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Your skills our network

David Hatfield
A/g General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
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Dear Sir,

Applications for Authorisation by Job Futures Ltd A91084, A91085, 25th March 2008

I am writing in support of Job Futures applications for Authorisation and Interim Authorisation.

Westgate Community Initiatives Group Inc. (WCIG) is an innovative, high quality and effective provider of employment services working beside those most affected by unemployment as they seek to find meaningful roles in our community.

Serving the needs of Melbourne's western region since 1986. WCIG continues to remain committed to our local communities. Working closely with jobseekers and employers, our staffs develop sustainable relationships and provide ongoing support to both employees and employers.

WCIG has been a member of Job Futures since its inception.

The market for government funded employment services is extremely competitive. The contractual and performance management arrangements that operate in the sector are complex and changing. Since its creation in 1998, it has become harder for small-medium size organisations to enter and retain a place in the market – particularly in Job Network. Yet these organisations play an important role in ensuring that services for disadvantaged people meet the specific needs of local communities.

My organisation delivers a range of local programs and services to our community which are important to community well being. We are able to

WCIG

Disability Employment Services

Youth Pathways

Job Network Services

Work for the Dole

Personal Support Programme

Training Services

Australian Apprenticeship

Indigenous Projects

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Social Firms

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link these initiatives with our employment programs, delivered as part of Job Futures.

Job Futures unique collaborative arrangement enables organisations like WCIG to deliver quality services while retaining their local focus and identity. We are able to access resources through Job Futures (like on line reporting tools, training and support) which, as a lone provider, we could not.

WCIG supports this application for authorisation and believes that the continued operation of the Job Futures model contributes to a more diverse market for government funded employment services.

Yours sincerely,

Marea Ekladious Acting CEO