

Media release

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Councils employ more apprentices

Young Waratah resident, Mitchell Weatherill, hadn't considered a career in local government before hearing about the School-based Apprenticeship opportunities on offer with Cradle Coast Authority (CCA) and its Member Councils.

Mr Weatherill is the second person to be employed by CCA under the program, which commenced last year with support from the Tasmanian Government. Central Coast, Waratah-Wynyard, West Coast and Burnie Councils have also participated.

Mr Weatherill will work alongside CCA's natural resource management team and complete a Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management while completing Year 12 at Hellyer College this year. Learning more about his Aboriginal heritage and sharing that knowledge with others, is one aspect of the role that really appealed to him.

"When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too. I am very excited to begin my studies while learning the ropes at CCA." said Mr Weatherill.

CCA CEO, Daryl Connelly, said CCA's *Local Government Australian School-based Apprenticeship* project, will provide at least 15 people with an apprenticeship over a two-year period and is just one way CCA and Member Councils are working to maintain a skilled workforce.

"As well as providing a diverse range of career opportunities, local government is a really important and rewarding sector to work in. It's the level of government closest to the people, and local government employees can have real impact in their communities" said Mr Connelly.

CCA's previous School-based Apprentice, Sarah Walton, completed a Certificate III in Business at CCA last year and was a finalist in the Tasmanian Training Awards.

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Image: Mr Connelly (left) and Mr Weatherill.

CCA is jointly owned by the nine Councils of western and north-western Tasmania, to help them achieve regional outcomes and maintain strong local government, by working together.

