

MEDIA RELEASE

New construction initiative helps local jobseekers build pathway to success in the west

Sydney, Wednesday, 3 August 2016: Lendlease's Skilling & Employment Centre has launched a new initiative empowering local jobseekers in the Blacktown and Penrith areas to gain employment in Western Sydney's growing construction industry.

Lendlease created the Construction Employment Initiative to support the growing demand for employment in the sector. The initiative is designed to identify skills gaps, training needs and provide local jobseekers with links to jobs through a dedicated Construction Employment Advisor.

Lendlease's Skilling & Employment Centre Construction Employment Advisor, Paul Newton, said 34 people from the local area have found work through the construction initiative since it launched in May 2016.

"We provide positive pathways for jobseekers by helping them to develop their resume and interview skills and facilitating introductions to a network of local employers looking for permanent and temporary workers.

"The construction initiative has been developed in response to the increased demand for skilled construction workers at sites across the west, including Lendlease's new community at Jordan Springs East," said Mr Newton.

Darren Laws of Cranebrook recently began working as a plant operator with Menai Civil Contractors after being referred for an interview through the Skilling & Employment Centre.

"I decided to change careers and look for work in the construction sector as I knew demand for construction workers in Western Sydney was strong and the opportunity to find work closer to home was very appealing.

"After completing a Certificate III in Construction, the Skilling & Employment Centre helped me prepare my resume, brush up on my interview techniques and organised an interview with Menai," said Mr Laws.

Since opening its doors in 2005, the Skilling & Employment Centre has assisted over 4,300 people in the local community, like Darren, at a rate of over one job per day and referred 826 clients to accredited training and provided job skills courses to 1366 people.

The Skilling & Employment Centre runs free monthly workshops covering the steps involved in obtaining a new job. Local residents have the opportunity to ask questions and gain valuable insights about resume development and job vacancy websites to improve their chances of securing a job.



For more information or to register your interest please contact Jan Pastuck on 02 9673 1225, email skillandemploy@lendlease.com or visit the centre at 51 Phillip Street, St Marys.

Upcoming courses include:

- Over 4,200 local people have found jobs! Skilling & Employment Centre in St Marys runs a FREE Job Seeking Workshop! Brush up on your interview skills and hear hints and tips on finding local jobs. Register now for Wednesday 3 August, 10-12 noon session. Phone 9673 1225 or email skillandemploy@lendlease.com
- FREE Seeking Employment Program commences Friday 5 August for eight Fridays at Jordan Springs Community Corner. Learn how to find jobs on websites, apply online and attach your updated resume to find work. Great for mature jobseekers. Phone Skilling & Employment on 9673 1225 or email skillandemploy@lendlease.com
- FREE FIRST AID COURSE for local people to help gain work. Must attend all sessions 9.30 – 2.30 Wednesday 24 August, 31 August and 7 September at Jordan Springs Community Corner. Register interest by phoning Skilling & Employment 9673 1225.
- Want to work in construction? Over 40 local people have been assisted to find jobs since commencement of the Skilling & Employment Construction Initiative. Contact Paul Newton on 9673 1225.

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For more information please contact:

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About Lendlease

Lendlease is a leading international property and infrastructure group. Listed on the Australian Securities Exchange and with circa 11,900 employees worldwide, Lendlease's capabilities span the property value chain.

In Australia we offer development management; investment management; project management & construction and asset & property management. Our expertise covers multiple sectors including commercial, residential, retail, retirement and infrastructure.

About the Skilling & Employment Centre

The Skilling & Employment Centre is an innovative community initiative developed by Lendlease to address the skills needs identified in the labour market surrounding the St Marys and Penrith developments, particularly in the trades and services industries.

