

## SHARING EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES

### LEARN LOCAL QUALITY PARTNERSHIPS – A SKILLS FIRST TRAINING PROVIDER CASE STUDY

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Significant opportunity exists for Learn Locals to develop shared initiatives to continue to improve the educational opportunities they provide people in their local communities.

In recognition that building and maintaining collaborations can be challenging for Learn Locals, the Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board and Department of Education and Training have launched a pilot project to support partnership activities.

#### Quality Coordinators to drive partnerships

Allison Fleming is one of three new Quality Coordinators employed to do the ‘footwork’ between Learn Locals across Victoria.

Allison is working with eight regional Western Victorian Learn Locals in Geelong, Ocean Grove, Ballarat, Bendigo, Hamilton, Portland and Warrnambool.

Allison helps these Learn Locals identify effective ways of working together to improve the compliance and quality of their operations, and improve and increase their capacity to deliver quality training to students.

The Learn Locals that Allison is working with vary in capacity and the range of training programs they offer. Some have access to substantial administrative support while others have a smaller staff. Some employ numerous trainers while others employ just a few trainers.

#### Building quality together

Allison’s first step to building partnerships between the Learn Locals was to facilitate discussions to identify common challenges and particular strengths and expertise.

The next step was for the Learn Locals to develop a Partnership Plan with specific areas of focus. As the

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*“This is a new exciting opportunity to build a partnership that enables Learn Locals to share best practice whilst maintaining their individual identity and focus, which is what makes them so effective in their local area.”*

Allison Fleming, Learn Local Quality Coordinator

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Learn Locals are located across Western Victoria, one goal already identified has been to use technology as a communication tool to reduce time spent travelling to meetings and workshops.

The Learn Locals have nominated that meeting their compliance requirements is a key challenge. Allison is helping the Learn Locals identify and develop the best ways to support each other with meeting this task.

For example, the eight Learn Locals are looking at working together to share expertise to streamline business processes, including policies and procedures, as well as their reporting and compliance tasks. This will provide each with best quality practices to free up resources and time to do what they do best – teach and engage with the community.

Allison says the Learn Locals are also exploring how shared professional development opportunities for teachers might be developed to improve student learning and engagement in the west.

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*“It’s about building a sustainable network across the Learn Local sector to create partnerships that are effective and make a real difference in the long term.”*

Allison Fleming, Learn Local Quality Coordinator

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