



MEDIA RELEASE

DR CRAIG EMERSON

Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
Minister Assisting the Finance Minister on Deregulation

Wednesday, 13 August 2008

SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS IN BELMONT AND STIRLING

Federal Small Business Minister Dr Craig Emerson today launched the Australian Government's \$2.2 million program to support small business in Stirling and Belmont, Western Australia.

Dr Emerson said: "This funding helps the Small Business Centre Stirling and Belmont Business Enterprise Centre to expand their provision of low-cost advisory services to local small businesses.

"The Stirling and Belmont centres are one-stop shops for local small businesses, or those thinking of starting a small business or looking to obtain advice.

"The centres will save small business operators and small business debutants from going place-to-place to get the legal, tax, accounting and marketing advice they need."

Dr Emerson said the Stirling and Belmont centres are part of network of 36 small business advisory centres that will benefit from \$42 million in Australian Government funding over the next four years.

Small Business Centre Stirling will receive \$1.2 million over the next four years while the Belmont BEC will receive \$1 million.

Dr Emerson said: "These centres will provide a suite of services to local small businesses such as mentoring, business planning advice, guidance about loans and banking products, and the development of marketing plans.

"The centre will also provide legal and accounting services, information about leasing, advice on compliance with government regulations, training programs, and referrals where a client is looking for industry-specific assistance."

Dr Emerson today presented Small Business Centre Stirling with an AusIndustry certificate to mark the occasion.

He also launched the annual Belmont Small Business Awards which will be held in November.

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