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## Survey to gauge post-boom economy

Over the past five years the Western Australian economy has experienced euphoric highs and is now enduring embarrassing lows. The state's unemployment rate is the highest in the country and our economy the worst in the nation. As part of its two-year *Bigger and Better Beyond the Boom* research project the Committee for Perth is asking the people of Perth and Peel to take part in a survey conducted to gauge how life is for them, at work and at home, after the boom and the recent state election.

"At the Committee we always put people at the heart of any issue we're researching, that's why we want the people of Perth to take part in our online survey. We're asking everyone from students to retirees to get involved so that we have a comprehensive snapshot of what people are experiencing across the region," said Committee for Perth CEO, Marion Fulker.

"This survey will dig deep, we want to find out how secure people feel in their jobs, how many hours they're working, whether they would move for work, are they satisfied with their careers, what's their level of education, will they need to retrain and if they're not working, is that by choice or not. All of which are important inputs to make recommendations for the future.

"Through the people of the Perth and Peel region, we will get a sense of which industries have thrived, just survived or are emerging. There's also the issue of the productivity drain – what are the interrupters, preventers, demotivators and lost opportunities? We're also asking which jobs will exist in the future or will they be done by a machine. Of particular interest will be to understand whether there are generational differences in attitudes to work.

Mrs Fulker said the aim of *Bigger and Better Beyond the Boom* is to challenge conventional wisdoms and identify strategies for a more economically diverse and robust future for the region.

"Western Australia has been hostage to boom-bust cycles. By having a fine-grained look at the economy we'll be able to see how it has evolved over the decades. How Perth firms are structured, located and connected. Are there areas of specialisation and how has this changed? And, what has been the experience of local economies during downturns and how have they recovered," added Mrs Fulker.

"As well as the community survey conducted by market research firm Ipsos, over the next few months the Committee will be releasing papers on the higher education and VET sector, followed by tourism. A FACTBase report due for release later in the year - 'Sizing the Economy' will be another key input into the final *Bigger and Better Beyond the Boom* report.

To take part in the survey go to the Committee for Perth website, click on the Research dropdown and go to survey under the Bigger & Better Beyond the Boom menu or by using this link - <https://www.committeeforperth.com.au/research/research-projects/bigger-better-beyond-the-boom/survey>

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