

**RICHARD MARLES MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

**TERRI BUTLER MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS AND YOUTH
AFFAIRS
SHADOW MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, WORKFORCE
PARTICIPATION AND FUTURE OF WORK
MEMBER FOR GRIFFITH**

LABOR'S PLAN TO INVEST IN 'GROW' TO TACKLE UNEMPLOYMENT

A Shorten Labor Government will deliver \$2 million to the G21 Region Opportunities for Work (GROW) project to build on their work tackling joblessness.

GROW is a unique regional initiative in the G21 region that works with business, government, community organisations and individuals to address disadvantage in areas of high unemployment, including Colac, Norlane, Corio and Whittington.

This election will be a choice between a Shorten Labor Government with a plan for jobseekers and families doing it tough, or more of the Liberals' cuts and chaos.

This \$2 million Labor commitment will assist GROW continue its work and support their rollout of a 10-year plan.

This funding will let them build on their results from the last two years, which has seen GROW signatories contribute \$44.09 million into the region and created 154 new jobs and pathways for our target communities.

Richard Marles welcomed the announcement, saying that one of the consistent features of disadvantage in the G21 region is joblessness.

“Unemployment is shockingly high in some parts of Geelong and we need to be supporting job creation for our most disadvantaged. This is a \$2 million investment not only in GROW but an investment for our region’s future.”

“GROW has set itself ambitious targets to create job opportunities specifically benefiting the most disadvantaged in our community. They have created real pathways that directly link disadvantaged jobseekers to quality jobs and targeted job growth directly in the region that are most disadvantaged. Labor is committed to investing in the people with the greatest need.”

Labor will invest in GROW because we invest in our communities.

Under the Liberals and Nationals, unemployment in Corio and Norlane has risen. They have no plan to tackle the issue of joblessness, adequacy of Newstart or believe in educational training facilities such as TAFE.

Labor is choosing investment in pathways for employment and tackling unemployment, while the Liberals choose bigger tax handouts for the top end of town.

After six years of the Liberals’ cuts and chaos, our united Labor team is ready to deliver a fair go for all Australians, not just the top end of town

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Authorised by Noah Carroll, ALP, Canberra.