The Hon Ray Williams MP

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

MEDIA RELEASE

20 June 2017

CASTLE HILL ELECTORATE TO BENEFIT FROM RECORD $100 MILLION BOOST TO PALLIATIVE CARE

The frontline health staff of the Castle Hill electorate will be eligible for training in palliative care following an investment of $100 million over four years, Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said today.

The record funding package for palliative care services is a state Budget initiative announced by Minister for Health Brad Hazzard and Treasurer Dominic Perrottet.

"This Budget measure means that our health staff can upskill their training in palliative care, as well as paying for additional specialist nurses and doctors to be recruited," Mr Williams said. "We want the community to have confidence and choice in their end-of-life care and this step is a huge help towards that outcome."

The announcement follows a series of nine palliative care roundtables held across NSW in recent weeks, during which health care workers, service providers, family members of people who had experienced palliative care and health administrators had discussed ways to improve the delivery of end-of-life care.

The NSW Government have listened to the views of communities across NSW and are making steps to expand the palliative care resources and choices at a local level.

Mr William is encouraging nurses and other allied health staff to apply for scholarships and for training. "This is a huge win for our community, but also for the professional development of our local healthcare workers" he said.

The 2017-18 NSW Budget will include palliative care training for 300 nurses and allied health staff, 300 scholarships for rural and regional staff to upgrade their palliative care skills, an additional eight palliative care specialists for rural and regional areas and an additional 30 palliative care nurses providing care in hospitals, homes and nursing homes.

Media: June Belkovskis | (02) 8882 9555