



Budget 2010-11

Building for NSW's future

MENTAL HEALTH

\$1.2 billion investment in mental health services to help the state's most vulnerable

The Keneally Government will invest \$1.231 billion in mental health services around the State, Minister Assisting on Health (Mental Health) Barbara Perry announced today.

The 2010-11 NSW Budget sees \$21 million dedicated to mental health capital works.

Three more Psychiatric Emergency Care Centres (PECCs) are also due for completion. These are dedicated mental health treatment areas with specialist clinicians attached to major hospital emergency departments.

Ms Perry said completion of the three new PECCs – at Wollongong, Royal North Shore and Prince of Wales Hospitals – will bring the total number to 12 across the state.

“The NSW Government is committed to supporting the most vulnerable people in our community and that’s why we are proud to invest more than \$1.2 billion in the care of patients,” Ms Perry said.

“Mental illness can be debilitating for some, but there is a great deal of work taking place by dedicated staff to help those in need – with some incredible results.”

Ms Perry said \$554,000 has also been allocated to expand mental health services at Nepean Hospital in Western Sydney and \$800,000 towards the commencement of a fully operational PECC at Prince of Wales Hospital which will replace the current interim PECC.

\$3.5 million will be provided to support 20 mental health beds at the new Bloomfield Hospital in Orange expected to be opened later this year.

The NSW Government’s continuing commitment to the implementation of the Wood Commission recommendations sees an additional \$8.6 million allocated for the Government’s ‘Keep Them Safe: A shared approach to child wellbeing’ initiatives.

This includes \$2.5 million funding for “Got It” (Getting On Track in Time), a schools based early intervention program for children with disruptive behaviours.



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Major mental health capital works in 2010-11 include:

- \$4.1 million to complete the six bed Child and Adolescent Inpatient Unit at Shellharbour Hospital;
- \$3.3 million funding for expanded mental health facilities for Hornsby Hospital;
- \$2.7 million to continue the development of the new eight bed Child and Adolescent Inpatient Unit at the Sydney Children's Hospital;
- \$2.1 million for a new Prince of Wales Hospital Mental Health Intensive Care Unit;
- \$2.1 million to complete the 20 bed non-acute unit at James Fletcher Hospital;
- \$1.9 million to complete the Prince of Wales Hospital Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre;
- \$1 million for safe assessment rooms in various locations;
- \$200,000 to complete the Royal North Shore Hospital Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre;
- Completion of the Orange-Bloomfield Hospital Redevelopment PPP which includes acute and forensic mental health facilities.