



**THE HON PETER DUTTON MP
MINISTER FOR HEALTH
MINISTER FOR SPORT**

MEDIA RELEASE

4 February 2014

Mental Health Review

The Minister for Health Peter Dutton today announced the Terms of Reference for the review of mental health services and programmes.

The wide-ranging review being undertaken by the National Mental Health Commission fulfils a Coalition election commitment and is aimed at delivering mental health services and programmes more efficiently and effectively.

All existing programmes across the government, non-government and private sectors will be reviewed.

Mr Dutton said the Government was committed to building a world-class mental health system that delivered appropriate services to support people experiencing mental ill health and their families.

“To do this, we need to know what really works and ensure that existing resources in the mental health sector are being targeted as effectively as possible.

“At the same time, we must work within the fiscal constraints that are facing all Australian governments, getting maximum value for taxpayers’ dollars while ensuring people living with mental health issues get the support they need.”

The review should identify gaps in service delivery, inefficiency, duplication and excessive red tape.

The National Mental Health Commission (NMHC) will engage with state and territory governments and other stakeholders in undertaking the review.

Chair of the NMHC Professor Allan Fels said: “The Commission welcomes the opportunity to conduct this important and timely review and looks forward to delivering its report to the Government in late November.”

Detailed terms of reference are available at – <http://www.mentalhealthcommission.gov.au/our-work/Review-of-Existing-Mental-Health-Services-and-Programmes.aspx>

Contact officer with the NMHC is David Butt, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Media Contact: Minister's Office on 02 6277 7220