

National Health Reform in NSW

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Deputy Director-General

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Local Health Networks (LHNs)

Amongst other things, LHNs will be responsible for:

- i. delivering agreed services and performance standards within an agreed budget
- ii. ensuring accountable and efficient provision of services and producing annual reports
- iii. monitoring LHN performance against agreed performance monitoring measures in the LHN Service Agreement
- iv. improving local patient outcomes and responding to system-wide issues
- v. maintaining effective communication with the State and relevant local stakeholders, including clinicians and the community.

Local Health Networks (LHNs)

- Health Services Amendment (Local Health Networks) Bill 2010 introduced to Lower House on 21 October
- The Bill amends the Health Services Act 1997 to allow for the creation of local health networks to deliver public hospital services in New South Wales.
- The Bill also establishes Local Health Network Governing Councils, in the place of the current area health advisory councils.

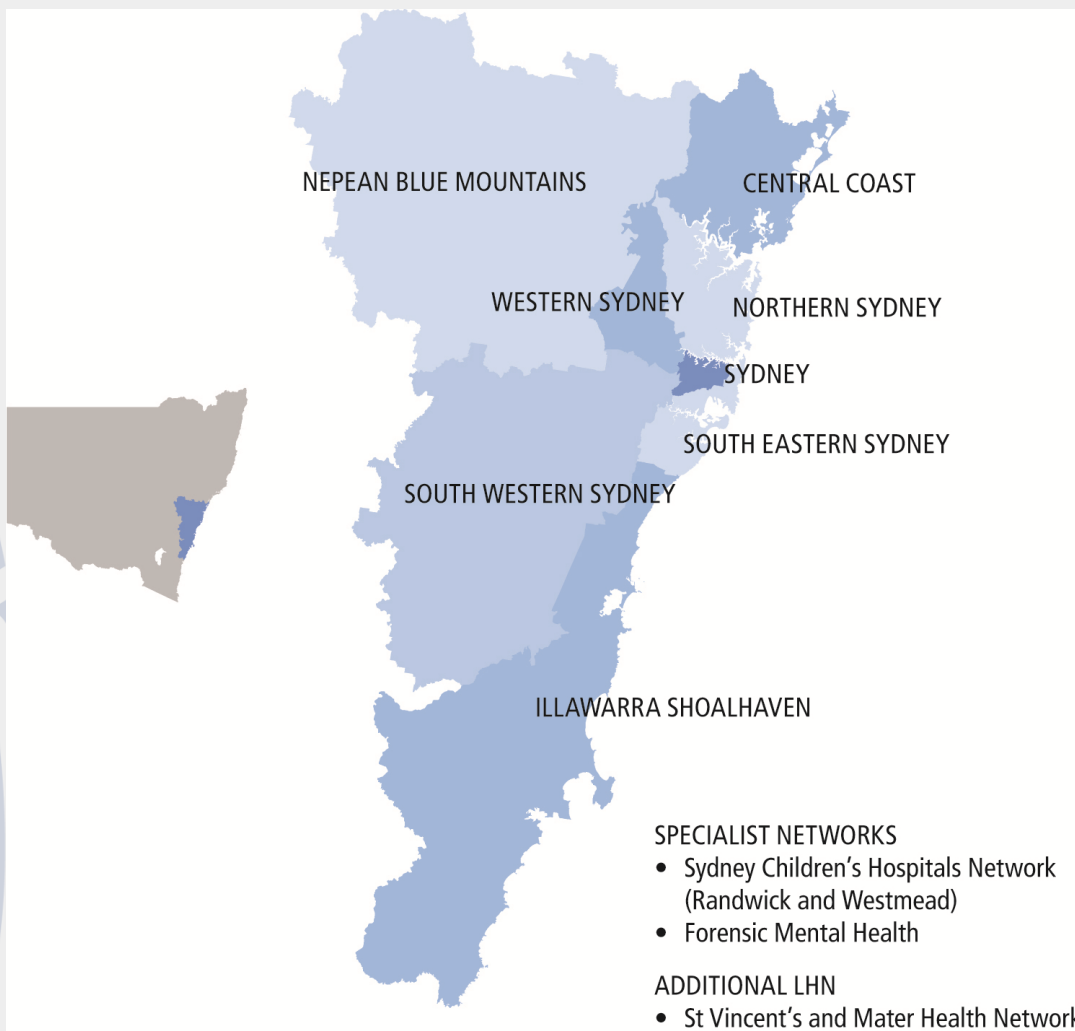
Local Health Networks (LHNs)

- Eight geographically based LHNs covering the Sydney metropolitan region,
- Seven geographically based LHNs covering rural and regional regions, and
- Three specialty networks covering Sydney Children's Health, Forensic Mental Health and services delivered by St Vincent's Health.

Rural & Regional Local Health Networks



Metropolitan LHNs



Participation of NGOs and consumers on Local Health Networks and Medicare Locals

Participants include:

- Ms Stevie Clayton, Chief Executive Public Education Foundation (NSW) and previous Chief Executive, AIDS Council of NSW (Sydney LHN)
- Ms Ann Brassil, Chief Executive Family Planning NSW (Northern Sydney LHN)
- Dr Naomi Mayers OAM, Chief Executive Aboriginal Medical Service, Redfern (South Eastern Sydney LHN)
- Ms Jill Boehm, Deputy Chair Cancer Council of NSW and former Chief Executive Officer CanAssist (Illawarra Shoalhaven LHN)
- Ms Debbie Roberts, Chief Executive Youth Solutions (South Western Sydney LHN)
- Ms Leone Crayden, CEO On Track Community Programs Inc (Northern NSW LHN)

Clinical Support Division

- The clinical support division is divided into three geographical zones – Northern, Southern and Western
- The Clinical Support Division uses a ‘clustered’ approach – each working along side 5 Local Health Networks
- Their role is to provide technical expertise and corporate support to the LHNs.
- Assist with the transition process and;
- Ensure effective clinical service networks are maintained and further developed to improve efficient resource utilisation & equity of access to the appropriate range of services

NSW Health NGO Program

- The NGO sector has an important role in delivering services to improve health outcomes for target populations that have particular needs.
- In 2010/11, NSW Health is providing \$146 million for 511 grants to more than 300 organisations across NSW.
- A NSW Health Review of the NGO Grants Program was conducted in 2009/10.
- Ten NGOs were represented on the NGO Review Reference Committee and more than 160 NGOs participated in the consultations

NSW Health NGO Program Principles

- Maintain and strengthen collaborative relationships between NGO Sector and NSW Health
- Maintain the integrity and sustainability of successful collaborative service models in NSW
- Promote better planning and coordination between the Commonwealth funded services and NSW Health in service delivery – including in NGO-funded services across service types

The broad recommendations from the NSW Health NGO Review are:

- Reduce red tape and improve governance, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the NSW Health NGO Program
- NSW Health and the NGO Sector work together to ensure that health funded NGO services provide value for money services and are broadly complementary with NSW Health priorities
- To strengthen partnerships between NSW Health and the NGO Sector

Ongoing Consultation with the NGO Sector

- Feedback through the NGO Review Reference Committee, chaired by the Deputy Director-General
- Revised and expanded NGO Advisory Committee (NGOAC) from May 2011
- NGO Policies and Procedures and a NGO Quality Working Groups established with NGO Sector representation
- Communication Strategy to be developed

Further Information is available at the following websites

- NSW Health National Health Reform website:
<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/initiatives/healthreform/index.asp>
- NSW Health NGO Program website:
http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/business/ngo_program.asp
- Updates can also be found in the *Healthy Communities* Newsletter at
http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/primaryhealth/hc_newsletter_pdf.asp