

KYOGLE COUNCIL

Media Release



Date: Monday 6 November 2017

Kyogle Council has been named Northern Rivers Employer of the Year.

The Council took out the Large Employer of the Year Award at Novaskill's annual awards night at Ballina on Friday, 3 November 2017.

The award recognises the Council's significant investment in the future of the area's young people.

In the past 12 months, Kyogle Council has employed five new bridge and road civil construction apprentices and three school-based trainees in the areas of tourism, business administration and planning and environment.

Mayor Cr Danielle Mulholland said Council had made a conscious decision as part of its *Workforce Management Plan 2017-2021* to provide increased training and employment opportunities for young people in the Kyogle Council area.

"Council believes it is important to invest in young local people and give them every opportunity to cement their future here in our Local Government Area," she said.

"Offering employment and training opportunities to the area's young people also benefits Council -- as our workforce ages, we will have trained and highly skilled young employees ready to step up."

Council's General Manager Graham Kennett said the award represented recognition that the strategy Council had adopted was being effectively implemented.

"Our Workforce Management Strategy was developed to address some of the key issues we face such as an aging workforce and skills shortages," he said.

"This investment in skills, and the recognition we obtain through awards such as this, are all part of delivering our strategic goals such as being recognised as a local employer of choice, and retaining and attracting a diverse workforce.

"We have given eight young people a start this past year and our plan is to retain the current levels of apprentices and school based trainees on a rolling basis in the future."

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