



RACHEL NOLAN MP

Member for Ipswich

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EXPERIENCE PAYS – NOLAN

The Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan has welcomed advice that the Queensland Government has introduced the Experience Pays Awareness Strategy (EPAS) as a component of the Queensland Skills Plan.

The three year strategy has been allocated \$2 million annually and has been established to address the labour supply and skills shortage in Queensland.

“In Queensland alone, up to 70% of businesses are experiencing skills shortages and it is predicted that by 2011 Queensland will experience a labour supply shortfall of up to 40,000 workers,” Ms Nolan said.

The plan is aimed at raising employer and community awareness of the ageing workforce, improve attitudes towards older workers and encourage employers to adopt age-friendly workplace practices.

“The ageing population and labour force shortages are a global phenomenon,” Ms Nolan said.

“Despite the fact that employers depend on older workers as a prime source of labour, negative perceptions about the value of older workers continue.

“It is my hope that this campaign will dispel the negative stereotypes and myths that exist in the community and highlight the benefits of recruiting, retraining and retaining mature-age workers.”

For more information about the Experience Pays Awareness Strategy, visit the website www.experiencepays.qld.gov.au or freecall 1800 630 647.