

Local Jobs Plan

North and North Western Tasmania Employment Region | TAS | August 2026

Workforce Australia Local Jobs (Local Jobs) is a program that creates partnerships between business and communities to meet local workforce needs, thereby improving employment outcomes. Local Jobs operates in all 51 Employment Regions in Australia.

Local Jobs Overview

Local Jobs Plan

Each Employment Region has a Local Jobs Plan which outlines the labour market challenges in the region and the strategies to address these challenges.

Job Coordinators

Each Employment Region has a dedicated Job Coordinator who leverages existing resources, supports local labour markets through structural adjustments and retrenchments, and creates opportunities for collaboration between business and communities.

Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce

Each Employment Region has its own taskforce that meets regularly with the Job Coordinator to develop an understanding of challenges in the region and implement solutions. The taskforce is comprised of representatives from the region.

Local Jobs, Local People Grant

The Local Jobs, Local People grant funds activities that help people into ongoing employment or training. Activities must support local labour market needs.



Explore labour market insights for the
[North and North Western Tasmania](#) Employment Region

Local labour market challenges

- Continued and consistent employer demand for entry level workers in key growth sectors including community care services, retail, customer service, tourism, hospitality and agriculture.
- Workforce and skills gaps in manufacturing, mining, construction, transport and emerging clean energy industries with anticipated growth in demand for skilled and entry level workers.
- High youth unemployment in the region and low Year 12 attainment rates highlights the need for stronger engagement strategies and innovative pathways to increase skills and training.
- Low language, literacy, numeracy and digital literacy levels.
- High degree of labour market challenges experienced by key cohorts, including mature age, First Nations, young people and other underrepresented groups such as woman, parents, carers, culturally and linguistically diverse people and people with a disability.
- The region has an aging population combined with a workforce participation rate significantly lower than the national average. The region also has challenges with access to housing, transport, childcare, and access to education and training in some communities which highlights the needs for holistic and co-designed initiatives that address barriers to employment.

Local priorities

Priority 1 – Collaboration across all levels of our employment service framework

What are our challenges?

In Tasmania, we have a wide framework of skills, apprenticeship and employment programs from Australian and Tasmanian government. We work collaboratively across government to maximise program effectiveness and ensure the best outcomes for Tasmanians living in our region. We also apply this principle of collaboration with industry peak bodies, training and education organisations to support the best possible uptake of employment in our regions.

How are we responding?

- We are collaborating with Australian, state and local government, regional authorities, industry peak bodies and other services in training, education and employment assistance to design specific projects that develop local skills and employment solutions that support businesses to meet their workforce needs.
- Our Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce includes representation from across the region, and we work closely with the Tasmanian Government Regional Jobs Hubs to develop and coordinate skills, training and employment projects, assist employer understanding, increase access and minimise program duplication.
- We will collaborate to create initiatives that assist young people and other underrepresented groups to re-engage or make effective transitions to employment or related training at the completion of their school years, increasing youth awareness of career, training and employment pathways to employment opportunities in growth sectors in their region.

Priority 2 – Bridging the distance between individuals looking for work and businesses looking for employees

What are our challenges?

Employers consistently report they would like better connections to locate and communicate with people who are looking for work. These individuals in turn want to understand what employers are asking for when they advertise roles. We are committed to bridging the gap and creating opportunities for businesses and individuals to build connections. We know how critical this approach is because of the prevalence of informal (word of mouth) recruitment within our region.

How are we responding?

- We are working with employers to identify, design and lead collaborative projects that tailor recruitment activities through job design, skill people to meet local business demand, promote better linkages between industry and people looking for work, connecting them to skills, apprentice and employment programs.
- We support business and workers affected by retrenchments and other economic events to access services that will help them find new jobs or gain new skills.
- We will continue working with employers to clarify expectations, including workforce readiness, employability skills, training requirements and recruitment challenges, and support the identification of entry level opportunities, retention and mobilisation of workforces.

Priority 3 – Assisting Tasmanians looking for work to access economic opportunities

What are our challenges?

We know that Tasmanians looking for work often face significant challenges during their job search, work preparation and early stages of their new employment. Participation rates are low, we have low levels of literacy, numeracy, people experiencing complex barriers that make it more difficult to transition into employment such as housing, access to childcare, health care and education, low digital literacy and limited digital access. For many, access to transport is a factor.

How are we responding?

- We recognise and support individual's agency, acknowledging the role individuals play in making informed decisions about education, training, and employment decisions. We will consider the language, literacy, numeracy and digital needs in all co-design activities, programs and support initiatives.
- This includes connecting employers and people looking for work to programs such as Skills for Education and Employment to build opportunities for participants to expand their literacy, numeracy and digital literacy skills, while also developing the skills needed by local employers.
- We will collaborate with First Nations organisations funded under programs such as the Indigenous Skills and Employment Program to support better employment outcomes and will continue to support existing or new Local Jobs projects for First Nations peoples.

Priority 4 – Finding solutions to workforce shortages in the care sector and other sectors as needs emerge

What are our challenges?

Our region has a range of roles in the diverse community care sector in high demand with significant skill shortages evident across the industry. Tasmania has an ageing population which has increased our need for skilled aged-care workers. A range of factors are applying pressure to the care sector's workforce demands, requiring the Local Jobs team to find solutions for shortages. There are also emerging shortages in the retail and customer service sectors.

How are we responding?

- We are engaging regularly with relevant employers and businesses to understand changing needs within the sector. This includes having representation from a disability services business on the Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce to assist us to develop initiatives to support the sector.
- We are working alongside the industry peak bodies for community care services, with initiatives to promote interest in care careers around North and North Western Tasmania.
- We are identifying and developing projects, including Launch into Work, and Local Initiatives Fund, to address workforce shortages in the community care sector.

Priority 5 – Meeting the demand for renewable energy, mining, construction and transport workforces

What are our challenges?

Our employment region is strongly placed to continue the transition to renewable energy for Tasmanian industry and the community with new wind and solar generation projects. We have major hydro-electric infrastructure to store energy and transmit energy to the National Electricity Market. New wind and solar projects, transmission lines and interconnectors will be a significant feature of construction projects in the next 10 years as the net zero transition continues. Additionally, emissions abatement in existing industry sectors (such as mining, smelting and manufacturing) will require new skills across the workforce. There are also significant labour and skills shortages in the transport and logistics sectors.

How are we responding?

- We are engaging with employers and industry groups in the region who are developing or supporting renewable energy projects and net zero initiatives. These include project proponents in the hydro, wind, solar, hydrogen and biofuels industries, where we can assist coordinate Skills, Apprentice or Workforce Australia Employment Services Provider involvement in their progressive workforce needs, particularly in the construction phases of major sites.
- We will continue promoting opportunities across sectors recognising that many current and emerging workforce needs are within unskilled, entry-level and entry pathways which creates opportunities for local workers to upskill, transition into employment and education pathways to meet this demand.
- We will continue to work with the mining, manufacturing and transport industries to support and develop projects that lead to employment, and other sectors as they experience uplift in workforce mobilisation as a result of increased opportunities through renewable energy projects.

Priority 6 – Supporting seasonal and permanent workforce recruitment in horticulture, agriculture, hospitality and tourism

What are our challenges?

Continued growth and consolidation of sectors such as horticulture, agriculture, hospitality and tourism, means that they experience chronic labour shortages. These shortages are exacerbated by the residual impact of earlier COVID border closures to temporary overseas workers from 2020. Effects are still evident in 2026, with industries struggling to entice local workers into roles and an increasing demand on local workers due to workforce competition and low unemployment.

How are we responding?

- We are working with key industries, supporting and facilitating local employment events timed around recruitment cycles in these sectors and promoting/participating in their upcoming recruitment activities.
- We are working on cross sector initiatives recognising the important role that hospitality and accommodation services play in supporting skilled workers and new arrived residents in meeting demand for major projects and employment opportunities.
- We are working with peak industry organisations and employers to identify opportunities to collaborate, and support workers to upskill and progress through a range of careers in these sectors.

Want to know more?

- Contact: Jessica Jones, North and North Western Tasmania Australian Government Job Coordinator: NNWTAS.AGJC@dewr.gov.au
- Visit: [Local Jobs](#) or [Workforce Australia](#)