

Kevin Rudd and Labor

A New Way



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Jobs and Training Australia

Under Labor, new Local Jobs and Training Boards will be established under a reformed employment services system that will form better links with the training system, to be re-cast as Jobs and Training Australia.

Local Jobs and Training Boards will:

- Make sure employment service providers respond to the needs of local employers.
- Develop lists of local skills in demand - employment service providers will only be permitted to refer job seekers for training on that list, making sure it's training that will lead to a local job.
- Build better links between local job needs and local training delivery.
- Better link employment and training services with health and social services, so that all job seekers get the support they need to return to work.

Jobs and Training Boards will be rolled out nationally in 42 'natural labour markets' from 1 July 2015. Maps showing the proposed natural labour markets are attached.

Ahead of the full national roll-out, a re-elected Rudd Labor Government will establish local Jobs and Training Boards from 1 January 2014 in the existing 21 Priority Employment Areas.

This policy is part of Federal Labor's Jobs, Training and Apprenticeship Guarantee.

Local Jobs and Training Boards

Local Jobs and Training Boards are part of Labor's plan to put local employers and job seekers at the heart of our employment services and training system.

- Each Jobs and Training Board will develop a Jobs and Training Plan that identifies the region's challenges and opportunities, and sets out clear strategies to develop skills and create local jobs.
- Jobs and Training Boards will provide a single front door for business, because there should not be any barriers to creating new jobs.
- Jobs and Training Boards will have access to flexible funding to develop partnerships and projects that meet local needs. e.g. social enterprises and work experience schemes for unemployed young Australians.
- Jobs and Training Boards will develop local skills needs lists. Local employment service providers will only be able to refer jobseekers to training that is on the list – ending training for training's sake.

The training system already has strong industry leadership through Industry Skills Councils, yet employers still report that students are undertaking courses that won't lead to a local job.

Labor will move to integrate the local expertise to be provided by local Jobs and Training Boards into the training system and will work closely with industry, unions, State, Territory and local governments and training providers to realise this vision.

As the first concrete steps:

- The first 21 Jobs and Training Boards will have priority access to funding under the new Step into Skills, Supporting Manufacturing and Community Services Assistance initiatives.
- Jobs and Training Boards set up under the first stage of the new arrangements will be afforded priority access to the Skills Connect Fund, established in the 2013-14 Budget.
- Labor will work with the States and Territories to prioritise delivery of the entitlement to areas with well identified local skills shortages highlighted by the first local Boards.
- Labor will ask the Australian Workforce Productivity Agency to take account of the advice of Jobs and Training Boards when setting the priorities of training places funded under the National Workforce Development Fund.
- For jobseekers, we will require employment service providers to place jobseekers into training that directly links to the lists of skills and priorities identified by Jobs and Training Boards in order to receive pathway funding.

Labor will consult with the community, employers, State, Territory and local governments, unions, training and service providers and other stakeholders on the final size, boundaries and number of Jobs and Training Board regions, and on the best implementation arrangements to improve services and cut red tape for providers.

The first stage of Jobs and Training Australia – 21 Local Jobs and Training Boards in Priority Employment Areas.

Local Jobs and Training Boards will build upon the successful local employment co-ordinator model introduced by Labor from 2009.

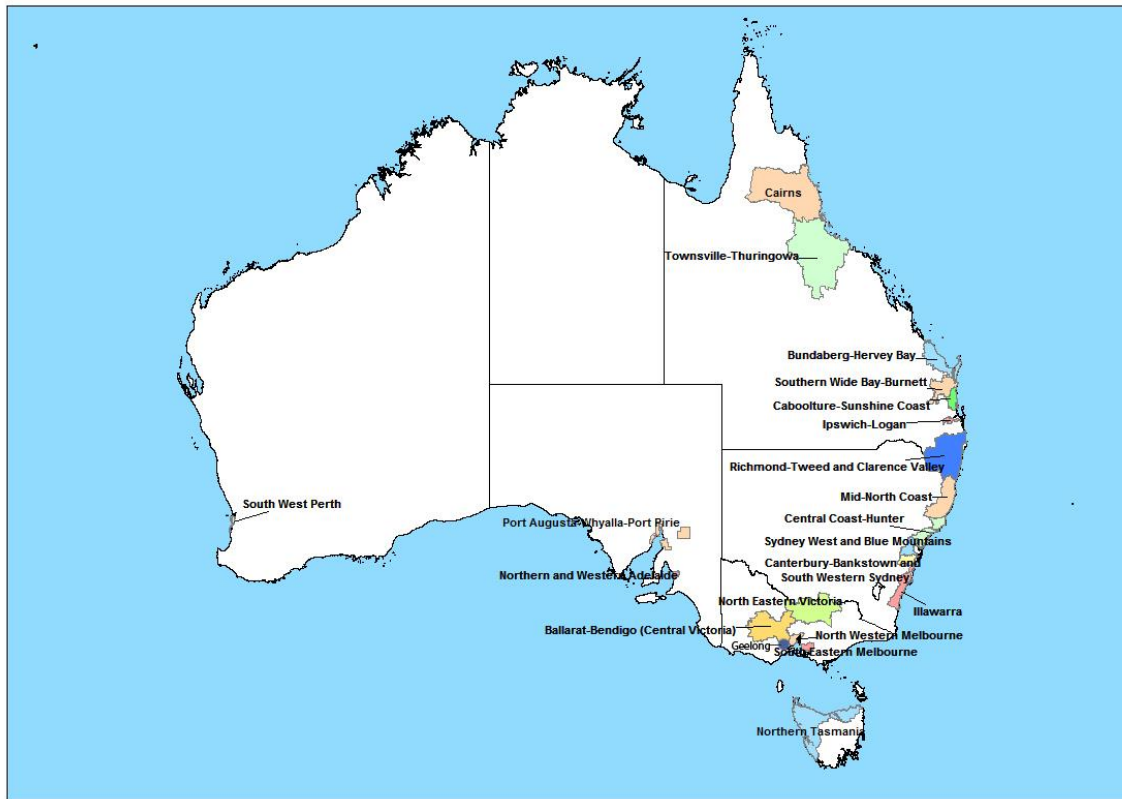


Figure 1: The 21 Priority Employment Areas that will form the first stage of the new system's roll-out from 2014.

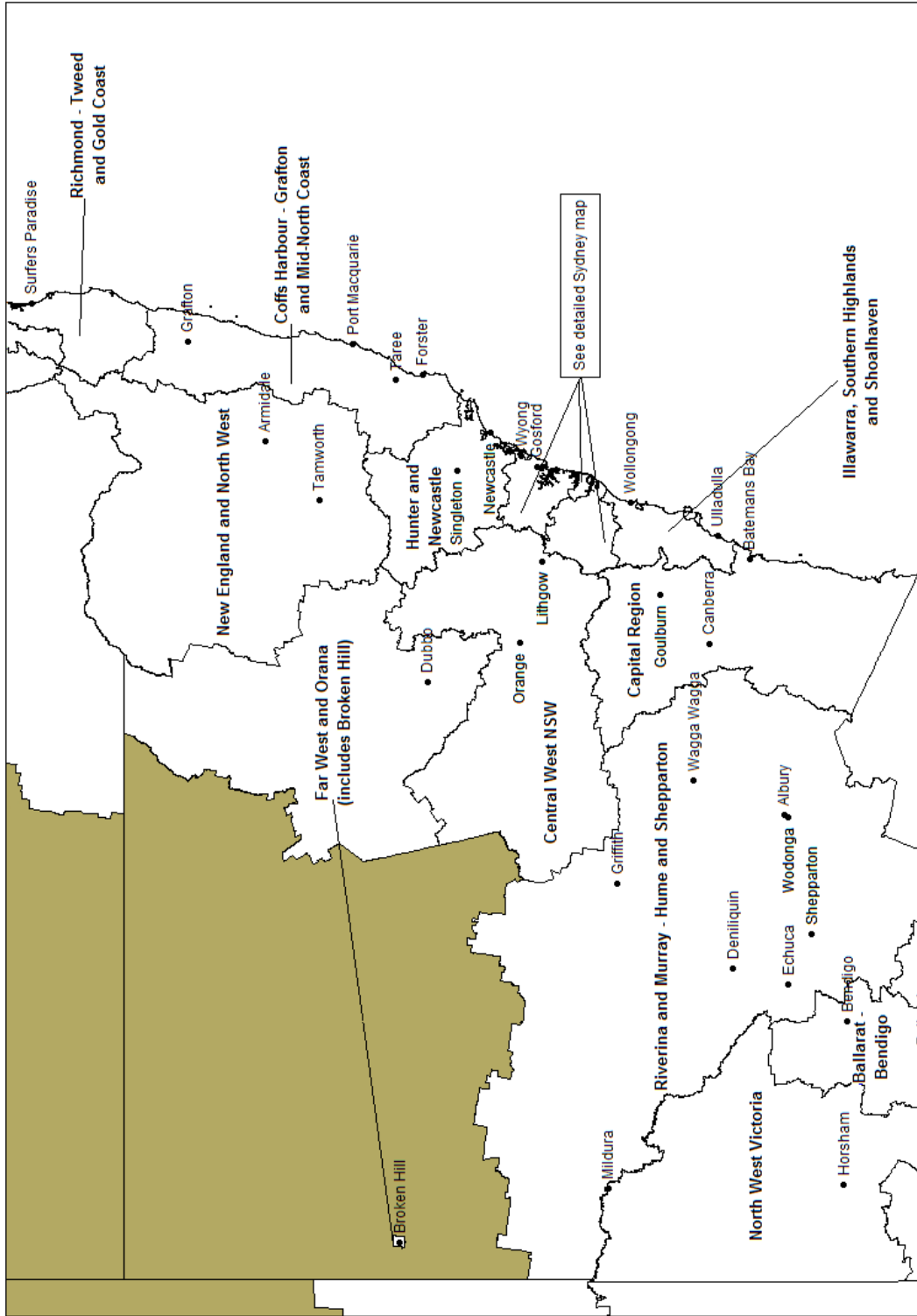
Cost

The majority of the \$34.4 million cost of the first stage of the local Jobs and Training Boards has been provisioned for within the economic competitiveness fund that was funded in the Economic Statement (\$29.6 million), and some offsets (\$4.8 million) from uncommitted funds within the FaHCSIA portfolio.

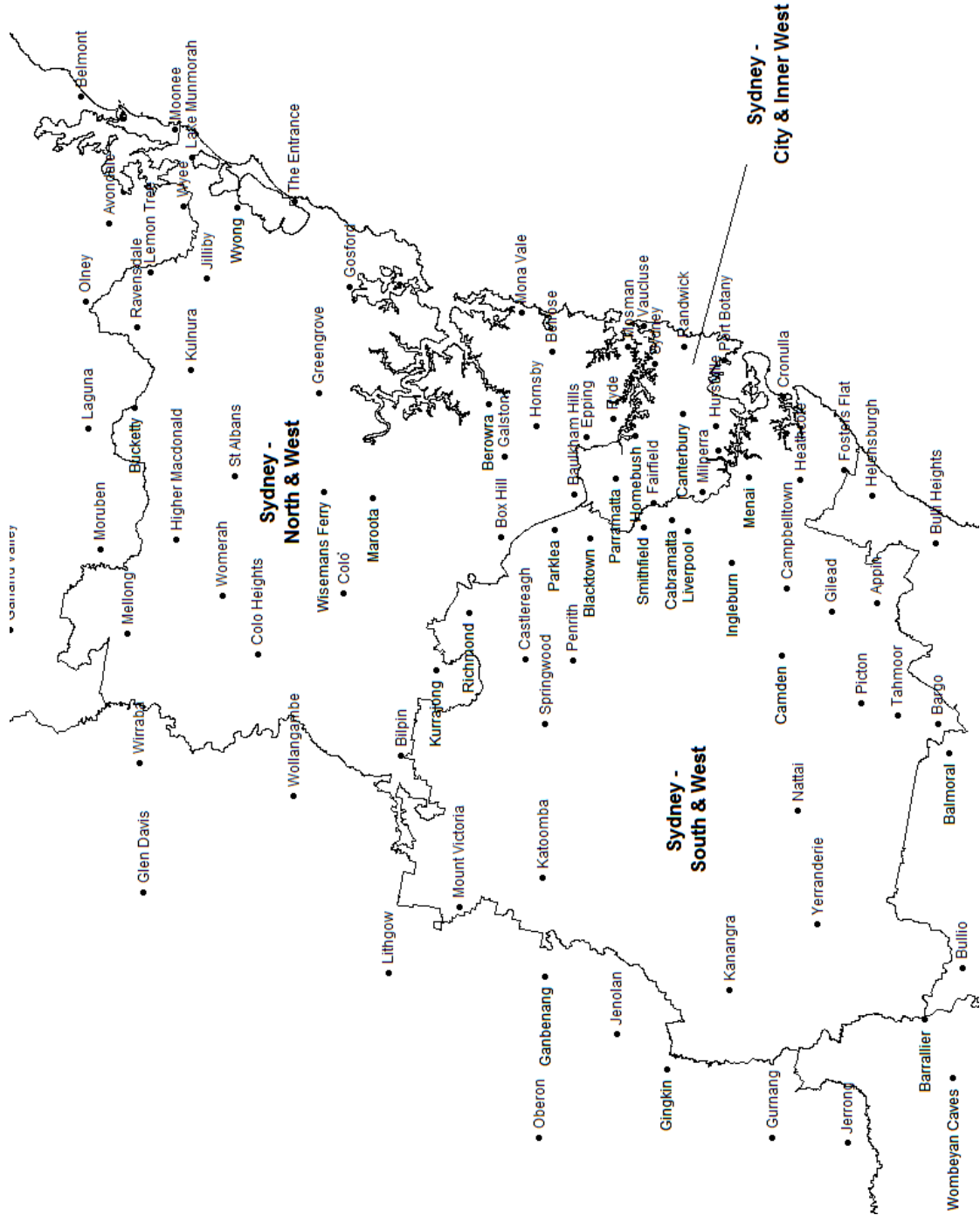
The full reforms will be delivered in a cost neutral way within the existing \$8.5 billion employment services Budget, to be finalised as part of the 2015-16 budget process.

Maps of the proposed natural labour market regions are attached – these will be the subject of extensive consultation before being finalised.

Proposed Jobs and Training Board regions - NSW



Proposed Jobs and Training Board regions - Sydney



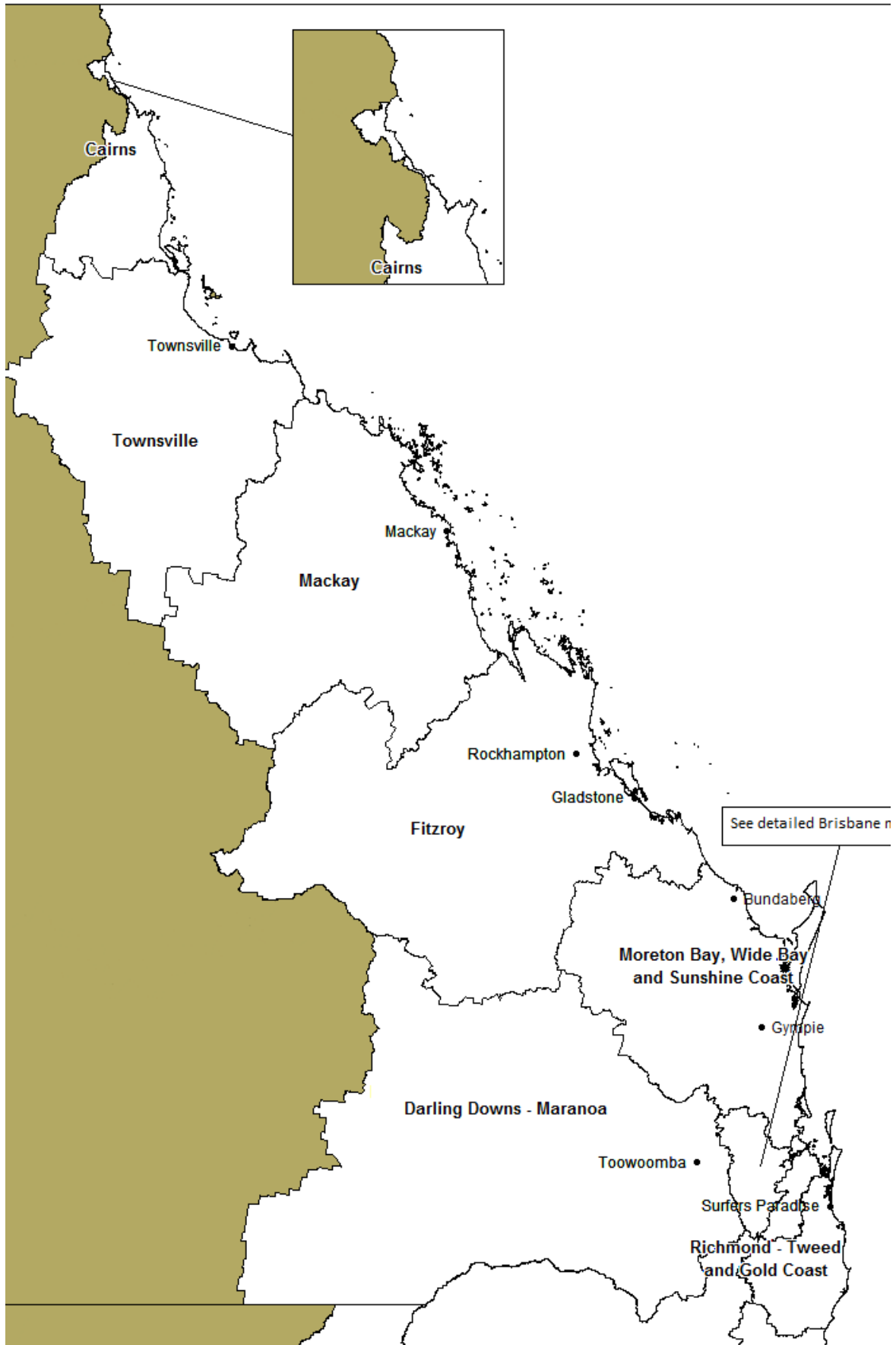
Proposed Jobs and Training Board regions – Victoria and Tasmania



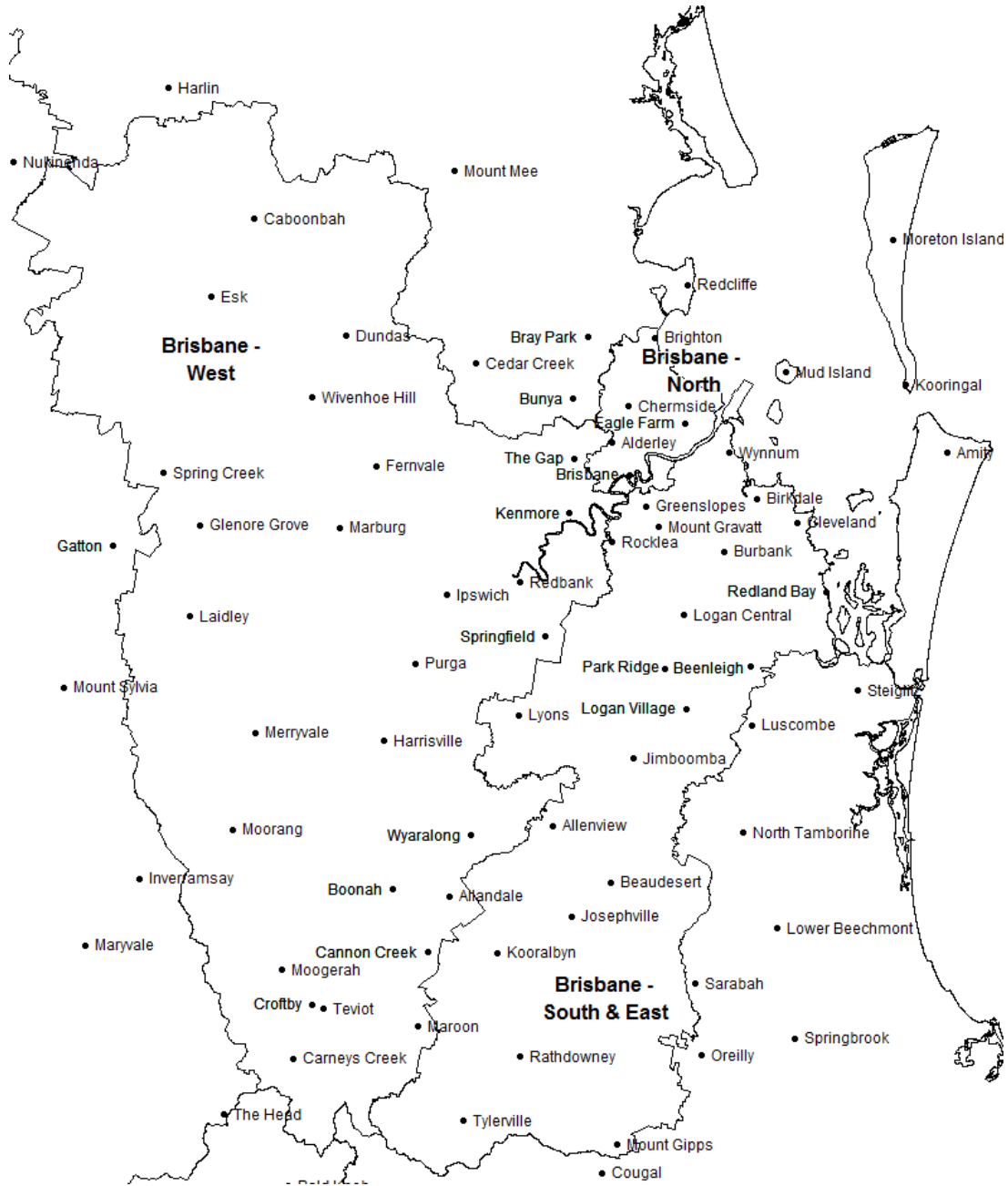
Proposed Jobs and Training Board regions – Melbourne



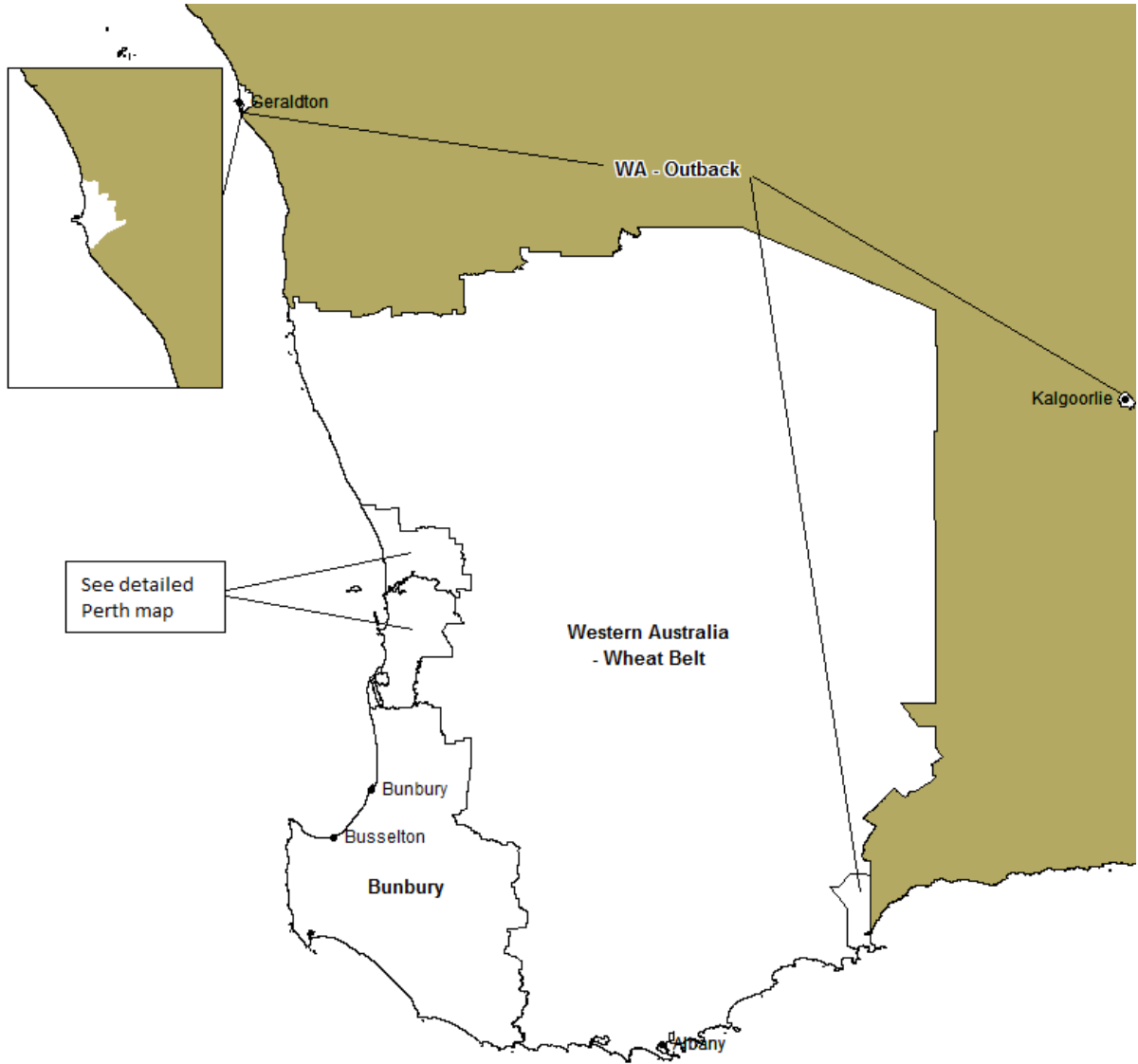
Proposed Jobs and Training Board regions – QLD



Proposed Jobs and Training Board regions – Brisbane



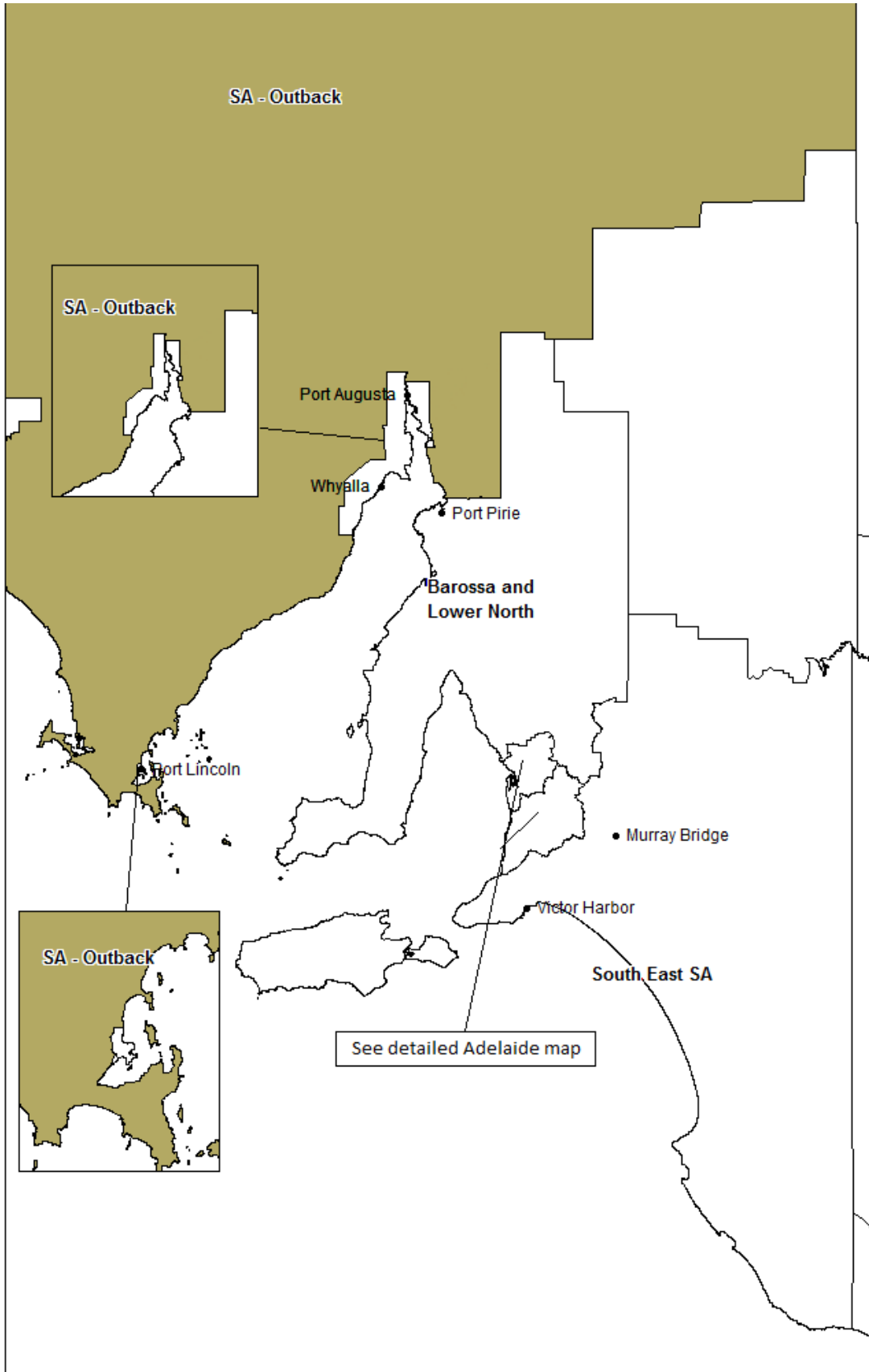
Proposed Jobs and Training Board Regions – WA



Proposed Jobs and Training Board Regions – Perth



Proposed Jobs and Training Board Regions – SA



Proposed Jobs and Training Board Regions – Adelaide



Proposed Jobs and Training Board Regions – NT

