

## MEDIA RELEASE

9 February 2018

### **Celebrating 25 years – and a new name!**

The Illawarra Forum is proud to host a morning tea on Monday 12 February to celebrate 25 years of service to local community services, and to launch its new name and brand.

CEO Nicky Sloan said, 'The Illawarra Forum was incorporated in 1993 to be a central body that could speak out and challenge a range of issues on behalf of the community services sector in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven.'

'Illawarra Forum began with a group of people coming together, and the word Forum embodied the work at that time,' added Chair of the Board, Eleonore Johansson. 'That group of committed individuals could not have foreseen how the Illawarra Forum would grow, and for the past 16 years we have been delivering a range of services across a much larger geographical reach including having an office at Batemans Bay. So the name Illawarra Forum no longer adequately reflects the organisation.'

Therefore, at the annual general meeting held on 7 December 2017, members unanimously voted for a special resolution to change the name of the Association to *Community Industry Group*.

'The new name reflects the collective and action-based nature of our work, as well as recognising that community services are a significant and highly professional industry,' Ms Sloan said, 'We are excited to move forward, but we will always recognise where we have come from. We are proud of our roots, and are pleased to be able to celebrate the history of the organisation as we launch our new brand.'

The new look Community Industry Group will be officially launched by **Gareth Ward MP, Parliamentary Secretary for the Illawarra and South Coast**.

Confirmed attendees include:

Anna Watson MP	Member for Shellharbour
Paul Scully MP	Member for Wollongong
Gordon Bradbury	Lord Mayor of Wollongong
Marianne Saliba	Mayor of Shellharbour

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Event Details**

**Date:** Monday 12 February 2018

**Time:** 10 – 10:45am

**Venue:** The Music Lounge, Wollongong Town Hall

### **About the Community Industry Group**

The Community Industry Group is the peak body working for community services and organisations in South East NSW. It supports community organisations, promotes expertise and innovation in community development, fosters industry development and provides advocacy for social justice.

The CI Group represents the non-government community services industry and works closely with numerous organisations which provide support to vulnerable people across the region.