



The Hon Ray Williams MP

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

MEDIA RELEASE

5 July 2017

CASTLE HILL TO BENEFIT FROM \$65M YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

Young people in Castle Hill who are unemployed are being urged to take part in a \$65 million NSW Government employment program to help them get training, overcome employment barriers, and secure lasting jobs.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said the Youth Employment Program is part of the NSW government's \$100 million Smart Skilled and Hired initiative.

"This new Youth Employment Program will help eligible young people aged 15-24 get the training and support they need to overcome barriers to employment and secure jobs that will last," Mr Williams said.

"The Youth Employment Program is being delivered in the Western Sydney, the Central Coast/Hunter, New England/North West and the North Coast regions to target and reduce high youth unemployment in these areas.

"This program will help young people who are not already registered with Commonwealth employment programs and who are not in work or are underemployed."

Mr Williams said following a tender process, MAX Solutions Pty Ltd, MTC, Navitas English, and yourtown have been selected as Youth Employment Program providers in the Castle Hill area.

These providers will be employed on an outcomes-based contracting model allowing them to design tailored support plans for local participants across areas including life skills, accommodation and transport, training, and health and wellbeing, while also considering the needs of the local labour market.

The provider contracts will also have financial incentives linked to young people staying in employment for at least six months.

The Youth Employment Program will be supported by employers and organisations to connect young people with training and jobs. This training, mentoring and work experience placements will help young people build their skills and experience to secure lasting employment.

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