

MEDIA RELEASE

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JOBS PROGRAM REAPS REWARDS FOR NSW VETERANS

A program helping veterans secure jobs in the NSW public sector has exceeded its employment target, and is 12 months ahead of schedule.

Minister for Veterans David Elliott said over 1,200 veterans have transitioned into civilian roles since 2018, thanks to the success of the Veterans Employment Program.

"When this terrific program was extended in 2018, a target was set to help 1,000 veterans secure public sector jobs in NSW by 2023," Mr Elliott said.

"I'm delighted that we continue to exceed the original employment target and provide job opportunities for ex-service men and women that are looking for a new career path.

"This program is instrumental in helping our veterans enjoy a smoother transition from military service to civilian life, and means we retain the skills, knowledge and experience of our outstanding former service personnel."

Developed by the NSW Office for Veterans Affairs, the program assists managers and veterans in understanding how defence force skills and experience align with roles within the NSW Government.

Former Army Captain Angie Holst, who served in the army from 2007 to 2016, said it can be difficult for transitioning members to articulate their Defence skills and experiences into language that the public sector understands.

"The Veteran's Employment Program conducts workshops that provide information about applying for government roles, and advice on tailoring a resume to make it applicable to government positions. This is a valuable part of the Program that assists veterans," Ms Holst said.

Leading Aircraftman Todd Robinson, who served for 15 years in the Royal Australian Air Force, has also benefitted from the program.

"Without the VEP program, I would not have the toolkit to apply for NSW Government roles. I had more confidence with the skills and capabilities that I had gained and the program set me up for success in my applications for roles within Justice."

The program began in 2016 and recently won a Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Award. For more on the program visit <u>Veterans Employment Program</u>.

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