

Locals build Playford's future

City of Playford locals are being given opportunities to become employed in the building and construction industry as a Builders Labourer or Contract Administrator and it's all thanks to a "live training" initiative at the Stretton Centre. As this unique Centre takes shape, an innovative employment program funded by the Australian Government's Suburban Jobs Program, has seen five people spend one week each at the site, gaining first-hand experience and trying out for one of two employment opportunities on a six month contract.

The training and employment program is a collaboration between the City of Playford and Mossop Construction and Interiors, which aims to stimulate local economic and community development by providing jobs for Playford locals.

Mossop Construction and Interiors have welcomed the opportunity to source workers from amongst local residents and say they have been impressed with the quality of people who have participated in the program.

Safety Manager, John Winson says the participants have all been excellent. "All of them have demonstrated a strong work ethic and would be capable of taking on a role and growing into this industry", he said.

Local resident William, 18, has been successful in gaining one of the roles as a Builders Labourer, after spending a week working under supervision at the Stretton Centre. William has completed Certificate II in Construction and holds an essential White Card.

He is keen to get a foot in the door of the construction industry and says this was



William on site at the Stretton Centre is a jack of all trades

a chance to put what he's learned into practice. "The experience showed me that I really want to work in the construction industry", he says. Participants in the program were sourced at registered training organisations, IS Australia and TAFE SA, in partnership with the City of Playford.

William is grateful for the experience. "I'd like to thank everyone involved including the City of Playford, IS Australia and Mossop Construction and Interiors for this opportunity", he said.

When completed in 2015, the Stretton Centre, will be a hub for integrated industry, workforce and urban

development. At a cost of \$16.6m, the Centre will not only be home to a brand new Playford Library Service but will also have spaces for learning, working, community meetings and gatherings.

To see the live progress of the Stretton Centre build visit playford.sa.gov.au/strettoncentre.