



# **The Hon Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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14 May, 2012

#### **CONSUMER AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FRAMEWORK LAUNCHED**

The NSW Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, visited Liverpool Hospital today to launch the framework which outlines how the Local Health District works with patients, carers and the community to deliver local health care.

“The O’Farrell Government is committed to ensuring that the robust involvement of community members in the public health system continues to thrive,” Mrs Skinner said.

“A commitment to community participation leads to improved health care and services that are transparent, accountable, reliable and localised,” she said.

Mrs Skinner congratulated South Western Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD) for its ongoing commitment to involving consumers, carers and community members at all levels of the organisation.

She noted community participation networks had helped develop and implement local programs such as The Hub Community Health Centre in Miller, which delivers health and welfare information, and the successful “Team Around the Child” pilot project at Campbelltown Hospital and Bankstown Community Health Centre which creates teams of health professionals for families of children with complex needs.

The SWSLHD Consumer and Community Participation Framework which was launched by Mrs Skinner sets out the aims, structure, role and processes for community participation in the Local Health District.

“The framework identifies the formal processes that ensure we involve health consumers and the community in our health care delivery, on a day to day basis and in long term planning,” said Mr Bill Little, SWSLHD’s Consumer and Community Participation Chairperson.

“It captures the 10 year history of why and how participation has developed and outlines the range of commitments made to ensure this continues into the future.”

By sharing their views and perspectives, community members made a real difference to how health services were provided, he said.

Mr Little said SWSLHD was looking for local community representatives to become members of the Hospital’s Community Participation Network.

“Contributing to the way your local health service is run can be extremely rewarding,” he said.