

### IDENTIFIED NEW INITIATIVES AND POTENTIAL EXPANSIONS TO EXISTING PROGRAMS:

1. An expansion to the current Business / Economic Support Fund that would allow for the continued rollout of Wi-Fi throughout Darebin and various Economic Development projects that would assist in the delivery of the Digital Strategy and the Business Development and Employment Strategy.
2. A Darebin Employment Forum that would provide the opportunity for businesses, industry, government (all levels), job seekers, job service providers, education providers and the community to come together to share the various issues and challenges regarding employment in Darebin.
3. The development of a Youth Employment Taskforce and the Youth Employment Strategy being proposed by Inner Northern Local Learning Employment Network (INLLEN).
4. The introduction of a Business Facilitator to expedite minor business planning permits to reduce time and streamline the planning process for businesses.
5. A Northland Economic Business Case and Employment Study which will lay foundation for future investment attraction and employment creation in the Northland Precinct. The research will include how we can shift from the existing situation of several declining industry sectors to become a leading edge knowledge precinct destination.
6. An expanded business Group Training Program whereby a portion of the funding is sought from the State Government to host a program for Darebin businesses that would develop new opportunities for growth.
7. The development of an Attraction Strategy for Social Enterprises where the benefits would include increasing the number of businesses in Darebin and increasing local employment, particularly from disadvantaged groups.
8. The establishment of Business Grants Program to Darebin businesses to assist in creating new employment in the Municipality and attract dynamic and innovative industries.
9. The rollout of Council's Pathways to Employment Casual Pool program to Darebin businesses. The Business Development Unit with the assistance of the People and Development Unit would investigate whether this model is sustainable outside of the Council environment and if successful it would be rolled out to industry.
10. Additional incubators and co-location spaces. This would support the growth and development of the many home based and micro businesses operating in Darebin.
11. Advocating for a new selective entry school or a campus of an existing selective entry school to be based in Darebin. This would contribute to the creation of employment in the education sector and has the potential to keep the best and brightest young people in Darebin and contributing to the local economy.
12. The provision of required financial and non-financial resources.