



THE HON DR SHARMAN STONE MP

Minister for Workforce Participation

M E D I A R E L E A S E

Friday, 27 July 2007

Job Network continues to break records

The most recent Job Network ‘Star Ratings’ released today, confirm that Job Network is leading the way in moving people into work, the Minister for Workforce Participation, Dr Sharman Stone MP, said today.

The six-monthly Star Ratings identify how Job Network members are performing in placing job seekers into work compared to other members in their region and across Australia.

Minister Stone said Job Network members are at the forefront in finding real, long-term jobs for unemployed Australians, and the recent performance figures herald their success.

“During the 2006–07 financial year, over 645 500 job seekers were placed into work by Job Network members and other Job Placement organisations,” Minister Stone said.

“Job Network has played an integral role in reducing Australia’s unemployment rate to a near 32-year low. They connect job seekers with the thousands of employment and training opportunities available.

“The Howard Government’s Welfare to Work are encouraging more Australians to get into the labour force. That, in turn, gives them economic independence and an ability to contribute to Australia’s growth.

“The Star Ratings and the performance profile report show how the Job Network members are making it happen.”

The Star Ratings are similar to a hotel rating system. It compares organisations operating in different parts of Australia and in different labour market conditions. Ratings vary from ‘one Star’ indicating room for improvement to ‘five Stars’ reflecting excellent performance.

“During the 2006–07 financial year, Job Network found more than 186 400 long-term (13-weeks-plus) jobs for disadvantaged job seekers and people unemployed for more than three months—an increase of 2 per cent on the previous financial year,” the Minister said.

“Over 25 800 mature age job seekers who had been unemployed for more than three months were placed into long-term jobs in the last financial year. Job Network members also helped a record 17 400 disadvantaged sole parents into work, which highlights the success of the Government’s Welfare to Work reforms,” Minister Stone said.

For more information on the Job Network Star Ratings, visit www.workplace.gov.au.

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