



David Elliott
Minister for Counter Terrorism
Minister for Corrections
Minister for Veterans Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 21 August 2018

NSW SMASHES VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT TARGET

The NSW Liberals & Nationals have smashed a 2015 election target to employ 200 veterans over four years, with a new report revealing more than 650 veterans have found meaningful employment within the NSW public service.

Minister for Veterans Affairs David Elliott today joined Liberal candidate for Wagga Wagga Julia Ham to announce 654 veterans have started new careers with the support of the Veterans Employment Program, exceeding the target by 227 per cent.

"The Veterans Employment Program is making great strides helping veterans to demonstrate their unique skillset beyond the military, as they transition back to civilian life," Mr Elliott said.

"I am very proud that 654 veterans have chosen to continue their service within the NSW public service, and have found new roles that reflect the skills they developed while serving their country."

The report reveals 71 per cent of all veterans employed by the NSW Government are in the Justice and Transport sectors, but ex-servicemen and women have also started new careers in Health, Education, Finance, Planning and Environment, Family and Community Services and the Treasury.

Ms Ham said the Wagga Wagga region had embraced the ex-service community and she looked forward to seeing veterans bring their invaluable experience to the region. "As the home of a RAAF Base and the Army Recruit Training Centre at Kapooka, Wagga Wagga has a proud military history and has welcomed the service and contribution of contemporary veterans," Ms Ham said.

The initiative has also established a network of Veterans' Employment 'Champions' who promote hiring veterans in the workplace.

Wagga Wagga veterans' 'Champion' James McTavish said veterans add value to organisations because of their skills. "As a veteran myself, I know the utility our skills, knowledge and attitude, and how the NSW Public Service has benefited through employing former ADF personnel," said Mr McTavish.

For more information about the Veterans Employment Program, please click [here](#).

MEDIA: Shae McLaughlin | 0439 824 831