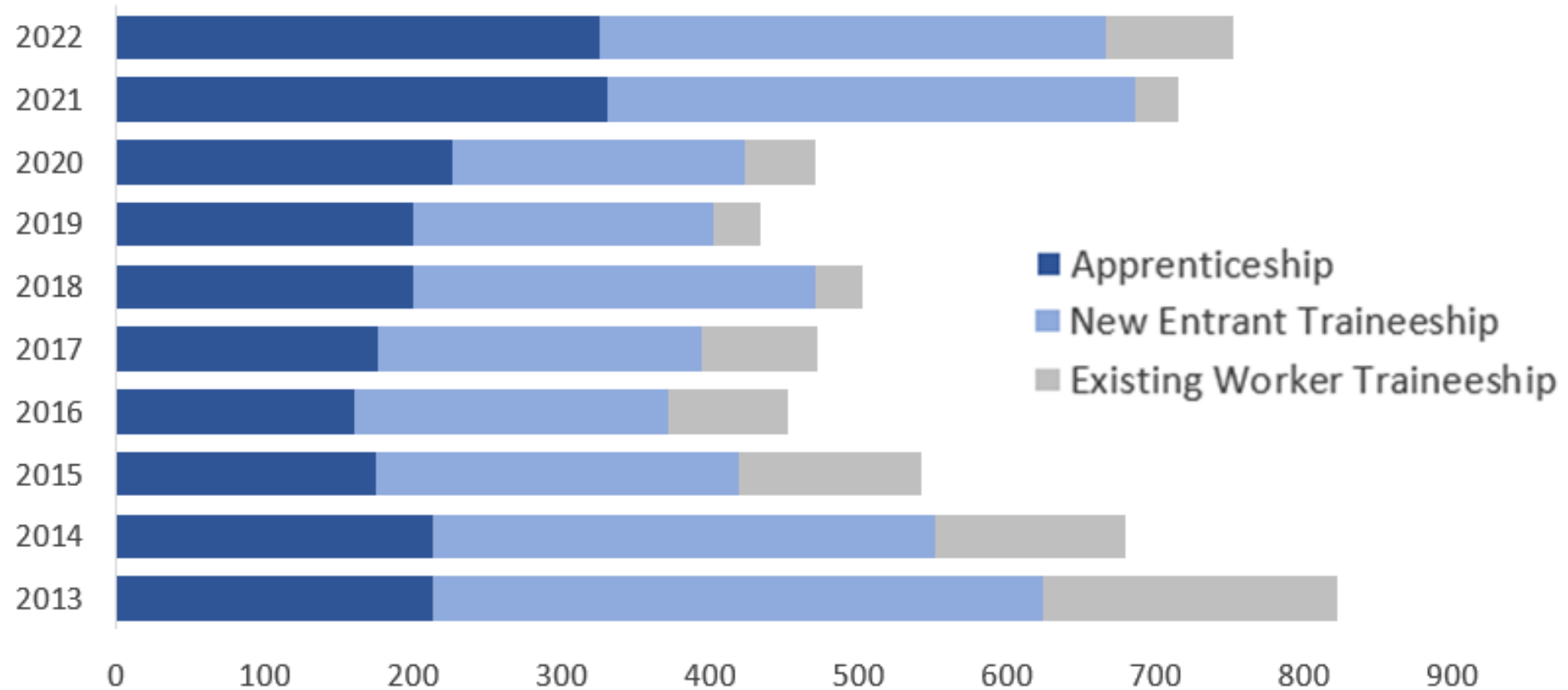
E: rowan.acton@finance.wa.gov.au

Underutilisation - WA Labour Market





Apprenticeship and Traineeship Commencements - Wheatbelt

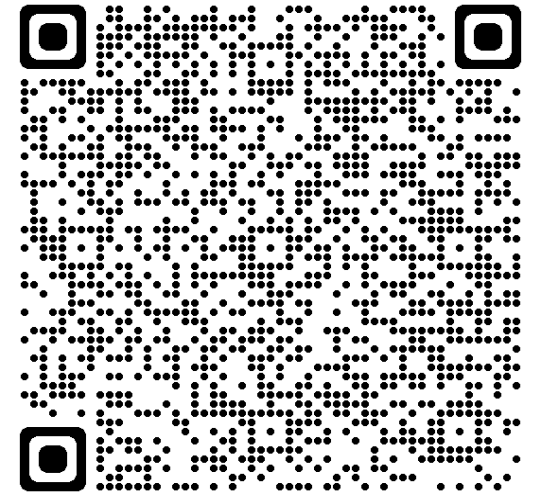




State Government Incentives

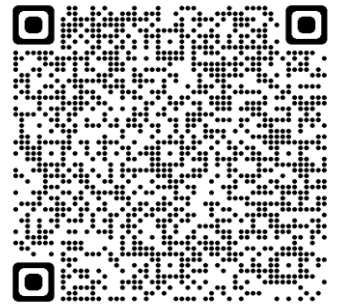
Never better to have an apprentice or trainee

- Fees halved for 180 qualifications under *Lower fees, local skills*
- No course fees for over 100 courses as part of *Free in '23*
- Available at all WA TAFE colleges, and selected private training providers
 - Travel and Accommodation Allowance (TAA)
- Employer Incentives
 - Jobs and Skills WA (JSWA) Employer Incentive
 - Group Training Wage Subsidy
 - Construction Training Fund (CTF) incentives





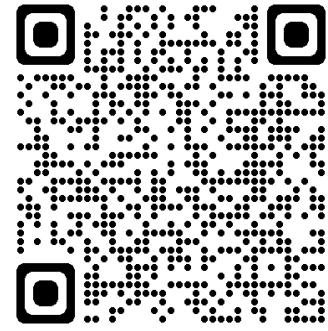
WA Group Training Program (WAGTP)



- Available to group training organisations (GTO) registered in WA.
- Provides incentive funding for GTOs to employ apprentices and trainees in priority target groups.
- The State priority target groups of apprentices and trainees to be supported include:
 - Aboriginal Australians;
 - people with disability;
 - women in non-traditional trades;
 - school based apprentices and trainees; and
 - people in remote and regional areas.
- To be eligible for WAGTP funding, GTOs must:
 - be registered to operate in WA as a GTO;
 - be compliant with the *National Standards for Group Training Organisations*; and
 - place their apprentices/trainees with host employers through a formal agreement.



Commonwealth Government incentives



Priority Wage Subsidy

- For employers of new or recommencing apprentices/trainees undertaking a Certificate III or higher, in occupations on the Commonwealth's Priority List
- 10% of wages for first and second year apprentices (up to \$1,500 per quarter), and 5% of wages for third year apprentice (up to \$750 per quarter)

Hiring Incentive

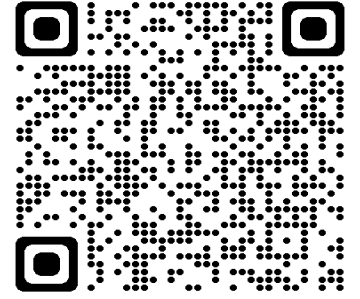
- For employers of new or recommencing apprentices/trainees undertaking a Certificate II or higher, in occupations that are not on the Commonwealth's Priority List; or in a Certificate II in an occupation on the Priority List
- \$3,500 (full time A+T) and \$1,750 (part-time A+T) paid in two equal six monthly instalments

Australian Apprentice Training Support Payment

- Direct financial assistance for apprentices/trainees undertaking Certificate III or higher, in a qualification on the Priority List
- \$1,250 (full time A+T) or \$625 (part time A+T) every six months over the first two years of apprenticeship/traineeship



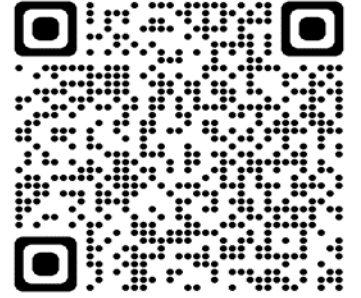
Job Ready Programs



- *Job Ready* programs connect job seekers with employers
- Current programs in:
 - Aged and Disability Care
 - Bricklaying
 - Driller's Offsider
 - Infrastructure (Civil construction)
 - Heavy vehicle driving drivers operations
 - Future Chef
 - Early Childhood Education and Care



Job Ready Program (JRP) - Model



Pre Program

**Recruitment
& Screening**

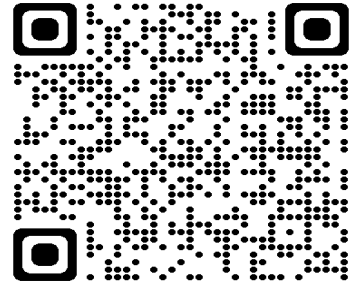
**Training &
wrap-around
support**

**Work
Placement**

**Employment
outcome**



Western Australian State Nominated Migration Program



- Western Australia received over 8,000 places for the 2022-23 program year and the third largest allocation in Australia
- In August 2022, more than 100 occupations added to the WA skilled occupation list, capturing priority industries
- The Graduate occupation list was also expanded to include over 330 occupations, to retain the skills and knowledge of international students
- This will provide industry with access to migrant workers where skilled local workers are not available to take up jobs
- *Skilled Migrant Employment Register* is at:
migration.wa.gov.au/information-for-employers/skilled-migrant-employment-register.

Jobs and Skills Centres

- Jobs and Skills Centres extensive experience in the region and local community
- Expertise in Aboriginal workforce development
- Works with other agencies and local employers
- Supported by professional career services
- Provides outreach services at other locations throughout the region.

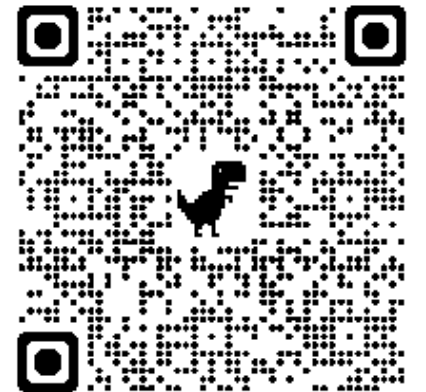


Northam Campus

Central Regional TAFE – LOT 1 Hutt Street,
Northam WA 6401

Ph: 13 64 64 or 08 9622 6860

Email: wheatbeltjsc@crtafe.wa.edu.au





Contact Details

Department of Training and Workforce Development

Adam Walker

Director, Service Delivery Strategy

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E: Adam.Walker@dtwd.wa.gov.au



Construction Training Fund





Construction Training Fund



- Construction Training Fund (CTF) collect a 0.2% levy from all construction projects over \$20,000.
- This levy is reinvested into supporting a safe, skilled and sustainable construction workforce.
- Grants are available for employers who take on apprentices and subsidies are available for businesses involved in construction work to complete additional skills training including occupational health and safety, licences, and business skills.
- A \$500 Apprentice Tool and Safety Equipment rebate has just been announced, as well as an additional 150 subsidised places for employers taking on Mature Age apprentices.
- Contact ita@ctf.wa.gov.au to speak to one of our Industry Training Advisors for more information



CBH Group

Upcoming works in the Wheatbelt region



Local procurement in FY22

- **\$321m** spent with local vendors
- **31%** of total vendors were local
- **\$1.6m** community investment fund spend
- Regional leadership development opportunities
- Full vendor review undertaken
- New sustainable sourcing framework launched

Kwinana Zone Projects – 2023 +

- **Rapid Rail Loading Projects** – Moora, Dowerin, Konnongoring, Ballidu, Kellerberrin
- **Enhancement projects** – Kondinin, Meckering, Shackleton, Bulyee, Southern Cross, Merredin
- **Accommodation projects** – Koorda, Corrigin, Moora, Wickepin
- **Site expansions** – Miling, Corrigin, Kalannie, Meenaar





Department of Finance

Works expected in the Wheatbelt 2023

Agency	Service	Budget (Indicative)	Expected Tender Invitation
Department of Education	Kellerberrin District High School – Secondary Science Upgrade	\$500K	May 2023
Main Roads WA	Main Roads WA Northam Depot Washdown Bay	\$250K	May 2023
WA Police	Kellerberrin Police Station – Upgrade of Station	\$400K	June 2023
WA Police	Beverley Police Station – Small Modular Station Project	\$3M	August 2023

Contact: Rowan Acton

Email: Rowan.Acton@finance.wa.gov.au



Main Roads WA

Works expected in the Wheatbelt 2023

Works / Project Description	Budget (Indicative)	Expected Tender Invitation
Maintenance	TBC	Q2 / Q3 2023
Road Sealing		
Repairs		
Grading		
Vegetation		

Contact: Mohammad Siddiqui

Email: Mohammad.Siddiqui@mainroads.wa.gov.au



Stay Connected

Next steps to take



Speak to your Local Content Adviser – Megan Creagh

[Subscribe](#) to the WA Industry Link mailing list



Visit wa.gov.au to learn more



Visit a Jobs and Skills Centre

With thanks to



Government of Western Australia
Department of Training
and Workforce Development





Post Event Survey – Merredin

Your feedback is important to us



Please use your phone's camera to access the QR above to complete a short 2 minute survey!