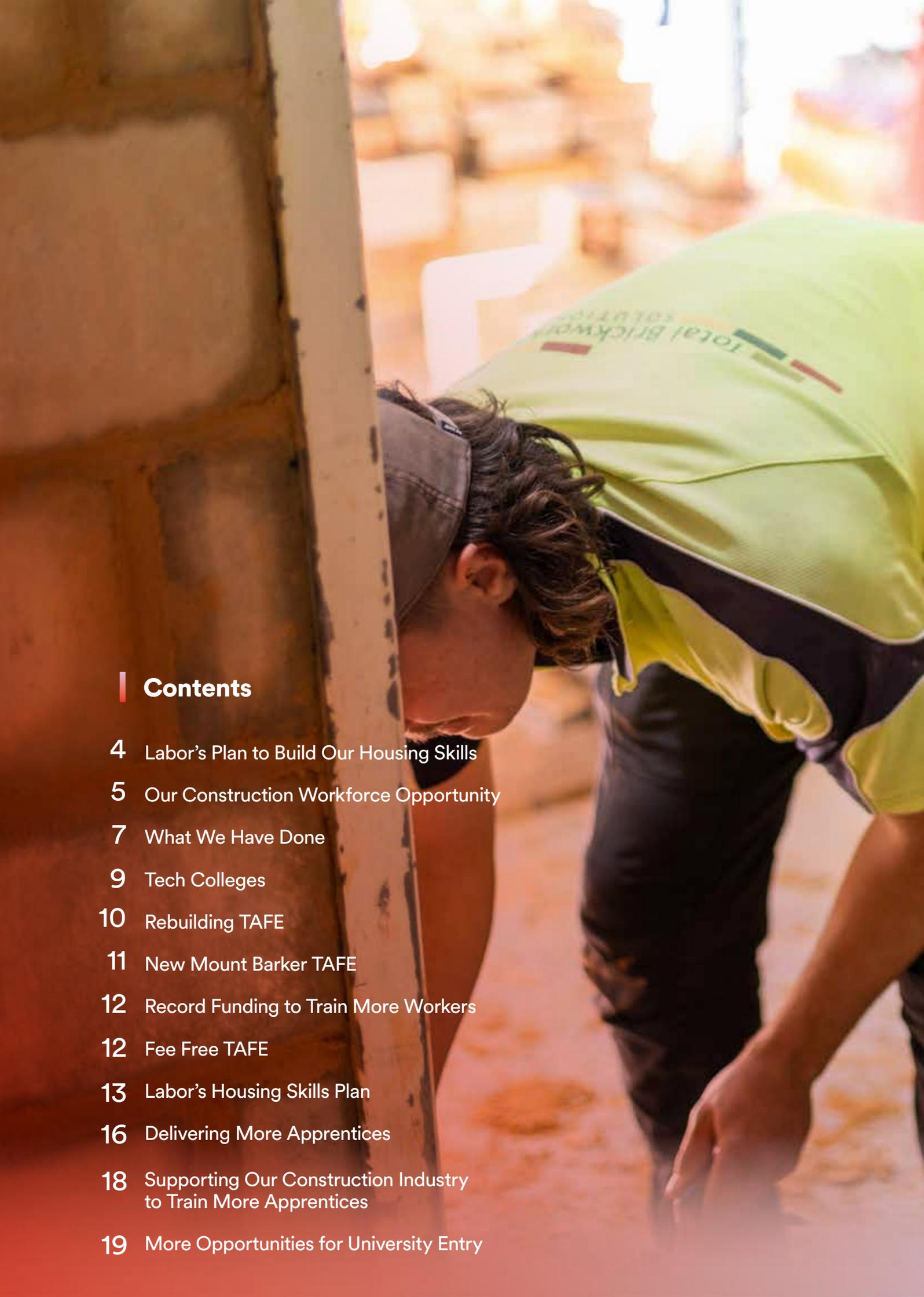




HOUSING SKILLS



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Foreword

We have a bright story to tell about South Australia's future.

The expansion of naval shipbuilding, the start of AUKUS, major infrastructure investment and a booming minerals sector, means that our state is entering an unprecedented time of opportunity.

By 2031 South Australia will reach two million people and every one of these people will need a place to call home.

Since coming to government, we have done everything we can to build more homes and our work is paying off. 2025 saw a record 12,870 homes built in South Australia - nearly 20% higher than our long term average.

But to capitalise on the economic opportunities we have before us, and ensure that every South Australian has the opportunity to fairly participate in the housing market, we know that more homes are needed.

Our housing aspirations are not possible without skilled South Australians.

We need more carpenters, plumbers, project managers and engineers. We need to create every opportunity for young people and those looking to re-skill and up-skill to enter the construction industry.

We have already started this work by rebuilding TAFE and delivering five Technical Colleges, with more on the way, including our plan to build a housing-focussed specialist TAFE facility at Mount Barker – but we won't stop there.

The Malinauskas Labor Government will take to the election an ambitious plan to invest \$29 million to create over 1,000 pathways for South Australians to enter the construction industry - through university scholarships, apprenticeships and industry partnerships.

Together, we can deliver our housing future and capitalise on the economic opportunity before us.



Peter Malinauskas MP
Premier for South Australia



LABOR'S PLAN TO BUILD OUR HOUSING SKILLS

A Malinauskas Labor Government will take to the election a plan to invest more than \$29 million to deliver 1,000 extra university, trade, apprenticeship and upskilling opportunities in the construction industry.

1 750 Trade Apprenticeships

2 250 Government Agency Apprenticeships

3 150 Construction Pathway Courses

4 100 Additional University Places

5 Boosting Our Construction Training System Capacity

6 More Construction Industry Incentives

OUR CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY

South Australia is at the brink of a generational opportunity to transform our state.

We are the fastest growing economy in the country, with rising wages and historically low unemployment.

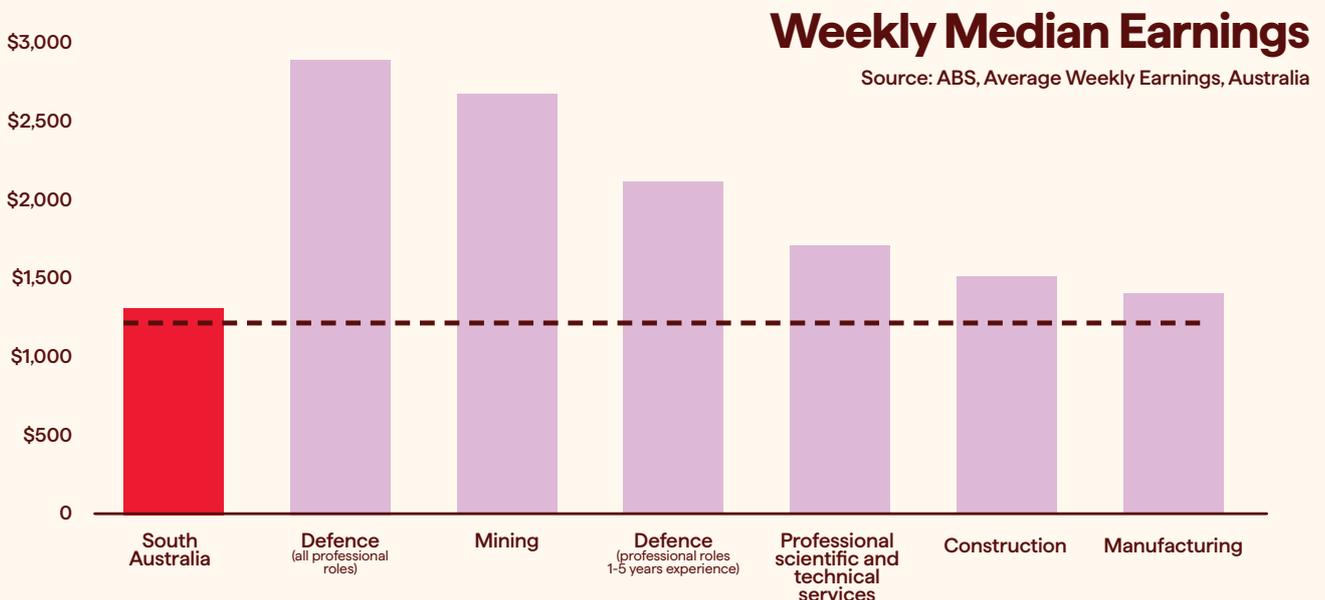
We know that the unprecedented \$30 billion AUKUS investment and emerging opportunities in copper and critical minerals will drive our defence, mining and construction sectors.

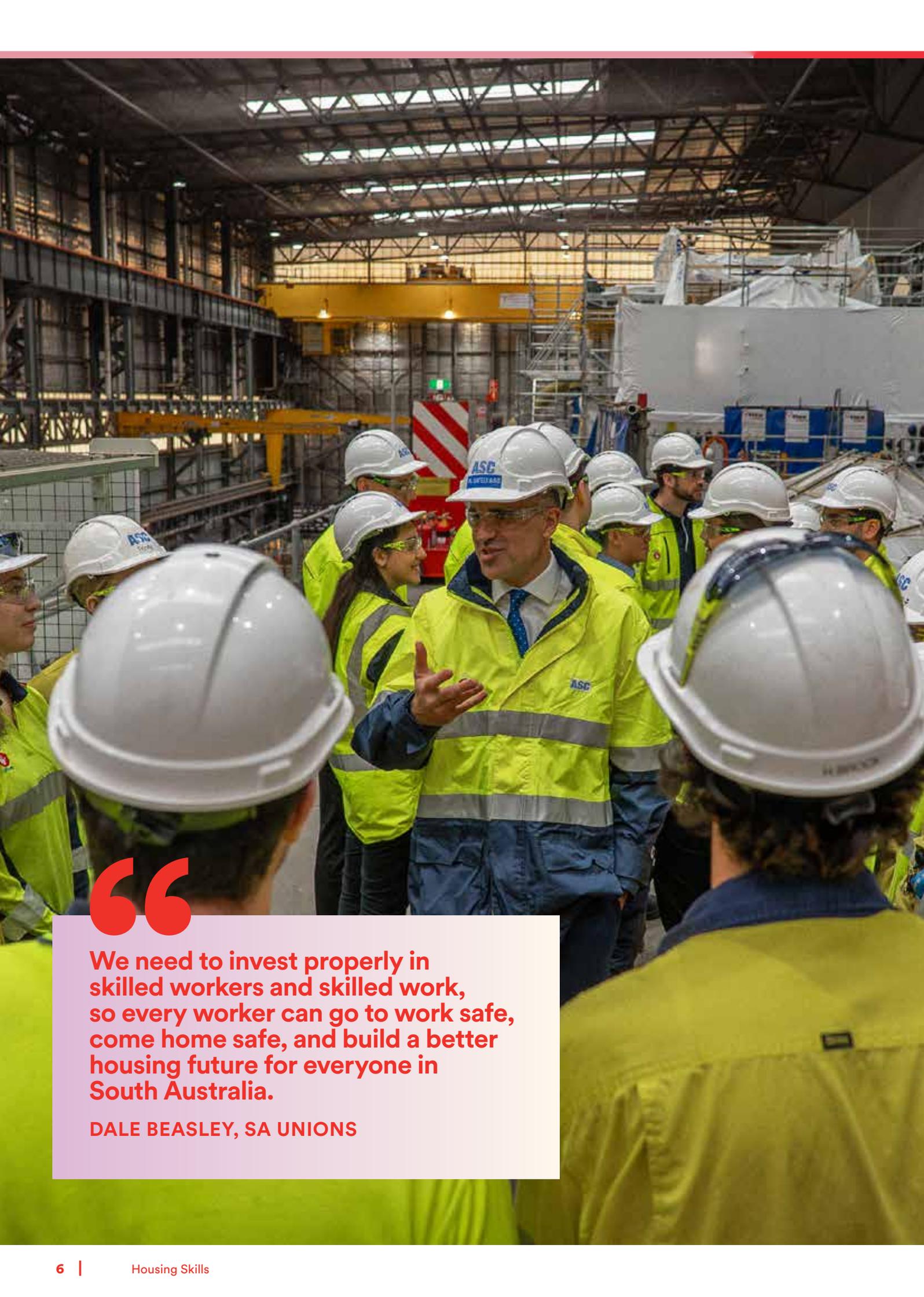
It is anticipated that by 2040, our workforce in these areas alone will grow by more than 43,000 jobs.

A career in construction is not only a meaningful way to contribute to South Australia, but it also provides an opportunity to secure a steady and prosperous career, by gaining a skill and engaging in work that brings home historically high wages.

Through our Housing Skills Package, the Malinauskas Labor Government is committed to providing more opportunities for everyone to build our housing future and gain skills for life.

Higher Paying Jobs





“

We need to invest properly in skilled workers and skilled work, so every worker can go to work safe, come home safe, and build a better housing future for everyone in South Australia.

DALE BEASLEY, SA UNIONS



WHAT WE HAVE DONE

When we came into government our skills sector was languishing - underfunded and under resourced - causing significant skilled worker shortages across our essential construction and trade sectors.

Since then we have driven an ambitious agenda to rebuild this critical sector.

And our plan has worked, with five new Technical Colleges now open, TAFE re-built and thousands more South Australians now with the skills we need.

The Malinauskas Labor Government will take to the election a plan to further supercharge our construction skills sector, building on the initiatives we know work and partnering with industry to deliver even more opportunities to enter the construction industry.

**NEW
GAWLER**



FINDON

OPENED IN 2024



THE HEIGHTS

OPENED 27 JANUARY, 2026

Adelaide

**NEW
MARDEN**



TONSLEY

OPENED 27 JANUARY, 2026



**LIMESTONE
COAST**

OPENED 2 FEBRUARY, 2026



PORT AUGUSTA

OPENED 2025

NEW

**MURRAY
BRIDGE**

TECH COLLEGES

At the 2022 State Election, we made a commitment to build five new Technical Colleges across the State.

With all five Technical Colleges now open, there are more than 1,000 students enrolled across the state, learning the critical construction skills we need.

Each of these Technical Colleges operates in collaboration with major industry partners to provide the experience and job opportunities for graduates.

Our partners include BAE, ASC, Boeing, SA Power Networks, Bluescope, Master Builders, Hallett Group, Goodstart Early Learning, Motor Trades Association, SARA Construction and many more.

With an 85% completion rate, and 94% of graduates on a career pathway to either an apprenticeship, further study or full-time employment, these Technical Colleges are a clear success.

That's why a Malinauskas Labor Government will take to the election a commitment to build on our work by establishing three more technical colleges, located at Gawler, Marden and Murray Bridge.



Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering



Multi-trades Building and Construction



Aeroskills



Early Childhood and Education



Resources and Infrastructure



Health and Social Support



Civil



Agri-tech



Automotive and Energy



Cookery and Tourism

REBUILDING TAFE

When we came to government in 2022, TAFE was not in good shape, courses had been cut, staff had been sacked, and campuses closed.

We promised to rebuild TAFE SA – and we have delivered, because you don't need to go to university to have a good life in South Australia.

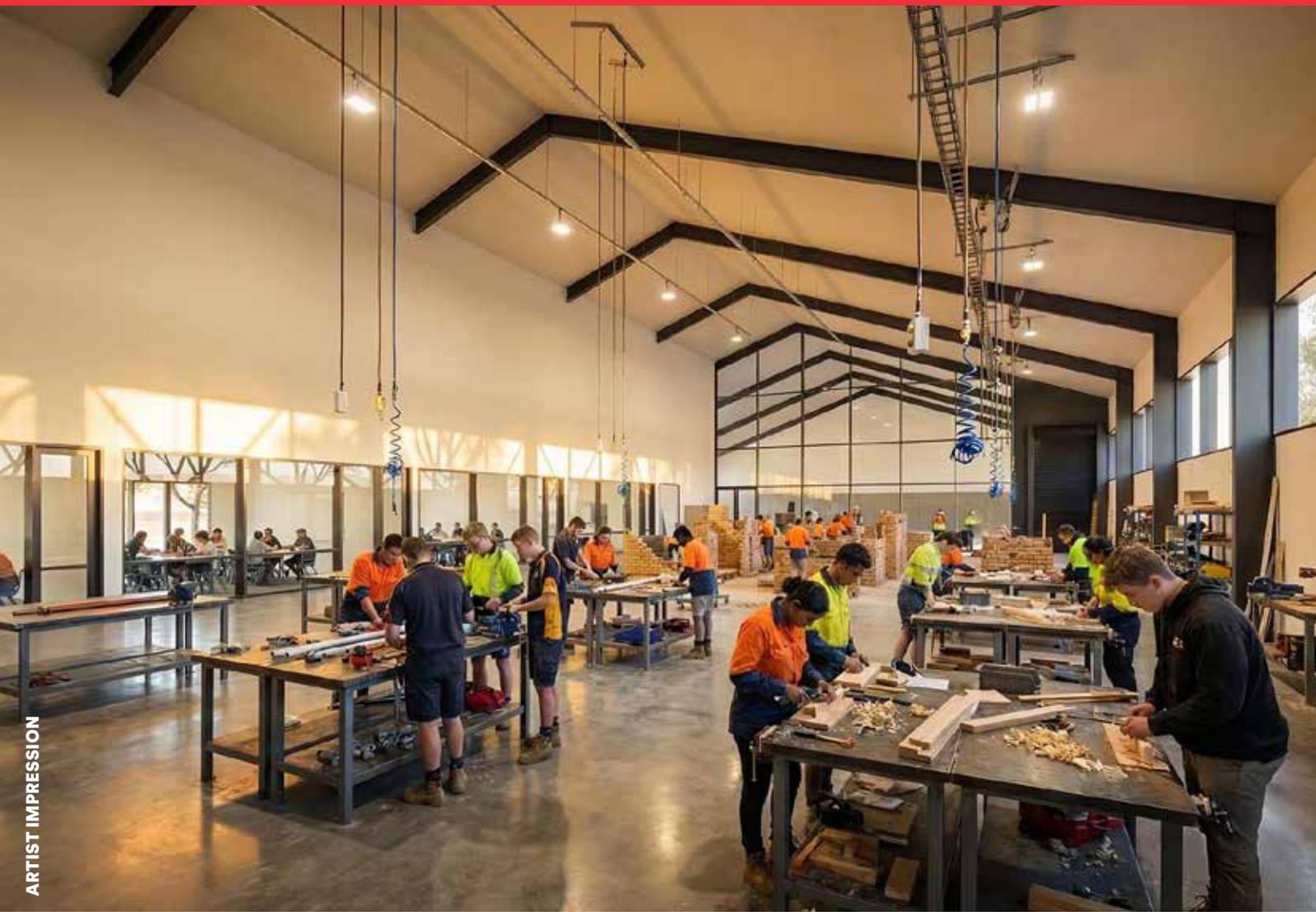
The Malinauskas Labor Government has reintroduced courses that had been cut, introduced a fund to offer

more courses in regional areas and increased TAFE's budget year on year.

And we're seeing results.

TAFE enrolment is up 30% on 2021/22, with the most recent data showing the number of construction trade workers in training at TAFE and other training providers is 23.7% higher than the same time in 2021, which means more carpenters, more bricklayers and electrical workers now and into the future.





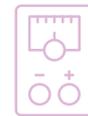
NEW MOUNT BARKER TAFE

The Malinauskas Labor Government is taking to the election a \$25.5 million plan to further grow TAFE by building a TAFE Trades Workshop in Mount Barker.

This state-of-the-art facility will offer construction trades including electrical, plumbing and carpentry to an additional 1,200 apprentices.



500
plumbing
apprentices



400
electrical
apprentices



300
carpentry
apprentices

INVESTMENT: \$25.5 million

RECORD FUNDING TO TRAIN MORE WORKERS

The Malinauskas Labor Government has signed the largest skills agreement ever – \$2.3 billion dollars – delivering over 160,000 training places to give South Australians the skills they need, for the job they want.

This record agreement is also delivering more support for students so they successfully finish their course, as well as for more VET educators to deliver the best training.





FEE FREE TAFE

We have also partnered with the Albanese Labor Government to deliver Fee Free TAFE.

Over 26,000 South Australians have already enrolled in free TAFE courses, breaking down barriers to accessing training in the areas we need.





LABOR'S HOUSING SKILLS PLAN

The Malinauskas Labor Government will double down on our efforts to deliver the critical construction skills we need now and for the future.

We are taking to the election a comprehensive plan to train more apprentices, support more university students and work hand-in-hand with our construction sector to deliver meaningful opportunities for anyone who wants to enter the construction industry.

This means more homes for more South Australians, and more opportunities for young people and those looking to re-skill and up-skill to enter the construction industry.

DELIVERING MORE APPRENTICES



750 Apprenticeships

\$18.2 million to support 750 construction apprenticeships

We will deliver 750 trade apprenticeships, ensuring that critical skills are prioritised to meet our construction and housing targets.



150 New Entry Level Construction Courses

\$1.6 million to support 150 new pathways through entry level construction courses

We will fund 150 new places in entry level courses to support additional pathways to trade apprenticeships.

This will support accredited training, learning support and industry experience opportunities.



Supporting the Best Training Opportunities With More State-of-the-art Equipment, Technology and Facilities

\$1.5 million in grants to co-invest in equipment, technology and facilities for trade training

We will provide support for TAFE SA, industry and not-for-profit training organisations to co-invest in state-of-the-art equipment, technology and training facilities that will prepare graduates for their future in the construction industry.



250 Additional Apprenticeships through Key Government Agencies

\$5 million to support 250 additional apprenticeships through key government agencies

We will invest \$5 million to expand the number of apprentices engaged through the contracts and contractors used by the Housing Trust and SA Water in priority areas such as public housing construction, plumbing and infrastructure projects.

Our initiative will support Group Training Organisations to recruit, support and provide services for apprentices, reducing the on-costs for host employers.





SUPPORTING OUR CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TO TRAIN MORE APPRENTICES

✓ Industry Incentives for More Apprentices

\$2.25 million to Support More Trade Apprenticeships

The Malinauskas Labor Government is taking a plan to the election to invest \$2.25 million in pathways to industry by providing financial assistance to small-to-medium businesses operating in the residential housing sector to employ new construction apprentices.

As part of this package, we will provide \$1.5 million to contribute to costs incurred by an employer in training an apprentice such as supervision costs, on-the-job training and scheduling costs.

This will support more than 150 additional trade apprenticeships on-site.

Eligible qualifications will include

- Certificate III in Carpentry
- Certificate III in Plumbing
- Certificate III in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
- Certificate III in Bricklaying and Blocklaying
- Certificate III in Wall and Floor Tiling

An additional \$750,000 will be reserved to provide additional incentives where apprentices are mature-age or training in hard to fill occupations.





MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRY

✓ 100 university scholarships

\$1 million to deliver 100 university scholarships

We will deliver 100 university scholarships for construction related courses, providing up to \$10,000 per student to offset tuition, education resources and other expenses.

This important initiative will encourage greater uptake for critical construction related university courses, whilst also supporting more South Australians to skill up than ever before by focussing on under-represented groups including 'first-in-family'.

South
Australian
Labor