



Westside News

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Concern on staff retention

A RECENT survey by Action International has found 28 per cent of staff employed by small business owners leave their job in under a year.

Although the survey was national, business owners in the western suburbs are suffering from the trend.

Brisbane West Chamber of Commerce president Graham Isles said that from his own personal experience and dealings with local businesses in the Chamber of Commerce he didn't believe the



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■ Jodie Shaw

figures to be correct.

"I don't think they're as high as that, from my own observations," he said.

He admitted, however, he believed em-

ployers could have a problem on their hands in the future.

"I think a growing influence is that full-time staff will be more

demanding and employers will need to be more attentive to their requirements and demands, otherwise they will move."

The survey also highlighted that 94 per cent of respondents recruit their own staff.

UQ's School of Business lecturer Tracey Dagger, who also owns a small business, said she found that offering high incentives was one way to keep staff.

"I think if you pay above the award wage and give extras such as flexible hours and the like that

can help," Mrs Dagger said.

Action International's global marketing manager Jodie Shaw said such a high turnover rate meant there was increased pressure on business owners.

"With job prospects up and the unemployment rate at a low 5.1 per cent, job seekers are highly mobile.

"Employers need to focus on their most valuable asset, their people, by retaining the employees they have and developing a team culture," she said.