



BROADENING THE PRIME MINISTER'S VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

This measure will enhance the successful Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program. The program will be broadened to support those considering self-employment through small business development and entrepreneurship as an employment pathway and includes funding to build an evidence base to inform future veteran employment initiatives.

The \$6.0 million package includes support provided through the Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) and grant funding for entrepreneurship training and programs to Prince's Trust Australia.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Program aims to increase employment opportunities for veterans by raising awareness of the unique skills and experience that veterans bring to the civilian workplace.

This measure broadens and strengthens the Program, while continuing to deliver the annual Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Awards; the Veterans' Employment Commitment (a framework for employers to make a public commitment to veterans' employment) and the provision of advice and employment resources to Australian Defence Force (ADF) veterans.

Under the measure, new initiatives to support veterans to consider and pursue self-employment and entrepreneurship will be provided through:

- expanded access to New Business Assistance with New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS), enabling veterans transitioning out of the ADF, and their families, the ability to participate in an Exploring Being My Own Boss Workshop and undertake NEIS training. This will assist ADF members and their families to make decisions about their future before transitioning by providing information and planning for self-employment. Veterans with an identified transition date, partners and adult children (over 18) of ADF personnel will be eligible to access up to 150 Exploring Being My Own Boss Workshop places annually for the 2021–22 and 2022–23 financial years. There will be 130 Workshop places annually in 2023–24 and 2024–25. The NEIS program has been administered for 35 years by DESE and has helped over 180,000 people start a new small business. This support is in addition to existing NEIS services available to eligible veterans and their families, and;
- entrepreneurship support, provided via a grant to Prince's Trust Australia, a not-for-profit organisation. Prince's Trust will deliver education programs and activities for veterans wanting to start their own business, build capacity, sustainability and increase business competitiveness.
- Delivering programs since 2015 that take into account the military experience, Prince's Trust has supported more than 370 participants in their Enterprise Program, with a growing alumni of successful business people. Even more participants will benefit from this



program, with Prince's Trust working towards a target of supporting 10 per cent of all transitioning defence members by 2023.

This measure will also establish an evidence base to inform how support for veteran employment may be shaped into the future. This includes:

- the establishment of a veteran indicator in the DESE's New Employment Service Model, to understand, through de-identified data, the mainstream employment pathways and outcomes of veterans, and
- increased data analysis to map benchmarks and establish sustainable reporting to measure and inform current and future initiatives under the Program.

WHO WILL BENEFIT?

Veterans who have transitioned, or will transition to 30 June 2025, and family members of veterans, will benefit from the broadening of the Program.

DATE OF EFFECT

Continuation of measures from 1 July 2020. New measures (NEIS and Prince's Trust) commence 1 July 2021

HOW MUCH WILL THIS COST?

\$6.0 million over the forward estimates.