

**Submission
No 28**

SKILL SHORTAGES IN NSW

Organisation: Palerang Council
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This submission briefly addresses the second point of reference, namely identifying strategies for government to assist in addressing skill shortages.

The proximity of the Palerang Council area, and adjacent NSW LGAs, to the ACT creates a particular situation with regard to skills shortages.

Attracting suitably qualified personnel is not just a matter of having those personnel relocate to a regional area. Given the proximity to Canberra, there is a constant draw of skilled and professional labour out of the immediate regional area, even if that labour actually resides in the region. In regional areas adjacent to the ACT, individuals can enjoy the benefits of both worlds, without necessarily contributing directly to the needs of the region.

In developing or adopting any strategy in SE NSW, it is essential to actively engage with the relevant ACT authorities to ensure that the two jurisdictions are not working at cross purposes.

RDA ACT, for example, who work closely with RDA Southern Inland, will conduct a regional forum on 27 June to discuss Capital Region Skills and Training Needs, with the specific goal of addressing regional economic development.