

Collie Just Transition News

Keeping you informed about Collie's future

Issue 12, July 2025

Mates in Mining: new mental health support for transitioning workforce

For a town built on hard work and generational experience in coal mining and energy production, the changes ahead as Collie moves closer to planned closure dates aren't always going to be just economic. For many workers directly impacted by change of this scale, the shift can bring added pressure or unknowns and simply be a little more personal.

The emotional toll that can come with Collie's transition is acknowledged as unique, and **Mates in Mining WA** has their sights set on making a difference in town. As one of Australia's leading suicide prevention organisations, Mates in Mining has cemented plans to bring a tailored peer-based support model to Collie's coal mining and energy sectors. The initiative, made possible through recent funding secured as part of the WA Government's Mental Awareness, Respect, and Safety (MARS) Program, has struck local chords and gained momentum.

In the latest episode of the **Collie Just Transition Podcast**, Liam Cabbage, CEO of Mates in Mining discusses the importance of suicide prevention and mental health awareness in Collie's community, and how real change and prevention can start with honest conversations at work with a mate.

Be sure to tune in while Liam unpacks what Mates in Mining's program could mean for impacted workers, how the work could build on already established support in town, and why mental health is becoming a vital part of Collie's transition conversation. Use your phone camera to scan the QR code below and listen to the episode.



Confirmed location for Numans Accommodation Villages' new caravan park for Collie (Allanson).

New short-stay accommodation facility part of latest Collie grant announcements

Plans for **Numans Accommodation Villages** to bring new short-stay accommodation to Collie and help further unlock local opportunities have gained momentum, following recent funding secured to establish a new caravan park at nearby Allanson.

The site is planned to include a farm shop and café-style restaurant, with stage one of the new development increasing accommodation options for visitors to Collie and offering a mix of caravan sites and chalets.

The support forms part of the latest WA Government funding announcements aimed at backing Collie businesses to bring growth plans to life and create local jobs.

Other recently announced support included the **Collie Motorplex**, which attracts motoring enthusiasts to town, for upgrades to its track facilities and to construct new carports, **Barn-Zee's Burgers** to undergo an expansion to meet demand, and **Coastal Freightlines** to support the increasing needs of businesses in the Collie area.



Stay informed about Collie's Just Transition



Use your phone camera to scan the QR code and listen to the latest podcast.



Collie's Just Transition Working Group members at the 2025 Just Transition Plan workshop

2026-2030: Planning for Collie's next chapter underway

2025 is proving to be a pivotal year in Collie's transition away from coal, with the Just Transition Working Group (JTWG) having recently come together to lay the foundations for Collie's next chapter.

The JTWG is currently reviewing the objectives and progress of the first 2020-2025 Just Transition Plan, using its insights to help shape priority areas for Collie's next plan (covering 2026-2030). Expected for release in late 2025, the next plan is scheduled to include the planned closure periods for the remaining State-owned coal-fired power stations. This means that laying the right groundwork is critical to make sure local actions not only align with the evolving nature of transition and its priorities, but also help everyone in town feel well-supported for the significant change expected during this time. It's also the time that industry attraction efforts are aiming to bring in new opportunities that align with the aspirations and chosen career pathways for the transitioning workers and the community.

Local union representative Greg Busson (Australian Mining and Energy Union) recently shared on the [Just Transition Podcast](#) how the events of 2026-2030 might affect transitioning workers, and the key local concerns he will be carrying forward into planning for the next phase. Ian Miffing, Collie's Shire President, also shared some recent transition challenges faced, and why it's important that the revised Plan for 2026-2030 keeps the community front of mind.

Hear more about what's happening here or visit wa.gov.au/justtransitionpodcast

Collie's Green Steel Mill hits new milestones

[Green Steel of WA](#) continue to power ahead with plans to bring WA's first steel recycling mill to Collie, following the recent announcement the project has moved into the advanced stages of development and secured all necessary approvals required to commence construction.

The project, set to make Collie home to Australia's first green steel mill, has now confirmed its feasibility, with Green Steel recently hosting information sessions for the potential suppliers and the community, to share how the project is progressing.

Once operational, the Collie Steel Mill will have the capacity to produce 450,000 tonnes per year of low-emissions rebar using locally sourced WA scrap steel, reducing the current risk of WA being impacted by global supply chain issues.

Supported by \$2.7 million in WA Government funding, the project will kickstart the establishment of WA's green iron and steel industry as it moves toward an industrial future, placing Collie at the forefront as a major industrial hub.



Community taking up new bite-sized computer courses

[Collie's South Regional TAFE](#) campus is closing out on what is being considered a successful inaugural term for their new offering to the Collie community — new bite-sized computer courses for those looking to build computer skills, increase knowledge of Word and/or Excel, or those in need of a refresher.

With the courses proving to be in high demand for local hands-on learning of essential computer skills, the sessions are confirmed to run again for Term 3.

Each 4-hour session offers practical learning, with participants able to attend sessions most relevant to their needs without prerequisite requirements. The program's structure conveniently accommodates working schedules with half-day formats on offer, and builds on the foundational digital skills needed as the town diversifies and new industries look to establish.

The new program, funded by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, aims to fill a gap in non-accredited training in Collie, enabling many local students to fulfil aspirations to progress to accredited courses.

To enrol for Term 3, contact the [Collie South Regional TAFE](#) campus on (08) 6371 3900 or collie@srtafe.wa.edu.au.