

OUR YOUTH OUR FUTURE

TOOLS TO GET YOUTH WORKING

Labour shortages are a major issue for New Zealand.

With skill and labour shortages predicted to continue – and to even increase – over the coming years, this ‘toolkit’ may help you identify further opportunities to engage and develop ‘Our Youth, Our Future’.

One in five businesses cite labour and skill shortages as their number one constraint on growth. The challenge now is to tap into existing pockets of potential to ensure that everyone who can work, does, and to ensure their talents and energy are fully utilised.

EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS HAPPEN LOCALLY

National policy initiatives can achieve much, but in many cases the most effective solutions are happening locally. Mayors are ideally placed to drive these initiatives even further.

That’s why the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs partnership with central Government has set itself the goal: that, by 2007, all 15-19 year olds will be engaged in appropriate education, training, work, or other activities that contribute to their long-term economic independence and well-being.

THREE PRIORITIES

To achieve this goal and to sustain gains made so far, the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs intends to build on work already occurring in communities throughout New Zealand, with a specific focus on:

- > Maori youth enterprise and entrepreneurship
- > Investing in youth locally
- > Young people with disabilities as employees.

MAYORS TASKFORCE
FOR JOBS TOOLKIT

MAYORS
TASKFORCE
FOR JOBS

A LOCAL/CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

TOOLS TO MAKE THINGS HAPPEN

This toolkit contains resources to help you use the influence of your office to put the issues in the spotlight, get people thinking and actively bring together the businesses, trainers and education providers and other groups in your community who can help engage and develop your young people.

The 'toolkit' may also assist you to achieve the community outcomes in your long-term council community plans, especially where they relate to employment and training opportunities for the young people of your community.

BROCHURES, PROMPTS, CASES AND CONTACTS

There are brochures and prompt cards with key facts and arguments to help you challenge negative stereotypes as you meet with local stakeholders, and to reinforce the benefits of investing in all young people

Included is a series of case studies drawn from around the country. They outline approaches taken by other communities and employers to fully engage young people and address the problem of skill shortages. We're sure there will be more examples in your own community, but these stories will give you an idea of how much can be achieved when local people work together.

There's also an extensive list of contacts to help you or people in your community get things started, and examples of the opportunities for awards and public recognition for organisations and businesses that get involved.

MAKE THINGS HAPPEN FOR YOUR YOUTH

Our future is in our youth. Please, use this information, the combined resources of the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, and the influence of your office, to make things happen for them.

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