What will be the jobs in demand in the Hume Region in the future?

There are significant opportunities for work in the Hume Region.

Even though there is, as everywhere, a broad range of jobs available, a recent research project conducted by Regional Development Australia (RDA) in the Hume Region identified some future workforce needs.

Many of the employment opportunities in vocational occupations mirror the skills in demand at a state or national level. These include such occupations as: chefs, waiters, child care co-ordinators, tradespeople, trades teachers/trainers, heavy vehicle truck drivers, pickers, and welders.

At the professional level it is a similar story, with occupations that are difficult to fill in the Hume Region being difficult to fill more widely. These include specialist engineers, specialist managers, allied health professionals, nurses and outdoor education guides.

There have been four priority skill areas identified within the Hume Region:

**Health and Community Services**

Health and Community Services is Australia’s largest employing industry and the third largest in the Hume Region. Personal carers and aides have the highest projected growth across all occupations and industries and is the largest employing occupation in Aged Care. The ageing profile in the region means growth for this occupation will continue.

Other skills in demand include: nurses, occupational therapists, most allied health professionals, welfare workers, social workers, Division 2 nurses.

**Transport and Logistics**

Population Growth, increased freight movement and increased visitor numbers will place pressure on the Hume Region transport system and logistics industry. Truck drivers are most in demand, along with transport/logistics manager/supervisor, scheduler, bus driver, warehouse manager and storeperson.

**Agriculture**

With access to water from river systems and valuable groundwater resources, the Hume Region supports a large number of irrigation-based industries of national significance such as dairy, horticulture and viticulture, while also supporting large areas of dryland farming. Skills identified as needed include: Agricultural scientists, agricultural technicians, pickers and packers.

An additional growth area identified is equine. Strathbogie Ranges is Victoria’s ‘Horse capital’ and centre for thoroughbred race horse breeding in Victoria. Stable hands and horse trainers have been identified as required skills.

**Manufacturing**

Manufacturing is a significant economic contributor to the region, especially around Wodonga and Wangaratta, with manufacturing accounting for a larger proportion of employment in Hume than in Melbourne.

While Industry employment in Hume is expected to decline over the period to 2016 some occupations will experience growth eg: Product assembler, ICT manager, telecom engineering professional, metal casting tradesperson, welder, cheesemaker and abattoir worker.