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# ShireBiz Bulletin

*The Shire Economic Development Alliance Newsletter*

**4th July 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.

## **Government seeks public opinion for \$392 million industry fund**

The Federal Government has taken another step towards launching the new Industry Growth Program (IGP) which will help SMEs get their great ideas to market and overcome barriers to scale. [A discussion paper](#) launched today is asking how the program should be designed and operated to get the best outcomes.

## **My Business: Changes coming on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

[There are legal, financial, and other changes](#) your business will have to be across very soon. Not sure what they are or what to do? Don't worry, we have you covered. It's been a big year for changes in areas like people management, pay, and tax. Here's a rundown of some key changes that will come into effect 1 July and what they mean for your business and your employees

## **Australian Retailers Association – The weekly Wrap**

[Stories include](#): 'Tough environment': Retail stocks drop as interest rates rise; Toys are us planning to return to Australia after closing 44 stores in the USA; Sold out in minutes and 'hundreds' are on a waitlist: The return of the luxury tracksuit; [The circular economy forcing change to traditional sales model](#); [The four-day workweek verdict is in](#) and [NSW toughens penalties for those who abuse retail staff](#)

## **Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance appoints new executive manager**

The Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance, the Jobs and Skills Council for the manufacturing industry, has appointed [Rosalie Staggard](#) as executive manager for workforce planning and training products. Staggard will be responsible for identifying key workforce challenges and gaps in evidence and existing workforce strategies. She will lead research, analysis, workforce planning and training product development.

## **Boral engaged for recycled rubber asphalt demonstration project**

Boral Limited (Boral) has been engaged on what's said to be the [largest crumbed rubber asphalt demonstration project](#) in Australia. As part of the the *Reusing Rubber: Recycling Tyres for Roads* demonstration project by Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC), Boral will provide 2,000 tonnes of crumbed rubber asphalt in addition to 1,200 tonnes of controlled asphalt mix to be paved across eight local Sydney council streets.

## **National Precast calls for quality assurance transparency**

The National Precast Concrete Association Australia is calling on construction stakeholders [to improve efficiency](#) and reduce waste by seeking smarter ways to build. While the construction industry in Australia is a major contributor to the

economy, it faces an intractable labour productivity challenge. Further, the industry is a major contributor to waste across Australia, and National Precast Concrete Association Australia's (National Precast) Chief Executive Officer Sarah Bachmann says things need to change.

## **NSW Government: Drive Electric NSW**

Sales surge, charging infrastructure progress, and policy achievements: the 2022/23 financial year has been massive for electric vehicles in Australia. The Electric Vehicle Council reports: 18,857 EVs were sold during the first quarter of 2023; 142% increase from 7805 EVs sold during the same period in 2022; there are now more than 100,000 EVs on Australian roads. It's clear EV uptake isn't slowing down anytime soon. To be exact, May saw an increase in EV sales from last year, reaching 7.7% of new cars sold.

## **World-leading graphene enhanced cement trials commence**

Australian manufacturer First Graphene will lead a consortium that commences graphene-enhanced cement and concrete trials, aimed at validating industrial-scale manufacturing. The trials will use the company's PureGRAPH product at Breedon Group's Hope Cement Works in the United Kingdom.

## **Gaining autonomy for Illawarra wheelchair-bound worker**

Illawarra companies Evermil and Leussink have come together to ensure wheelchair-bound boilermaker Clay Kelly can work more efficiently and autonomously by utilising a 3D welding table. Steel fabrication business Evermil employs Clay Kelly as a skilled boilermaker to undertake a variety of work. Kelly lives with a physical disability and is a wheelchair user following an accident riding bulls 23 years ago, causing an injury to his spine.

## **The Retail Voice – June 29 2023**

Articles include: Changes impacting business from July 1 2023; Monthly CPI Indicator May 2023; Plastic Free July; ACT Plastics ban comes into effect from July 1<sup>st</sup>; and How to keep your small business free from cyber attacks.

## Rising cyber breaches demand urgent board leadership

With 76,000 cyber crimes last year, roughly one incident every 7 minutes, Australian boards are struggling to address [the social impacts of organisational security breaches](#) in the face of complex inbound critical infrastructure legislation and emerging connected devices.

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*Regards,*

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