



# **Kevin Humphries MP**

## **Minister for Mental Health**

## **Minister for Healthy Lifestyles**

## **Minister for Western NSW**

---

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

---

Friday 2 August 2013

## **INNOVATIVE NEW SERVICE SET TO REFORM MENTAL HEALTH DELIVERY IN NSW**

NSW Minister for Mental Health, Kevin Humphries, has today announced that expressions of interest are being called for a pilot that will reform the way mental health services are delivered for adults in NSW.

Mr Humphries said that through the pilot program, people in NSW will for the first time have access to a comprehensive range of mental and related physical health treatments and support services under the one roof.

“Through these community hubs people concerned about mental health issues can walk through a single front door and receive a range of expert treatment and support to help them to make a full recovery in their community, close to their families and friends,” Mr Humphries said.

“These services will range from mental health, physical health and drug and alcohol support, to a range of social services such as employment, accommodation and vocational services aimed at support a person’s recovery and enabling them to live full and meaningful lives in the community.

“I want to see a system where a patient only has to walk through one front door and encounters a system designed to navigate their needs, rather than the patient – or their loved ones - being left to try to navigate the system.

“Since coming into Government the NSW Liberals & Nationals have led the nation when it comes to reforming the way mental health services are delivered. These hubs continue our record of reform and will make a real difference to the lives of those who use them.

“As the Minister for Mental Health I am committed to ensuring that we make accessing mental health services as easy as we can for people, so that we can best support them in their recovery.”

The three year pilot will be led by the non-government sector and will provide two new pilot service centres in the State, with \$1.8 million committed to the innovative new project in the 2013/14 State Budget.

“These centres will comprise co-located community mental health teams and key non-government services that people need to treat their mental health and other health problems, and to be supported to live a full and meaningful life in the community,” Mr Humphries said.

“We know that government does not have all the answers and that is why we need to be increasingly innovative and flexible in designing our services and draw on the skills and expertise that is available.

“The NSW Government has a strong commitment to working with the non-government sector and to strengthen its role in the delivery of vital services that have traditionally been the remit of government agencies.”

The Expressions of Interest (EOI) has today been released on the NSW Ministry of Health tender website: <https://tenders.nsw.gov.au/health/>. Submissions will close on 3 September 2013, with the pilot to commence in early 2014.