

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Attention: News Editor

### **Skills for future workers**

What skills will be in high demand in the Great Southern workforce of the future and how many people will need to have them?

Employers, trainers and community organisations in the region are invited to help answer this two-part question and to explore other workforce needs in a region-wide series of forums over the next fortnight.

The Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) and the Great Southern Workforce Development Alliance are examining the future development of the regional workforce.

The Alliance is a grouping of local government, industry representatives, regional business associations and training organisations, and is chaired by the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC).

Consultants Carpe Diem Strategic Solutions have been appointed to develop a Great Southern Workforce Development Plan to identify current and future workforce needs and to devise strategies to address these needs.

Carpe Diem invites a wide range of regional stakeholders, including business, industry, government, training organisations and community groups, to attend forums to be held in Katanning, Albany, Denmark, Frankland, Mount Barker and Jerramungup.

The first forum will be in Katanning on Friday 23 March at 1.30pm at the GSIT campus.

GSDC Chief Executive Officer Bruce Manning said the forums provided an opportunity for businesses and organisations to be directly involved in the process of developing a comprehensive strategy

“Ensuring employers can find sufficient staff with appropriate skills is essential for an efficient and productive regional economy,” Mr Manning said. “Employers and other interested parties are invited to contribute to this process now so that their needs can be met in the future.”



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People wanting to take part in a forum can register at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/GSWDP\\_Consultation](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GSWDP_Consultation) or for more information contact Malcolm Goff on 0418 906 478.

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### Forums

Katanning	Friday 23 March	1.30pm – 4pm	Katanning Campus GSIT
Albany	Monday 26 March	9.30am – 12pm	Albany Campus GSIT
		4.30pm – 7pm	Albany Campus GSIT
Denmark	Tuesday 27 March	2.30pm – 5pm	Denmark Campus GSIT
Frankland	Monday 2 April	9.30am – 12pm	Frankland CRC
Mt Barker	Monday 2 April	1.30pm – 4pm	Mount Barker Campus GSIT
Jerramungup	Tuesday 3 April	9.30am – 12pm	Jerramungup CRC

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