



# ShireBiz Bulletin

*The Shire Economic Development Alliance Newsletter*

**4th April 2023**

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## **About ShireBiz**

ShireBiz is a not for profit organisation dedicated to the Economic Development of Southern Sydney to enable sustainable business development which provides employment opportunities for the local community.

Our strategic pillars are:

- Advocacy for business investment, traction and job diversity eg projects such as supporting *the development of the ANSTO Innovation precinct*
- Advocacy for infrastructure investment, policy change and streamlining regulatory environments in the Sutherland Shire

- Engaging the community through regular *newsletter*, and *events*

Shirebiz would like to thank our supporters for your support over the last year

**Shirebiz supporters** are invited to continue to support Shirebiz by becoming members. [Join at](#) If you want to regularly receive this Bulletin Contact the Secretary at [info@shirebiz.org.au](mailto:info@shirebiz.org.au). We would also appreciate feedback on the content.

## Shirebiz Quarterly Wed 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023

The [presentation](#) included: The prohibition of pay secrecy clauses, Limitation on the use of fixed-term employment contracts and Changes to flexible work requests for extended unpaid parental leave and the prohibition of sexual harassment in connection with work.

## Sutherland Shire Business Chamber: Shire Thrive Breakfast 27<sup>th</sup> April Doltone House

We are thrilled to welcome Kate Toon, a renowned speaker, podcaster, and author, to [our event](#). With her down-to-earth approach, Kate has helped over 12,000 businesses demystify digital marketing and grow their overall success through her companies, including the Business Mentoring and Digital Marketing Coaching Membership

## CSIRO Snapshot March 2023

[Articles include](#): Cutting the rubbish; Locking away Carbon; Silent Pandemic - Australia has the potential to be a strong global contributor in the development of technologies to combat antimicrobial resistance; Sustainable Skies and Global Centre for sustainable energy.

## Sovereign Capability and how to get it

Lance Worrall argues that [sovereign capability](#) depends on Australia's reindustrialisation and rediscovering the positive role of government in setting directions for inclusive growth. The phrase 'sovereign capability' re-entered our lexicon during the pandemic. Covid severely disrupted international supply chains, creating public anxiety about the availability of goods essential to Australians' health and security.

## Senate passes \$15 billion NRF bill

Prime minister Anthony Albanese announced that the [National Reconstruction Fund \(NRF\)](#) bill has passed the upper house, calling it “one of biggest-ever investments in Australian manufacturing”. The Federal Government’s \$15 billion National Reconstruction Fund will now be established in law, after [passing](#) the House of Representatives earlier this month. “Australia has all the resources that go into solar panels, batteries and other finished products. We should be making them here. And that’s what this investment is all about. It will mean more secure jobs and more world-class products made in Australia,” Albanese said

## Celebrating Australian sovereign capability: some thoughts on the importance of procurement

Governments have been poor at seeing the [value of procurement](#) and other measures that could make a real difference in delivering innovation, believes Jefferson Harcourt. “We have a public service that is reticent to purchase things out of the Australian system...And that hasn’t changed, sadly,” he tells [@AuManufacturing](#). “There was a lot of talk about sovereign capability. I believe it’s there, but... we want to as a society unlock that power of government purchasing more

## NSW Business Now: NSW Election Update

The people of NSW have elected a Labor government for the first time in 12 years, but [what does this mean](#) for your business? The business community is encouraged by government commitments including payroll tax administration reform (alongside the Federal Government), a pledge to introduce no new taxes on business over the next four years, increasing affordable housing and allowing SMEs to take a greater share of government procurement opportunities.

## Productivity farmer wanted for construction industry

The Productivity Commission has recently released its [5-year Productivity Inquiry](#) report, but Australian Construction Association Chief Executive Officer John Davies says its focus has fallen short of supporting short-term opportunities. The Productivity Commission’s final 5-year report isn’t productive at all, it turns out. As anticipated, the Commission’s final report is long on macro-economic reforms and broad principles such as adoption of new technologies and boosting the skill base of the workforce, but it lacks sufficient focus on specific issues and industries where short-term opportunities are ripe for the picking.

## Four ways to overcome labour shortage

Since the early 2000s, the Australian labour market has been projected to slow due to our ageing population according to the Australian Government's Productivity Commission. This is a far cry from the [current position](#), with Australia experiencing the strongest jobs market in almost five decades, meaning the number of occupations experiencing a shortage of skilled workers is increasing. According to the National Skills Commission, almost one in three (31 per cent) occupations assessed in late 2022 are experiencing a labour shortage. This is up from 19 per cent in 2021. This is up from 19 per cent in 2021

## Doing Business in Asia: Have your say

Asialink Business is committed to supporting Australian businesses and individuals to develop the skills and capabilities required to grow and succeed in Asian markets. To better understand your [key priorities for 2023](#) and how we can adapt our offerings, we kindly request 5 minutes of your time to complete a short, anonymous survey on your experience with 'Doing business in Asia'.

## Woolworths is getting into telehealth – how will it work?

Last week, Australian retail giant Woolworths announced a move into [health-care delivery](#) via the development of its subsidiary HealthyLife's online portal. Through this portal, Australians can book a same-day 15-minute virtual GP appointment for \$45 and have any resulting prescription filled and delivered to their home. They can access other services such as a 30-minute virtual appointment with a dietitian or nutritionist for \$115. They can also access free 15-minute virtual consultations with naturopaths.

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[Join at.](#)



*Regards,*

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