



# The Hon Ray Williams MP

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**Member for Castle Hill**  
**Minister for Multiculturalism and**  
**Minister for Disability Services**

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**12 April 2018**

### **120 MILLION FOR MORE OPEN SPACES AND PLAYGROUNDS**

Member for Castle Hill, Ray Williams MP, has welcomed a NSW Government announcement to increase open spaces and inclusive playgrounds in Castle Hill following a \$120 million funding injection from the Government to make communities across the state more liveable and green.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian today announced the NSW Government had committed \$100 million to secure strategic open green space while also setting aside an extra \$20 million to build new and upgraded inclusive playgrounds.

“Having access to green open space is a crucial ingredient in making communities thriving and enjoyable places to live,” Ms Berejiklian said.

“We are committed to not only creating the jobs and infrastructure our communities need, but also the vital open and green spaces so that families can have the best quality of life.

“Our strong economic management means only a NSW Liberals & Nationals Government can invest in better local communities by creating more open space. We’ve heard the communities’ call to improve liveability and we are acting.”

The \$100 million commitment will allow the Government to identify and purchase land for public open space. It comes after recent strategic land purchases by the NSW Government including 16 hectares of land in West Hoxton that comprises the critically endangered ecological community Cumberland Plain Woodland, which is to be dedicated open space.

An extra \$20 million will go towards building new inclusive playgrounds in communities that currently do not have them, while also funding upgrades to playgrounds to ensure they have the most engaging and inclusive equipment.

“Through strategic planning and the purchasing of land we will be able to deliver quality parks and playgrounds for kids to play or open space to walk the family dog,” Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said.

“We are a Government that cares about its community and that’s why we want to ensure open space, parks, outdoor recreation areas and play spaces are able to be enjoyed by everybody equally.”

The \$20 million Everyone Can Play in NSW program will fund Councils by way of grants to renew, renovate or build new playgrounds.



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The grant program will provide opportunities for Councils to construct new or renovate existing inclusive playspaces across all of NSW. In collaboration with the Touched by Olivia Foundation, areas of high priority for new playspaces will be identified and delivery will be realised in partnership with local Councils.

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