



The Hon Kevin Humphries MP

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Healthy Lifestyles

Minister for Western NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 24th September 2012

ANOTHER STEP FORWARD IN NSW MENTAL HEALTH REFORM

A series of community consultations will be held throughout the State to allow public input into the review of *NSW Mental Health Act 2007*, NSW Minister for Mental Health, Kevin Humphries, announced today.

Mr Humphries said the purpose of the review was to examine the effectiveness and relevance of the Act, and to ensure the protections offered to mental health patients under it are consistent with contemporary community standards.

“The *NSW Mental Health Act 2007* is one of the most important pieces of legislation we have, as through it the rights and protections of some of the most vulnerable people in our communities – those with a mental illness – are protected,” Mr Humphries said.

“Public input into the review is vital in ensuring any changes to the Act reflect the needs identified by the community.

“I would strongly encourage people with a mental illness, carers, mental health stakeholders and the general public to either make an individual submission or attend one of the upcoming community consultation forums that will be held throughout NSW over the coming months.”

The review will be led by an independent consultation panel comprising NSW Mental Health Commissioner John Feneley; National Mental Health Commission member, The Hon. Rob Knowles; New Zealand Mental Health Commissioner, Dr Lynne Lane; and senior lecturer at the Brain and Mind Research Institute, Sebastian Rosenberg.

“It is vital that the Act ensures the most compassionate care and appropriate treatment is given to people with a mental illness in NSW and that is why this review is so important,” Mr Humphries said.

“Along with the establishment of the NSW Mental Health Commission, this review is yet another vital step forward in the NSW Government’s plan to improve mental health services and delivery for every person in the State.”

A discussion paper will be released ahead of the community forums. For more information on the review, visit:

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/mhdao/review_nsw_mh_act_2007.asp.

MHA Review Community Consultation Forums	Date
<p style="text-align: center;">Orange Ex-Services' Club</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 2 October 12.30pm – 3.30pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Lismore Workers' Club</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 8 October 11.30am – 2.30pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sydney Australian Technology Park</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 10 October 9.30am – 12.30pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Shellharbour Shellharbour Club</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 18 October 1.30pm – 4.30pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Penrith Penrith Panthers Club</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 3 October 9.30am – 12.30pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Newcastle Crowne Plaza</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 9 October 12.30pm – 3.30pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Broken Hill Trades Hall</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 15 October 9am – midday</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Albury Commercial Club</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 19 October 11am – 2pm</p>