



CANBERRA
BUSINESS COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

2 May 2011

SMART MOVE TO LOCATE PUBLIC SERVICE JOBS IN GUNGAHLIN

Canberra Business Council (CBC) welcomes the ACT Government's announcement it will relocate 500 public servants to a new office block in Gungahlin.

"Canberra is designed to have multiple town centres that provide amenities to people living in each of these areas," Canberra Business Council CEO, Chris Faulks said.

"The population in the Gungahlin region is growing at a rapid rate but we need to have offices and staff located in this centre to ensure it is attractive and viable for businesses to be based there.

"Today's announcement by Chief Minister Jon Stanhope shows the government is committed to supporting development of a vibrant and sustainable Gungahlin Town Centre.

"Locating jobs in Gungahlin has the potential to reduce commuting time for people living in the area and relieve some of our traffic congestion."

Canberra Business Council urges the Government to consult with ACT businesses as it determines the best site for the new office and which departments and agencies should be housed there.

The ACT Government also announced yesterday it expects to make 200 redundancies in the ACT public service.

"Treasurer Katy Gallagher said that while 200 jobs will be cut, another 300 will be created," Ms Faulks said.

"CBC supports efficiency gains being made in the public service, but is glad to see that public sector employment growth in the wake of the coming Budget will be positive.

"The ACT and Federal public services are the major employers in Canberra. Any significant cuts in employment affect not only those people who lose their jobs but also local businesses and our economy as a whole.

"It is good to hear the Treasurer give an assurance that any redundancies will be voluntary," Ms Faulks concluded.

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