



Global Access Partners presents

Productive Ageing: Leveraging the Value of an Age-Diverse Workforce for SMEs

Strategic Roundtable • Thursday, 6 June 2019 • NSW Family & Community Services

On 6 June, institute for active policy **Global Access Partners (GAP)**, in association with the NSW Department of Family and Community Services and the GAP Standing Committee on Productive Ageing, are convening **a strategic roundtable for small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs)** to explore practical barriers and enablers for mature-age workforce participation and promote existing resources available to Australian businesses and individuals to support employment of people 50 years of age and over.

Evidence shows that hiring and retaining mature-age workers can cut employer costs due to lower rates of absenteeism, make business more productive, fill existing skill or knowledge gaps, and contribute to innovation and improvements in business processes. A company which welcomes mature-aged workers is seen as a more attractive employer to a growing proportion of the Australian workforce.¹

The GAP Roundtable on Productive Ageing will bring together a select group of senior representatives from government and the SME sector for a three-hour working session facilitated under the Chatham House rule of non-attribution. The objective is to gain insight from business practitioners on common factors which facilitate or hinder mature-age employment, explore best-practice approaches, pull together ideas to tackle challenges, and initiate projects to take forward.

Topics for discussion will include:

- Breaking down barriers to mature-age employment
- Increasing awareness of government subsidies and support measures for SMEs to hire and retain workers 50 years of age and over
- Supporting businesses with mature-age recruitment and skill shortages
- Identifying opportunities to roll out pilot programmes with SMEs
- Establishing a network of 'early adopters' to work on appropriate implementation strategies

Each participant will be encouraged to contribute their experience and ideas to deepen collective understanding of the issues at hand, help frame an effective solution and contribute to its implementation.

¹ <https://www.business.gov.au/people/hiring/equal-opportunity-and-diversity/mature-aged-people>

VENUE

**NSW Family & Community Services
Level 4, 4-6 Cavill Avenue
Ashfield NSW**

PROGRAMME

12:00pm Registration & Light Lunch

12:30pm Welcome & Introduction

12:35pm **SESSION ONE — WHAT & WHY
'Support Measures and Encouraging Uptake'**

- Presentations
- Group Discussion

2:00pm Afternoon Tea

2:15pm **SESSION TWO — HOW & WHO
'Solutions and Next Steps'**

- Presentations
- Group Discussion

3:30pm Close

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