

Recovery Assistance for Businesses

- **FREE** Business Consulting Service (Bettering Balonne) – **ALL** businesses, agribusinesses and contractors, a dedicated confidential service for shire businesses to discuss options, direction and issues including employment, diversifying (online) to mid-May (1 month).
- **FREE** Business Health and Well-being Service (Bettering Balonne) – **ALL** business owners' health and well-being program – confidential one-on-one webinar series dedicated counselling service to 30 June (2 months).
- **FREE** Short-term mentoring for businesses for **ALL** businesses, agribusinesses, contractors to access up to 5 hours of professional advice and assistance up to 30 June
- **FREE** Business Mentoring Round 1 for 32 shire businesses participating, including agriculture, where each business has a dedicated mentor to assist businesses with tailor-made options, opportunities, counselling and direction.
- **FREE** Business Mentoring Round 2 fast-tracking Round 2 expression of intake of businesses (up to 35) to open in mid-late July 2020 moved up from October.
- **FREE** Assistance from the Economic Development Officer to help businesses with Council, Commonwealth and State economic stimulus packages and programs.
- **FREE** ecoBiz program Round 2 to help up to 20 businesses improve energy efficiency reducing energy costs, intake June 2020
- **www.stgeorgeqld.com** – Dedicated page on website for local businesses to post job vacancies



Existing projects adding economic value to Balonne Shire

- **\$14.5 million for Wild Dog Exclusion Fencing** allowing improved production and stock diversification to boost GRP and jobs
- **\$5.1 million** in infrastructure project from now until 30 June 2021
- **\$2 million** in digital connectivity infrastructure grants to assist businesses and the shire until 30 June 2021 (with matching co-contribution from telco partner)
- **\$1.3 million** in grant funding for community and environmental projects until 30 June 2021
- **\$499,000** in business mentoring assistance including \$100,000 in product and services expenditure to diversify/improve operational efficiency (Mentoring Rounds 1 & 2)
- **\$492,000** Dirranbandi Beautification Scheme to improve the façade of shopfronts and energy efficiency. Projects to commence in May 2020
- **Buy Balonne Gift Card** (St George Chamber of Commerce) encourages our local community to support Balonne Shire businesses - Live Local, Buy Local. More than \$25,000 in gift cards purchased with about \$15,000 to be redeemed



Balonne Shire Council would like to publicly acknowledge and thank all those State and Federal Government departments and agencies who have provided support and/or funding to assist in helping bring these projects to fruition.