



MEDIA RELEASE

70% OF BUSINESSES TO CONSIDER REMOTE WORKING IN LONG-TERM REAL ESTATE PLANNING

2 July 2020 - New research, released today by the [Australian HR Institute](#), has found that two thirds of Australian organisations are considering remote work as part of their long-term real estate planning.

The research revealed that organisations are actively looking to change the way they operate to be more competitive in the current market, and to create more supportive and inclusive policies for employees.

Sarah McCann-Bartlett, Chief Executive Officer, Australian HR Institute, said the research shows a significant shift in how Australian organisations view flexible working.

“COVID-19 has forced many organisations to rapidly adopt widespread flexible working and they have seen the benefits that it delivers. AHRI found that 80 per cent of HR leaders believe their organisation will change the way they operate with almost 50 per cent reporting that these changes will be permanent.”

McCann-Bartlett said that businesses need to trust their employees to do their job, no matter where they do it from.

“Employees now more than ever before have been given the power to dictate where they want to work. The research shows that a huge percentage of organisations are exercising employee consultation and engagement (more than 90%) to help create this new way of working and inform the future direction of that organisation.”

However, while the future of work is looking to be more flexible, it will be crucial to have the right skills and technology in place to prepare organisations for the future.

“It will be important for HR leaders to collaborate and align with other departments so that organisations can best capture and implement the benefits of technology such as AI. This may mean working closely with departments that they have not in the past such as IT.”

The results of the 'Impact of COVID-19 on the Australian HR Community' report is available [here](#).

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Notes to editors

The Australian HR Institute surveyed 252 HR leaders between 5th and 12th of June 2020, on their ongoing experiences resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

About the Australian HR Institute

The Australian HR Institute (AHRI) is the national association representing human resource and people management professionals with 20,000 members from Australia and across the globe.