

2025-26 IMPACT REPORT



The King's Trust Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their enduring connection to the lands, waters, and communities.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present and honour the many First Nations peoples who have cared for this continent for tens of thousands of years, preserving its rich cultural heritage, stories, and traditions.

As we live, work, and gather across this vast land, we commit to respecting and learning from the deep knowledge systems of First Nations peoples, and recognise that strong futures for young people are built through connection to culture, community, opportunity and Country.

Image: Uncle Les conducting a Welcome to Country on Gadigal land in Sydney for Get Into Maritime 2023.

Image (L to R) on Cover: Jess, Enterprise participant and Young Entrepreneur Programme participants (YEP 2026).





A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Young Australians are navigating a rapidly changing world, bringing new challenges but also new opportunities.

At The King's Trust Australia we work with young people to build the skills, confidence and connections they need to shape their own futures through education, employment and enterprise. This integrated approach enables us to support young people at different stages of their journey, from developing skills and confidence, to entering the workforce or creating business opportunities of their own.

Over the past thirteen years The King's Trust Australia has delivered more than 170 programmes, supporting over 7,500 young people and 1,300 military-connected individuals across the country. These achievements reflect the dedication of our team, volunteers, partners and supporters and the trust placed in us by the communities we serve.

As we complete the first year of our 2025–2028 Strategy, we are proud of the strong foundations we have built together. Our focus now is on building on that momentum, deepening our impact, extending our reach and creating more opportunities for young Australians to thrive. Our ambition, however, extends well beyond what we have achieved to date. Every day the young people with whom we work, demonstrate the resilience and determination to shape their own futures and they inspire us to be equally ambitious about what we can achieve.

On behalf of the Board I thank our supporters, partners and volunteers for their continued commitment to our work. Together we can help more young Australians realise their potential and build a brighter future.

The Hon Julie Bishop
Chair, The King's Trust Australia

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

This Financial Year - the first of our three year strategy - has been a period of remarkable progress and strengthened purpose for The Trust.

We have refined our outcomes framework, launched two new initiatives - including a national entrepreneurship programme - and established two new education partnerships that extend our reach and deepen our impact. We have also invested in recruiting industry-leading practitioners to elevate the operations, design, delivery and facilitation of our programmes, ensuring young people receive high-quality, evidence-informed support.

Our focus on inclusion and accessibility has continued to mature, both within our organisation and across our programming, so that young people of diverse lived experiences can participate fully and confidently. We have strengthened our youth-first, strengths-based approach, launched a new website to improve access to information and opportunities, and introduced the King's Trust Australia Awards to celebrate the achievements and amplify the voices and stories of young people.

We are poised to build on this momentum as we celebrate 50 years of The King's Trust globally. With the support of philanthropic and delivery partners, we will continue expanding our education, employment and enterprise support to ensure more young people can realise their potential and thrive.

Michelle Endacott
Chief Executive, The King's Trust Australia



50 YEARS OF PROGRESS

The King's Trust Australia helps young people discover who they are, what they're living for, and how to make a living through education, employment and enterprise initiatives.

In 1976, a forward-looking Prince saw potential in young people.
He saw sparks of innovation.
He heard the voices of tomorrow.
He created the blueprint for change.
A vision that laid the groundwork for their future.
For 50 years, he has given his full backing to the next generation.

Today, we are The King's Trust.
We have supported more than 1.3 million brilliant young people.
Our work continues in over 20 countries.
We empower young people to build their skills and confidence.
To realise their dreams.
To build a brighter future for themselves, their families and their communities.
We serve young people.
Because their success is the world's future.
When we deliver, they achieve.



Image: Their Majesties in Sydney during the Royal Tour of Australia, October 2024;
Enterprise alumnus and army veteran Shannon Lemanski receiving the King's Trust Global Sustainability Award in London (May 2026).

Harmony

We recognise the interconnectedness of people and planet and the complex social and economic systems we live, work and play within.

Inclusive

We strive for equity and belonging. Everyone deserves to feel seen, heard, and valued. We embrace diversity and recognise the unique stories, experiences and needs of community.

Empowering

We believe in your potential. We will help you take charge, make your own choices, and find your purpose.



2025-2026 IMPACT SNAPSHOT

2

New programmes co-designed and delivered, including a national entrepreneurship programme for diverse young people & an employment programme for young women in technology.

6

states and territories reached, across metropolitan, regional & rural areas.

676

young people directly supported through Education, Employment and Enterprise programmes.

26%

of young people reached through all programmes identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

59%

of young people reached through Education, Employment and Enterprise programmes identify as female.

89%

of YEP (Enterprise) and Get Into (Employment) programme participants in a positive outcome, including employed or self-employed, by 3 to 6-months post-programme.

4,500+

young people indirectly supported through professional development training programmes for 55 educators.

A photograph of two young women sitting at a wooden table in a workshop or classroom setting. The woman in the foreground is focused on writing on a blue sticky note with a blue marker. She has brown hair tied back and is wearing a white shirt with a floral collar and a dark brown vest. The woman in the background has long dark hair and is wearing a blue denim jacket over a blue shirt, looking down at the table. On the table are several yellow and blue sticky notes, black and blue markers, and a yellow pencil. A large white rounded rectangle with the word 'Education' in purple is overlaid on the left side of the image. A red rounded rectangle with white text is at the bottom left. A small caption is at the bottom left corner.

Education

Discovery and skill development for young people

Image: Codesign participants (July 2025).

EXPLORING IDENTITY, CAREERS & DEVELOPING SKILLS

The Trust supports schools and non-school providers to integrate Achieve into activities for young people. This framework is designed to engage young people in meaningful learning experiences that connect theory to real-world application through careers education and enterprise skills development.

-  The Trust delivered Achieve to educators at Wongutha CAPS, a Boarding School for Year 11 and 12 Aboriginal students in Esperance, Western Australia. This programme supported 25 First Nations young people.
-  The Trust supported 245 young people working with the Western Bulldogs Charitable Foundation to develop key enterprise skills and build confidence.
-  The Trust delivered Achieve to 72 Year 10 secondary students at Heathmont College in Victoria. The programme focused on developing teamwork, self-management, and global citizenship through interactive sessions and self-reflection activities.
-  The Trust started a new partnership with the Harding Miller Education Foundation to deliver the Achieve programme to young women from low socio-economic and culturally diverse backgrounds across Australia. During the reporting period, the Trust supported 23 alumnae of the Foundation.
-  The Trust trained 55 educators to deliver Achieve to young people through “Achieving Impact”. These workshops directly reached 150 young people, with potential (indirect) reach of more than 4,500 young people.
-  The Trust delivered Achieve to 92 Australian Ismaili youth in Sydney and Melbourne in collaboration with the Aga Khan Foundation.
-  In collaboration with YLab, The Trust delivered a codesign with 16 young people to inform education delivery.

ACHIEVE IMPACT SNAPSHOT

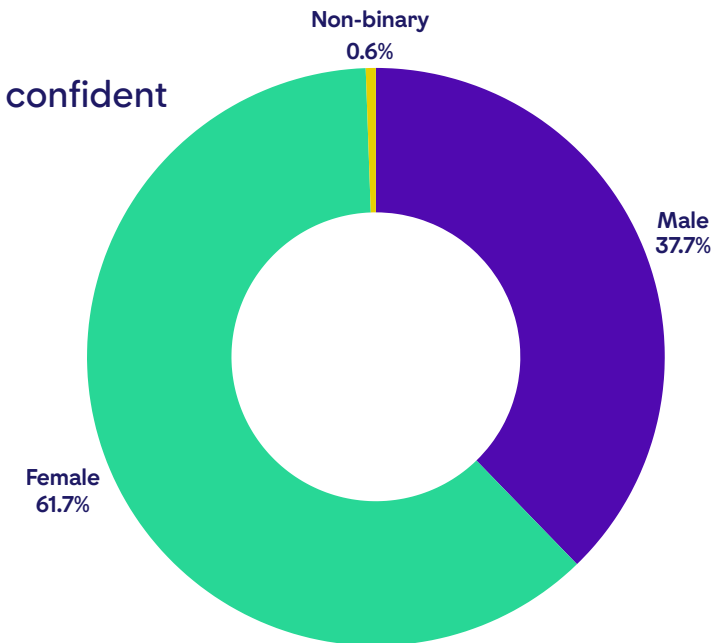
Confidence & Belonging

75% of survey respondents said they felt more confident in themselves, their abilities and their future after completing Achieve (n=104) and 66% feel more accepted for who they are.

Career & skills

71% of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that they felt more prepared for the future after completing the programme (n=104).

82% of survey respondents strongly agree or agree that they feel more confident making career decisions after completing Achieve (n=104).



Images (L to R): AchieveFest workshop with Ismaili Young People in Melbourne (2026); Western Bulldogs Community Foundation participants (2026).



“

I used to think that it was straightforward. You go to Uni, you get a job. But then I realised there were a lot of other pathways as well... I want to choose a career now that relates to my values and not just the pay

Maria, Codesign participant

Image: Maria, Codesign participant ((July 2025),



Employment

Exploring careers in emerging industries

Image: Get Into Reef Conservation participants (March 2026).

EXPLORING & SECURING CAREERS IN CRITICAL INDUSTRIES

The Trust partners with emerging and/or critical sectors to deliver codesigned, high-impact work readiness programmes for young people experiencing unemployment and underemployment. These programmes help young people and their employers navigate the future of work together.

- In partnership with Citizens of the Great Barrier Reef and Yirrganydji Land & Sea Rangers, The Trust delivered Get Into Reef Conservation. Reaching 10 First Nations young people, this programme explored careers in environmental stewardship in Cairns, Queensland.
- In collaboration with Rise by Talent, The Trust piloted and delivered two Get Into Tech programmes for 10 young women from migrant and refugee backgrounds in Sydney, New South Wales. This programme helped young women explore and secure careers in the technology sector.
- The Trust explored a Get Into Ecotourism programme through codesign with 17 people.

95% of participants completed the Get Into Programme.



Images (L to R): Get Into Reef Conservation participants (2026); Get Into Tech participants (2025).

Images on next page (top to bottom): Get Into Tech Graduates (2026), Get Into Reef Conservation participants (2026)



GET INTO IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Confidence & Belonging

- 100%** of survey respondents said they felt more confident in themselves, their abilities and their future after completing Get Into (12 of 12).
- 91%** of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that they felt more accepted for who they are after completing the programme (11 of 12) and 78% feel more connected to their community (7 of 9).

Career & skills

- 92%** of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that they felt more prepared for the future after completing the programme (11 of 12).
- 84%** of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that they had improved networks and capacity to make career decisions as a result of the programme.
- 90%** of survey responses across core skill-development measures were positive. These included communication, teamwork, self-management and problem-solving skills (43 of 48).

Positive outcomes

- 95%** of participants are in positive outcomes (employment, internships, or training) within three to six months post-programme.

92% of survey respondents would recommend the Get Into programme.





“

The programme gave me practical experience, connected me with amazing people, and reminded me that you don't have to navigate a career change alone.

Shirley, AI Automation Analyst

Image: Get Into Tech graduate Shirley with King's Trust Australia Chief Executive Michelle Endacott and Rise by Talent (2026).

bytalent.org



Enterprise

Helping young people explore, start and build small businesses.

Image: Young Entrepreneurs Programme participants (June 2026).

STARTING AND GROWING SMALL BUSINESSES

The Trust delivers codesigned, high-impact small business support for young people with diverse lived experience and trauma-informed, veteran-centric support for Australian Defence Force veterans and their families.

- The Trust delivered 11 programmes for military-connected people, reaching 114 veterans and ADF families. Of these, 23 were young people aged 35 and under.
- The Trust launched the Young Entrepreneurship Programme (YEP). Delivered over 12-weeks both online and face-to-face, YEP helped kickstart businesses for 28 young Australians with diverse lived experience.
- The Trust awarded Hannah Minne, ADF partner and Founder of Wellness Botanica, \$2,500 equity-free funding through the Enterprise Accelerate Award.
- Keshika Jayakumar, Founder of Cyra, received the YEP Young Achiever Award with \$10,000 equity-free funding. Gemma Gala, Founder of Raising Strong Ghundu and Sahil Makhija, Founder of KALP, received the YEP Rising Star Awards with \$5,000 equity-free funding.

Image: Young Entrepreneurs Programme graduates (June 2026).





“

Beyond the practical tools and business knowledge, the biggest takeaway for me was the community. Building a business takes a whole ecosystem of people who believe in your work, challenge your ideas, and encourage you to keep moving forwards.

Lara, Founder of Biodiversity Labs

Image: Young Entrepreneurs Programme participants (June 2026).

YEP IMPACT SNAPSHOT

Confidence & Belonging

- 96%** strongly agreed or agreed that they felt more confident in themselves, their abilities and their future after completing the programme (22 of 23).
- 87%** strongly agreed or agreed that they felt more accepted for who they are after completing the programme (20 of 23).

New Businesses

- 84%** of the participants who completed the YEP programme are self-employed within three months post-programme (21 of 25).

Skills

- 96%** strongly agreed or agreed they felt more confident about starting or growing a business since completing the programme (22 of 23).
- 100%** strongly agreed or agreed that they could apply the skills learned through the programme to their business (23 of 23).

Self-management, teamwork, communication, innovation, global citizenship and problem solving were ranked as the top skills developed on the programme.

Image: Nargis, Young Entrepreneurs Programme graduate (June 2026).



Environmental skills, knowledge & attitudes

74% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that the programme improved the skills they need to contribute to a sustainable world (17 of 23).

70% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that they felt more connected to the natural world after participating in the programme (16 of 23).

Overall

100% of participants would recommend the Young Entrepreneurs Programme.

14 guest speakers and 26 mentors supported programme participants.

20 workshops delivered with an average rating of 4.8 out of 5.

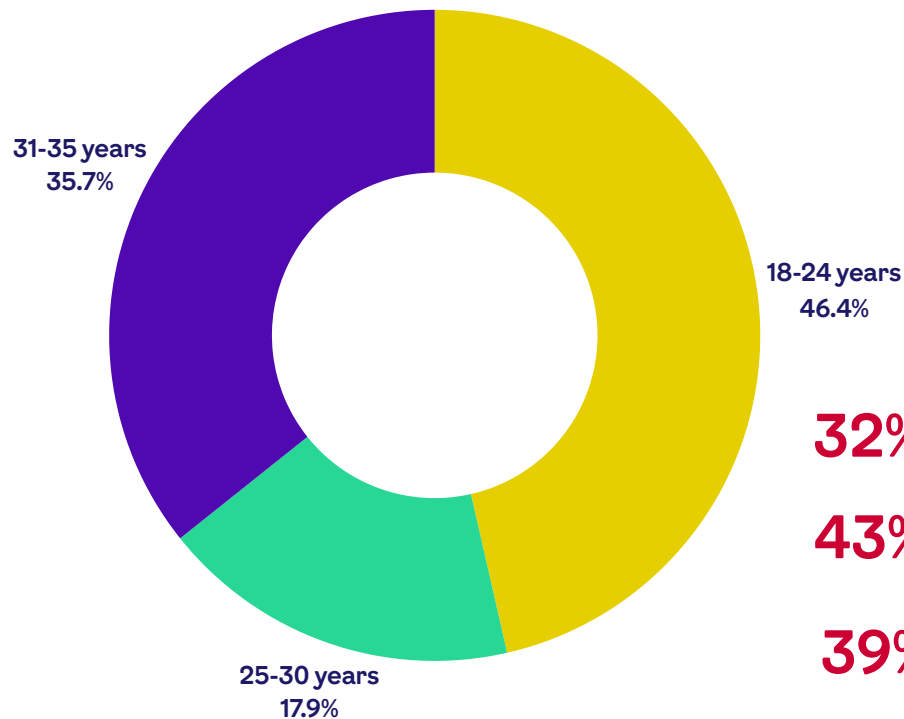


Images (L to R): YEP facilitators with participant Sahil; YEP participants Lisha, Julia and Lara; YEP participants Lisha, Gemma, and Bron (June 2026).

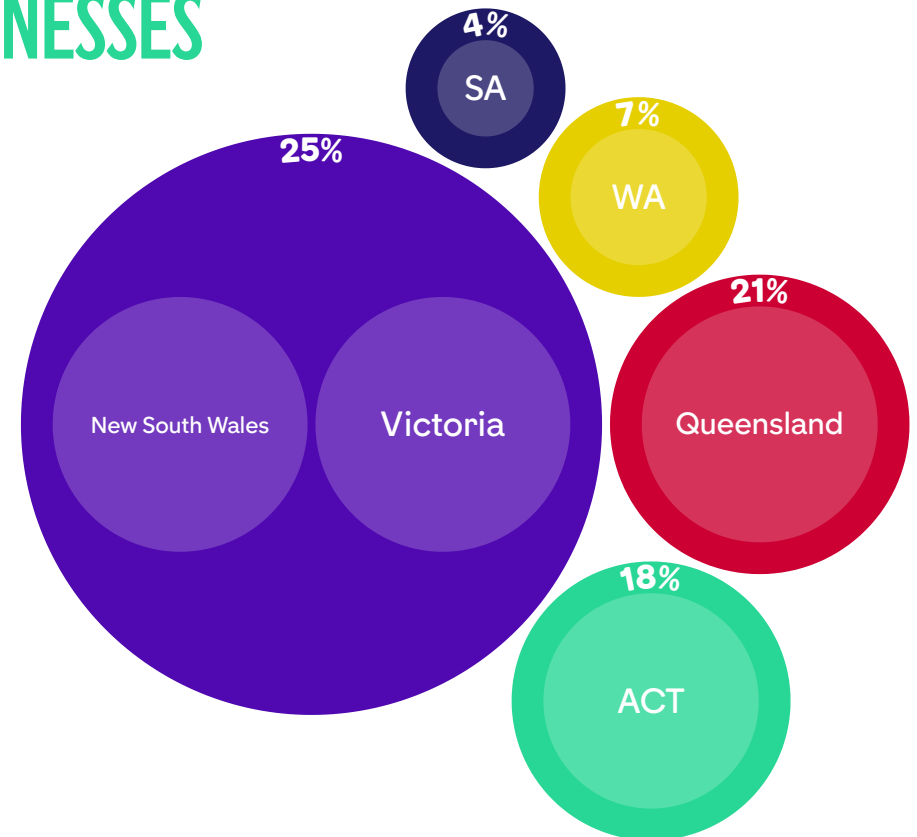


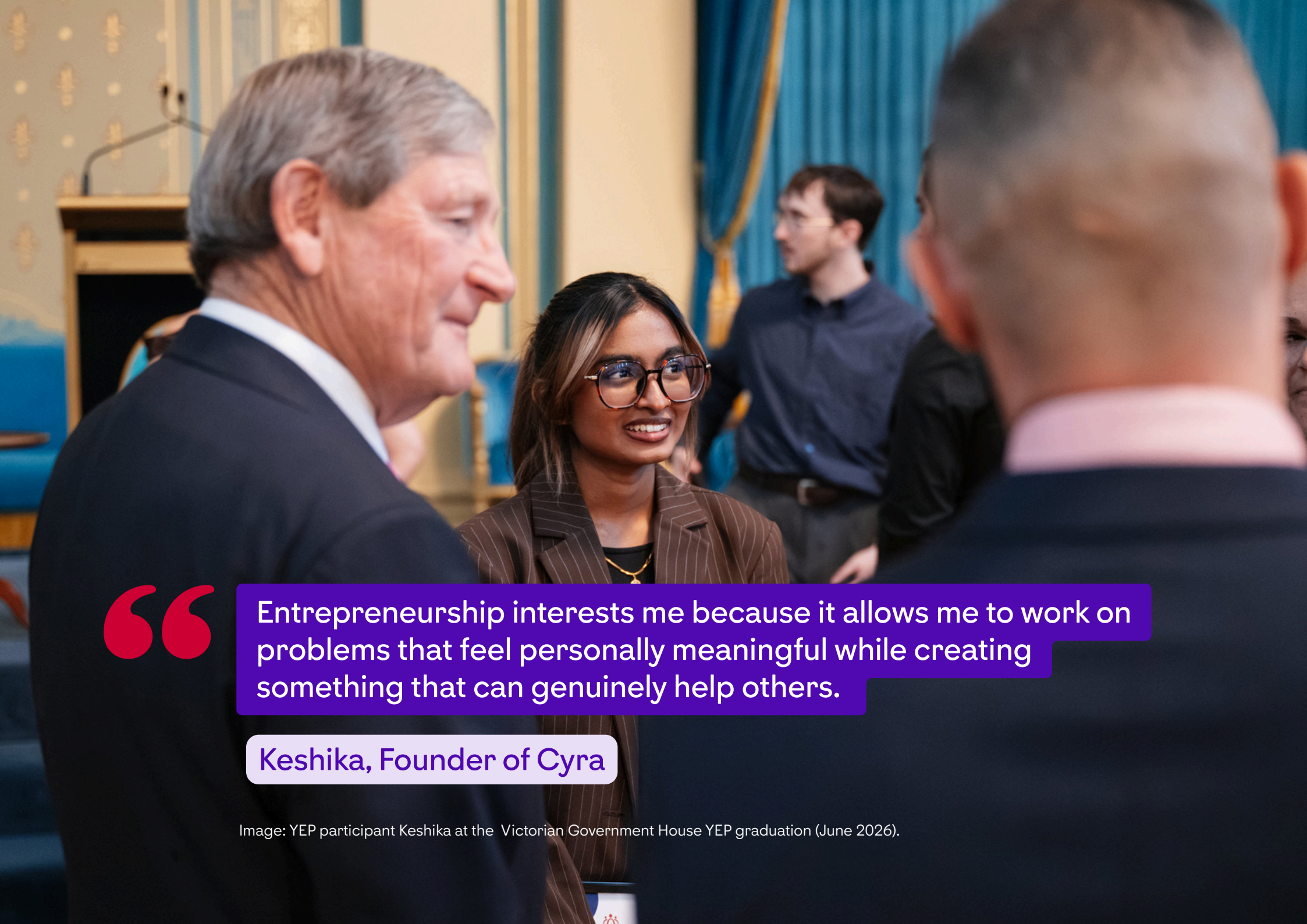
DIVERSE VOICES SHAPING FUTURE BUSINESSES

- 61%** identified as female (17 of 28).
- 11%** identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (3 of 28).
- 21%** identified as LGBTIQ+ or non-binary (6 of 28).



- 32%** use a language other than English at home (9 of 28).
- 43%** are experiencing financial hardship (12 of 28) and 18% have caring responsibilities (5 of 28).
- 39%** disclosed disability, chronic illness, neurodivergence and/or mental health (11 of 28).





“

Entrepreneurship interests me because it allows me to work on problems that feel personally meaningful while creating something that can genuinely help others.

Keshika, Founder of Cyra

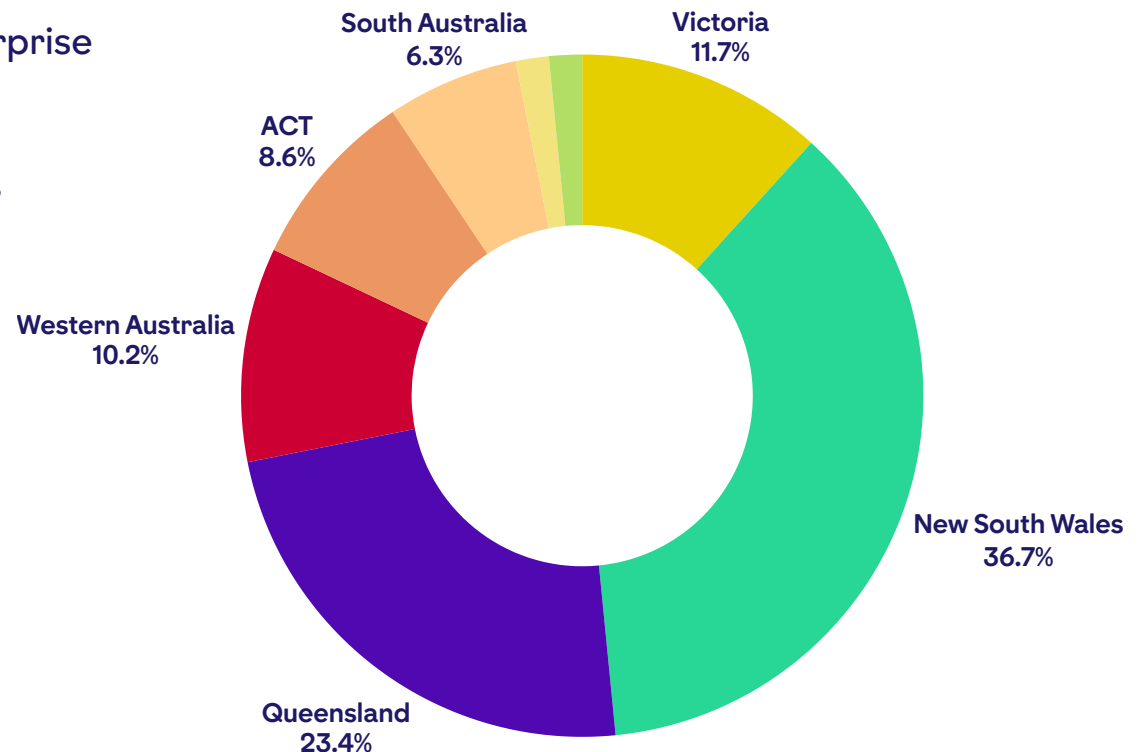
Image: YEP participant Keshika at the Victorian Government House YEP graduation (June 2026).

ENTERPRISE FOR VETERANS SNAPSHOT

Skills & career management

- 95%** strongly agreed or agreed that they they could apply the skills learned through the programme to their business.
- 79%** strongly agreed or agreed they felt more confident about starting or growing a business since completing the programme.
- 90%** of respondents believed The King's Trust Australia made a positive contribution to their career resilience.
- 95%** of respondents would recommend the Enterprise programme to other people.

Communication, branding, content creation, critical thinking and self-management were ranked as the top skills developed on the Enterprise programme.





“

I am so thankful for The King's Trust Australia's support for Defence personnel and partners. I have gained valuable knowledge, skills and community from the programs I've attended. The award provides resources, support and encouragement for me to continue supporting families in making positive changes to their health with natural skincare and home products.”

Hannah, Founder of Wellness Botanica

Image: Enterprise Accelerator participant Hannah (2025).



Awards

Celebrating young people and those that support them.

Image: Winners of The King's Trust Australia Awards 2025 with Her Excellency The Governor-General of Australia at Admiralty House in Sydney (November 2025).

CELEBRATING YOUNG PEOPLE

The King's Trust Australia Awards launched in July 2025 to celebrate young people and those that support them in education, employment and enterprise. Eighteen people were recognised through six awards, including:

- Commonwealth Bank Business of the Year Award
- Saab Australia Rising Star Award
- Veolia Sustainability Award
- Ministry of the Future Young Achiever Award
- The Paul Cross Educator of the Year Award
- Employer of the Year Award

The King's Trust Australia Awards 2025 Veolia Sustainability Award and Saab Australia Rising Star Award winner Shannon Lemanski is making a difference to the environment and regional communities by turning air into water through his business Aqua Ubique. Shannon received global recognition for his efforts, winning the **2026 King's Trust Sustainability Award** in the presence of His Majesty King Charles III for The King's Trust 50th celebrations in London (May 2026).



Images (L to R): Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia; Shannon and Dannii Lemanski; The Paul Cross Educator of the Year Award Finalist Mariella Teuira with Veolia Australia and New Zealand Future Forward alumni.

A THRIVING COMMUNITY OF DELIVERY PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS



Margot McKinney.



The Trust is generously supported by a community of philanthropic donors, including private patrons who share our values.



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