

## The Hon Ray Williams MP

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

## MEDIA RELEASE

## 17 January 2019

## SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT FORECASTS REVEALED FOR CASTLE HILL ELECTORATE

As school leavers consider their career options for 2019, a recent study by TAFE NSW of the Castle Hill electorate has forecasted exciting employment growth areas in the Health, Wellbeing and Community Services industry over the next three years.

Member for Castle Hill, Ray Williams said the largest increase in employment between 2018 and 2021 is forecast to be in the Health, Wellbeing and Community Services industry skills area, with around 23,560 additional jobs.

"Eighteen per cent of the Western City District's population will be over the age of 65 by 2036. More diverse housing types and medium density housing will create opportunities for older people to continue living in their community. This will require coordinated and additional health, social and aged care services to meet increased demand for aged care facilities, respite services and home care.

"Western Sydney will also need more local health workers skilled in cultural competencies, customer service and digital literacy to meet the health needs of a growing population which includes the largest urban population of Indigenous people in NSW," said Mr Williams.

"TAFE NSW offers a range of qualifications across industry growth areas including Certificate IV in Ageing Support, Certificate III in Individual Support (Disability) and Certificate Iv In Allied Health Assistance (Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy) - just to name a few.

"TAFE NSW is Australia's largest education and training provider and will conitnue to innovate and invest in courses to meet the skills needs of Castle Hill.

"TAFE NSW delivers the skills that drive a strong economy, support vibrant communities and help individuals, enterprises and industries to adapt and thrive.

"With more than 1200 face-to-face and online courses available for 2019, and with current and future job prospects for Castle Hill looking bright, I encourage the community to visit TAFE NSW to find out how you can upskill or reskill to pursue employment opportunities."

Members of the Castle Hill community can explore course and career options by visiting the <u>TAFE NSW InfoFest</u> between 21 and 25 January 2019 or www.tafensw.edu.au

Media: June Belkovskis - 02 8882 9555