

Trainings for the future?

By Claire Campbell

THE Murraylands could lose jobs and training providers if government changes announced to the training sector go ahead as planned.

From July 1, TafeSA will provide the majority of accredited training courses in South Australia as Government-funding subsidies will be cut to private providers.

It had previously been split evenly between private registered training organisations and TafeSA.

But with staff cuts and courses cancelled at the Murray Bridge TafeSA in recent years, real concerns have been raised about its ability to deliver quality training to the region.

Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick said building up the Murray Bridge TafeSA to a suitable standard would be costly and an inefficient use of taxpayers' money. "They've been downsizing TAFE for years, certainly in Murray Bridge they've cut staff and cut the courses," he said.

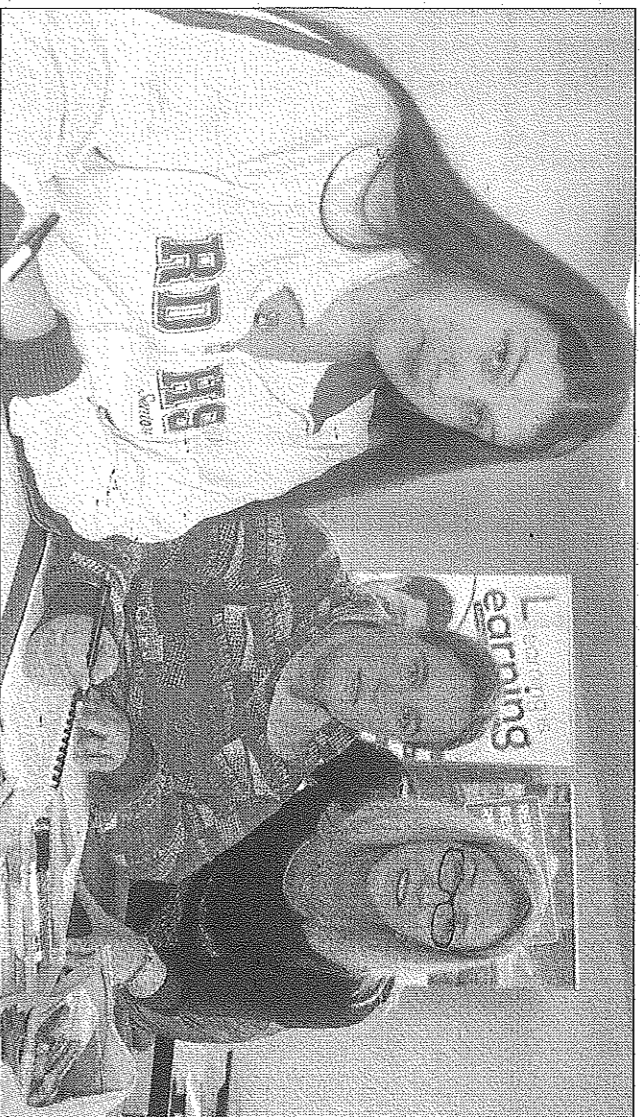
"My belief is hundreds of thousands of dollars will need to be invested in Murray Bridge alone - not just in hardware and infrastructure, it's about finding the suitable staff to do the job.

"If you don't have competition it become basically TAFE running the courses, then they can just set their fees.

"It will be no good for students and no good for the community and it will come at a cost."

Mr Pederick said there would be job losses locally as a result, with up to 1000 jobs cut statewide.

Christine Willersdorf started Elicit Success in Murray Bridge four years ago, but has recently had to cancel all accredited training courses and just run



A little help: Murray Bridge women Kellie Harrison and Latoya Vogt receive non-accredited "skills to pay the bills" training through Elicit Success director Christine Willersdorf, but fear this sort of training could be phased out in the region.

non-accredited training. "One of the things I saw was our region didn't have a lot of training opportunities, even though we had a TAFE, and I wanted to bring that here," she said.

"Yes (this proposal) is going to affect my business a little bit but it's more going to affect the region and the people who will have a lack of choice.

"I already felt that this was coming so I've already started to diversify into Adelaide and interstate and if all those areas start to go really well, then I'll probably not even be in the region.

"If we can keep young people here and they can still upskill ... then we create sustainability in our community."

More than 80 per cent of her Age and Home and Community Care students have gone onto local employment, including Tailem Bend resident Jeni Langton who said without it she would not have secured work at Lervin Nursing Home.

"But we need to be more innovative and flexible in the way we deliver our services to students and we must improve access to quality training."

"The only TAFE I could have studied at was in Mount Barker but obviously with the travel that was a hurdle," she said.

"By staying local it cost me less and because it's their business, it's their income and they have to earn a quid so they're prepared to put more into it.

"I really think it will hamstring a lot of people who will be left without a means of study to get into work."

TafeSA chief executive officer Robin Murt said the organisation would improve access and expand the delivery of training programs in Murray Bridge under a new strategy.

"TafeSA is a high quality provider, offering training that is highly regarded locally, domestically and internationally."

"But we need to be more innovative and flexible in the way we deliver our services to students and we must improve access to quality training."

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DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KAROONDA EAST MURRAY

Proposed

Draft Annual Business Plan for the 2015/2016 Financial Year

The above Proposed Draft Annual Business Plan addresses the activities Council plans to undertake in the 2015/2016 financial year.

A full copy of the Plan is available from the office at 11 Railway Terrace, Karoonda or can be viewed on the council website www.dckem.sa.gov.au. For any further information contact Ben Rasigatale, Manager Corporate Services on 85781004.

Council seeks feedback, suggestions or views on the above Draft Plan. Written submissions are invited and will be received up to 5.00 p.m. on Monday 6th July, 2015 to be addressed to the undersigned at the District Council of Karoonda East Murray, PO Box 58, Karoonda S.A. 5307.

Council has set aside one hour commencing at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 14th July, 2015 for any Resident or Ratepayer who wishes to personally address Council on the above Plan. Appointments can be made by contacting the undersigned by no later than 5.00 p.m. on Friday 3rd July, 2015.

P SMITHSON
Chief Executive Officer
VR2162977

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Thursday 18th	0517 1043 1711 2356	1.89 0.75 2.74 0.46
Friday 19th	0542 1113 1741	1.96 0.70 2.75
Saturday 20th	0021 0612 1146 1811	0.46 2.02 0.69 2.70
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