



QUEENSLAND FARMERS' FEDERATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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Workforce Planning Tools to Assist Farming Enterprises Plan for the Future

The Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) has partnered with Jobs Queensland to help small to medium enterprises plan for the future and grow their capability in workforce planning to position their business to succeed in a changing environment.

Launched today, Workforce Planning Connect is a set of tools and resources that will support the agriculture sector build business capability and capacity in workforce planning in Queensland.

Queensland Farmers' Federation CEO, Ms Jo Sheppard, said workforce planning and development is an important part of any farming enterprise's future sustainability and a key component of any business plan.

"The agricultural sector continues to grapple with the challenge of attracting and retaining staff. The global pandemic has added to an already challenging workforce development environment and the current housing shortage is making the situation even more difficult."

"These resources will provide farmers with a practical resource to support their ability to plan ahead and develop ways to build a sustainable workforce for their enterprise and also the agricultural sector more broadly."

"The agricultural sector is a key foundation of the Queensland economy, the

Australian economy and critical to the future success of our regions. In Queensland the agricultural sector is worth well over \$23B and growing.”

“A strong workforce plan and the capacity to attract and retain skilled staff is critical for any farming enterprise positioning their business for growth and a sustainable future.” said Ms Sheppard.

The Workforce Planning Connect tools have been developed in partnership by QFF and Jobs Queensland specifically for small to medium size farming enterprises and are being launched as part of Small Business Month 2022.

The tools are free and aim to help business cover topics such as understanding the benefits and advantages of workforce planning; building knowledge and understanding of workforce planning and, tools to grow their capability and skills in workforce planning. The free suite of tools can be found at www.qff.org.au/resources/

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About QFF

- The Queensland Farmers’ Federation (QFF) is the united voice of intensive, semi-intensive and irrigated agriculture in Queensland. It is a federation that represents the interests of peak state and national agriculture industry organisations.
- QFF represents 21 peak bodies including Canegrowers, Cotton Australia and Growcom to name a few.
- We represent 13,000 Queensland farms who through their hard work contribute some \$21.4 billion to the Australian economy.
- For more info go to www.qff.org.au

