



**Office of the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island  
and  
Kangaroo Island Industry and Brand Alliance**

**Kangaroo Island Businesses – Let’s Get Ready for Major Infrastructure Developments**

Following a project initiated by the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island, Wendy Campana, the over \$171m of projects creating over 300 employment opportunities have been subject to discussions with all proposed developers, including the local Council and the State Government.

“The project was designed to ascertain the needs of the developers and what opportunities were available for local contractors, tradespeople and those looking for employment on the Island. It also identified that for some of the projects the announcement of the upgrade to the airport underpinned the success of the projects going forward.

“A key factor was also to identify where State Government employment generation and business support services funding could be utilised by local businesses and developers along with opportunities through Federal Government programs.

“We were also able to undertake some early assessment of the direct and indirect benefits that the projects would bring to the Island. There are ‘knock on opportunities’ including more tourism, population growth, meeting short and long term housing needs, increased demand for local wine and produce, and a range of other opportunities for current businesses on the Island to assess their readiness for growth”, said Wendy Campana.

“All the project proponents participated in the project and all demonstrated a willingness to use local tradespeople, builders and employ local people and use local produce, which is a great outcome for Islanders. This shows a commitment that we were hoping for and we look forward to continuing to work with the developers as the various stages of their projects come on line. But the businesses will need to demonstrate that they can do the work to the standards required, demonstrated through traditional tendering processes.

“An information session hosted by the Commissioner and the Kangaroo Island Industry and Brand Alliance (KIIBA) on 20 January will overview the opportunities resulting from the project and provide guidance on the next steps for gaining support and advice. KIIBA, following a selective tender process were awarded the provision of the business advisory services.

“The January information session will have a focus on the airport upgrade and will provide information on the services available to help Island contractors within the construction Industry and associated trades. This will be the first of future sessions planned as other developments progress. This important initiative by the Commissioner will also enable access to State and Federally funded programs to assist our businesses to be tender ready. This project is consistent with KIIBA’s strategic plan that has recently been adopted by our industry based Board” said Jayne Bates, Interim Chairperson of KIIBA.

“I am delighted that KIIBA has been awarded this role and has been able to keep this project on Kangaroo Island. Our key consultants are Sue Arlidge and Claire Ellis who are well known to Island businesses, have intimate knowledge and understanding of the Island and are highly skilled in providing these types of services”, said Jayne.

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