



# Media Release

## Senator Mathias Cormann *Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Apprenticeships and Training*

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### **LABOR HAS FAILED YOUNG JOB SEEKERS**

Despite billions of dollars wasted on Labor Party spending sprees, youth unemployment continued to go up even when overall unemployment levels started to come down.

"Labor has failed young job seekers through an ineffective approach to training and by going soft on mutual obligation requirements," Shadow Employment Participation Minister Mathias Cormann said.

"Labor's so called Productivity Places Program has been completely ineffective in getting young people into work," Senator Cormann said.

"A lot of the training going on under that program has been training for training's sake, when what we need is training focused on specific job outcomes," he said.

"Instead of getting young people to accumulate useless bits of papers in skills prescribed by bureaucrats, training ought to be driven by genuine demands in the actual job market.

"There also needs to be much better alignment between income support management through Centrelink and employment services provided through Job Services Australia providers.

"Job services providers have told me again and again that when it comes to referring young people into jobs, the Rudd/Gillard government has not given them the back up they need through Centrelink," he said.

"We need a better, more effective and well targeted approach to training for job seekers driven by the needs of employers looking for workers with particular skills.

"We do need to consider sensible incentives to encourage young people who can't find work in areas of high unemployment to move into areas where people are looking for workers.

"And yes, we do need a more integrated case management approach with government and job services providers working together to get young people into work, work experience or relevant training as quickly as possible," Senator Cormann said.

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