



Barbara Perry MP
Minister for Local Government
Minister Assisting the Minister for Health
(Mental Health)

Boost for community mental health services in Lake Macquarie

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The co-location of Lake Macquarie's adult community mental health services onto one key site will provide a significant boost to the region, Minister Assisting the NSW Minister for Health (Mental Health) Barbara Perry said today.

“From February, Lake Macquarie Community Mental Health Service, the Mental Health Service for Older People and Supported Recovery Lake Macquarie will all come under the one roof in refurbished offices at 29 Smith Street, Charlestown,” Ms Perry said.

Ms Perry and Member for Charlestown Matthew Morris inspected the extended and refurbished premises during a visit to the Newcastle today.

“It is important that we continue to build strong community mental health services to balance care provided in our acute care hospitals. This co-location will provide seamless pathways of care for mental health consumers needing both acute and rehabilitation services,” Ms Perry said.

“Clients can go to one location and be directed to the service they require. It will also improve the collaboration between the services and help reduce duplications, such as clients having to be assessed by each individual service.”

Member for Charlestown Matthew Morris said the NSW Government and Hunter New England Health are committed to providing improved access to a wider range of public mental health services for people in the Hunter region

“Up to 50 Hunter New England Mental Health staff – including psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses, social workers, occupational therapists and administration staff – will operate from the new premises,” Mr Morris said.

Co-located services available at the new hub:

- **Supported Recovery** is part of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Service, which aims to enhance opportunities for people with a mental illness to live with independence and dignity in the community.
- **Lake Macquarie Mental Health Service** provides a range of individualised services for people experiencing and recovering from mental illness.
- **Mental Health Services for Older People** is a specialist service providing assessment, consultation and case management to people aged over 65 who are living with a mental illness.

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