

MEDIA STATEMENT

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Ombudsman welcomes job system overhaul to help small businesses employ

Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, Kate Carnell today welcomed the Coalition Government's commitment to transform Australia's employment services model to deliver better outcomes for job seekers and employers.

"Small businesses find the current system difficult to use and, as a result, rarely use jobactive providers to fill vacant positions," Ms Carnell said.

"The proposed new model will address one of the biggest problems small businesses face when trying to hire new staff – finding job seekers with relevant skills to suit their business needs.

"This means employers won't waste time sorting through unsuitable job seekers who are just going through the motions to achieve the necessary number of job applications.

"Importantly, if the job seeker doesn't have the necessary skills, they will have access to training opportunities when they need it.

"Small business owners spend long hours during the day working, so they might not have time to look for suitable candidates for their business until after hours.

"The new digital platform will give employers the flexibility to search for suitable employees at a time that's convenient for them.

"We support channelling the money saved by job-ready job seekers using a digital platform into providing more help for long term unemployed people who are struggling to enter the job market."

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