
New HR Support Project to Strengthen Workforce Resilience Across Temora and Bland

A new cross-shire initiative is underway to support small to medium businesses across Temora and Bland Shires to attract, retain and manage employees more effectively through improved access to Human Resource (HR) support.

The project, jointly led by Temora and Bland Shire Councils and funded through the Regional Drought Resilience Program (RDRP), will explore practical HR support models and create tailored workforce solutions that reflect the unique needs of regional businesses.

Think Regional, a consultancy specialising in regional workforce engagement and HR innovation, has been engaged to deliver the project. Over the coming months, they will consult directly with local businesses, industry groups, and employment stakeholders through workshops, surveys, and one-on-one conversations.

The project builds on the findings of an HR Needs Analysis conducted in Temora Shire in 2023 and will now be extended into Bland Shire to shape a shared, regionally relevant solution.

“Our local businesses continue to face challenges in finding and keeping staff, navigating compliance, and building long-term capability,” said Temora Shire Mayor Rick Firman OAM. “This project gives us the chance to co-design a HR support model that is practical, accessible, and truly reflective of what businesses in our communities need.”

Bland Shire Mayor Brian Monaghan added, “Although our businesses weren’t part of the original HR Needs Assessment in Temora, we know the issues are similar across both Shires. This is a great example of neighbouring councils working together on a regional solution to a shared challenge.” He continued, “By taking a collaborative approach, we’re ensuring that Bland Shire businesses have a voice in shaping a workforce support framework that will deliver long-term benefits and help address our most pressing employment challenges.”

The project will also explore opportunities to strengthen youth employment pathways, working closely with local schools, training providers, and employers to identify gaps and solutions.

Businesses across both Shires are encouraged to get involved when consultation sessions begin later this month.

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MEDIA RELEASE



“By contributing their insights, business owners will help shape a model that can reduce the HR burden, open up new recruitment opportunities, and build long-term workforce resilience for our region,” added Mayor Firman.

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