



ILLAWARRA YOUTH EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY 2016 - 2017

A partnership to improve employment opportunities for young people in the Illawarra region.

Empowering our youth

Youth unemployment is a major challenge for all Australians and here in the Illawarra we are no exception. In fact, youth unemployment (people aged 15-24 years old) is one of the most significant economic and social issues facing the Illawarra region.

We know that to give our young people the best chance at employment and a bright future we need to take action.

The NSW Government and the Illawarra Pilot Joint Organisation have worked with industry and other partners to develop a Youth Employment Strategy for the Illawarra Region. The strategy covers the Kiama, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven and Wollongong local government areas.

The strategy aims to connect young people with the right skills and qualifications needed to secure jobs within key industries across the region.

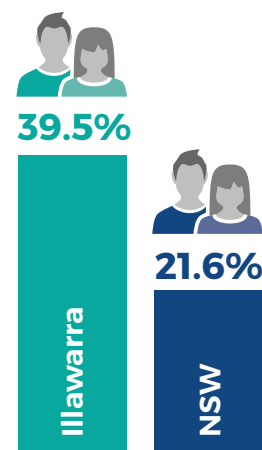
Taking action

The Illawarra Youth Employment Strategy is a simple package of actions that focuses on connecting employers' needs with job outcomes for young people.

The actions are a starting point, a building block, a first step in a long-term partnership across government, industry and other services.

Our aim is to deliver a sustained and collective impact on youth employment in the region.

Our hope is that young people will start their first job under this strategy, and that it is the first job of many in a varied and rewarding career in our region.



In 2011, 39.5% of people who were unemployed across the Illawarra region were young people (15-24 years old) compared to 21.6% for NSW (ABS, 2011).

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ACTION	WHAT'S INVOLVED	LEAD
1	Establish the construction industry youth training course 'Productivity Bootcamp' in the Illawarra region	Illawarra Business Chamber
2	Deliver the Retail Ready job program for young people across the Illawarra region	Australian Retailers Association
3	Develop and run an aged and disability services training, work experience and job program across the Illawarra region	Aged Care Illawarra Workforce Action Group and Illawarra Disability Alliance
4	Establish and run a hospitality-based training and work experience program across the Illawarra region	ClubsNSW
5	Establish a training and job-placement program across the Illawarra region for entry level employment in contact centres	AusContact Association and TAFE Illawarra
6	Strengthen youth employment opportunities in Local and State Government, especially through procurement processes.	Illawarra Pilot Joint Organisation (IPJO)
7	Engage the community and promote the activity of the #IllawarraYES	Illawarra Business Chamber
8	Investigate options to establish an Illawarra Youth Employment Action Fund	Illawarra Pilot Joint Organisation (IPJO)
9	Strengthen employment and career advice for young people seeking entry level employment	University of Wollongong and Illawarra Workplace Learning

Delivery partners

