



Issued: 18 November 2015

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Chair: Mr Andrew Laming MP

Deputy Chair: The Hon Alannah MacTiernan MP

How small business can provide opportunity for all jobseekers

Organisations which help jobseekers in need will give evidence at a public hearing in Parramatta tomorrow as part of an inquiry into small business employment.

Witnesses at the Education and Employment Committee hearing include:

- two social enterprises that assist homeless youth through on the job training in areas such as cafes, a car wash and a bookstore,
- an organisation that prepares women for the workforce and outfits them for interviews,
- the Deaf Society of NSW and local mental health teams,
- organisations assisting Indigenous people to get employment, and,
- groups, including the Lebanese Muslim Association, which represent people from ethnic and migrant backgrounds

Mr Andrew Laming MP, Committee Chair, said that everyone deserves fair and equal opportunity to gain employment and it's important to find out how to make this a reality for all.

"It doesn't matter who you are, what your background is or whether you have a disability, it's important that everyone in our community has the opportunity to gain meaningful employment. Small business is our largest employer and the committee is seeking answers as to how these job seekers can tap into the small business network," he said.

Details of the hearing are as follows:

Date: Thursday 19 November 2015

Time: 10:00 am – 3:20 pm

Venue: The Auditorium, Parramatta RSL Club, Corner Macquarie and O'Connell Streets, Parramatta, NSW

Submissions to this inquiry have now closed. For further information about this inquiry please visit the committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/SmallBusinessEmployment or contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 4573.

Media inquiries: contact Kim Waters on 0415 633 438 or 07 3821 0115

(Office of Andrew Laming MP)

For information on the inquiry: contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 4573, email ee.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the committee website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ee>