

Media release



EMBARGOED : THURSDAY JANUARY 26

YWCA NSW CEO Anna Bligh Honoured

YWCA NSW today congratulated their CEO, Anna Bligh on receipt of a Companion (AC) in the General Division of the Order of Australia award in the 2017 Australia Day Honours list. Ms Bligh has been recognised for her eminent service to the Parliament of Queensland, particularly as Premier, to infrastructure development and education reform, as an advocate for the role of women in public life and to the not for profit sector.

“YWCA NSW is thrilled to see Anna’s contribution to the public life of Australia being recognised.” said YWCA NSW President, Professor Mary Foley AM.

As CEO of YWCA NSW (not for profit organisation) for the past three years, the significant impact Ms Bligh has had on the YWCA NSW is obvious. “During Anna’s tenure, YWCA NSW has expanded its services for women and children experiencing domestic violence, taken on new profit for purpose businesses including an innovative partnership operating the staff café and catering business in the new Mirvac head office and built stronger corporate and donor support for our key programs and services. The organisation has been taken to a new level, and is now a leader and influencer in the not for profit sector” said Professor Foley. “We are all delighted that Anna’s positive impact is being recognised and awarded.”

“As the first female Premier of Queensland, breaking through gender stereotypes was an ever present reality for me. So joining the YWCA, an organisation that works for the rights of women, both here and globally, felt right” says Ms Bligh. “Having the chance to advocate for and empower young women experiencing similar roadblocks, and provide services and support, especially for women and children experiencing violence, is a key part of the mission of YWCA NSW.”

“I am deeply grateful to be recognised in this year’s Australia Day Honours” Ms Bligh said. “I look forward to seeing more Australian women being recognised in our Honours awards in the future and intend to continue to advocate for women across the country and around the world.”

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