



MEDIA RELEASE

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Government support for Mental Health Commission shows commitment to reform

The Mental Health Council of Australia (MHCA) has welcomed the Government's immediate commitment to reforming mental health with the appointment of Robyn Kruk as CEO of the Mental Health Commission.

"A national Mental Health Commission is critical in reforming mental health in Australia and we are very pleased that the Prime Minister and Minister Mark Butler has acted so expediently to establish the support structures underpinning the Mental Health Commission," said MHCA CEO, Frank Quinlan.

"The Government has announced a massive investment in new services, greater collaboration between health services and a raft of measures designed to reform mental health care in Australia. The Mental Health Commission will play a pivotal and central role in overseeing the delivery of these reforms and reporting progress to the Federal Parliament.

"I welcome the Government's commitment to consulting widely to ensure the final membership of the new Mental Health Commission includes a broad section of interests.

"The Mental Health Commission must be independent and strong enough to hold all levels of government and others to account on performance of mental health programs and services. The Commission should be diverse enough to guide long term planning and coordination amongst the very wide range of stakeholders delivering and receiving mental health services.

"The Mental Health Council of Australia welcomes the appointment of a CEO with the strong track record and experience of Ms Kruk, and we look forward to working with Ms Kruk the Government as mental health is reformed in Australia," Mr Quinlan said. "I am sure the mental health sector will welcome this appointment."

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