

# THE HON KRISTY MCBAIN

## MEMBER FOR EDEN-MONARO



### Eden-Monaro Online Jobs and Skills Forums – 15 to 17 August 2022

Current experiences	Electorate-posed solutions
<p><i>Employment and education</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difficulty in attracting employees to fill a range of jobs in a range of sectors including hospitality, tourism, building and mechanical trades and aged-care.</li> <li>- Paid traineeship positions are not being applied for, contributing to a high un-skilled workforce. In one instance, an NDIS-approved out of hospital care provider has had take-up of 3 traineeships, with 27 remaining and little interest.</li> </ul> <p><i>Shortage of planner and surveyor professionals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Predicted shortage of planners and surveyors will contribute to delay in housing availability.</li> </ul> <p><i>Aged-pension Work Bonus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Those on the aged-pension are constrained by the Work Bonus cap of \$300 of additional income from employment per fortnight, after which their pension is reduced and they are disincentivised to work.</li> </ul> <p><i>TAFE inaccessibility</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distance from TAFE institutions and focus on online-learning with no mentoring are barriers to applying for and graduating from courses.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Skilled and unskilled migrants</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attract more skilled and unskilled migrants to the area, offering traineeships, relocation assistance and financial incentives. Increase from 5 points to 10 points under the Skilled Migration Points Test if nominated to live and work in a designated regional Australia.</li> </ul> <p><i>Regional jobs showcase</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demonstrate the various industries and employment opportunities that the region has to offer prospective internal and international migrants to the region.</li> </ul> <p><i>Utilising the mature-aged workforce</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase the Work Bonus to diversify the employment pool in the region by allowing those on the pension to work more.</li> </ul> <p><i>Increase funding for local government cadetships</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase funding for council-based cadetship and traineeship to build capability and retention.</li> </ul> <p><i>Regional TAFE specialisations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Specialise TAFE course to increase utilisation and reach the specific needs of the region.</li> </ul> <p><i>Improving connectivity</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reliable access to internet and mobile services to improve online-learning experience and completion.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Housing and accommodation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Price of rental properties is increasing and scarcely available, disincentivising migration to the regions.</li> <li>- Restrictions on rental increase mean landlord does not have to give written notice before increases take effect, leaving renters in the lurch and unable to find additional funds at short notice.</li> <li>- Housing and accommodation access impacted by those working from home.</li> <li>- Short-term rental providers are saturating the rental market.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Regional relocation incentives</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduce financial incentives to encourage the migration of new people to the region. A long-term incentive in addition to relocation financial assistance to promote long-term employment in and engagement with the region.</li> </ul> <p><i>University debt forgiveness</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- University debt paid by federal government for those that move to the regions to work in the profession they are accredited in.</li> </ul> <p><i>Unused existing property</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renovate unused public housing stock to suit contemporary lifestyles i.e. micro apartments that promote shared living</li> </ul>
<p><i>Access to childcare, before- and after-school care</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited access to these services restricts employment opportunities for parents and places significant responsibility on grandparents and carers, removing them from employment.</li> <li>- Disproportionate impact on women returning to work.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Childcare and employment collaboration</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide access to childcare in employment settings to improve access and flexibility for, predominately, women returning to the workplace.</li> </ul>
	<p><i>Collaboration and communication across the region</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Build participation on existing monthly working groups to share information and industry-specific updates across the electorate. This would avoid double-handling and promote cross-sector collaboration and innovation.</li> </ul>