

# Establishment of a Statewide Mental Health Consumer Organisation

## Have your say...

In June 2008 the then Minister for Health requested Mental Health Services undertake a statewide review of consumer and carer participation with the aim of identifying an optimum model for participation within Tasmania.

The Consumer and Carer Participation Review Report was released in September 2009 and made a number of recommendations. To assist with the implementation of these recommendations an Advisory Committee was established and is comprised of individual consumer and carer representatives, representatives from consumer and carer organisations, the Mental Health Council of Tasmania and Mental Health Services.

A key recommendation from the review was the establishment of a statewide independent mental health consumer organisation to:

- Promote the rights and responsibilities of mental health consumers.
- Provide independent representation and an informed voice for Tasmania's mental health consumers.
- Work collaboratively with other stakeholders with a view to achieving the best possible outcomes for people with mental illness.
- Undertake activities that will assist in developing the capacity of mental health consumers to participate.

The consumer organisation will be legally constituted, will be sustainable and will have appropriate governance structures. Proposed objectives and principal functions for the new consumer organisation have been developed and are available at [www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth) or by phoning 6336 4387.

You can have your say on the proposed objectives and functions by:

- Completing the feedback survey at [www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth)
- Contacting Lynette Pearce, Senior Consumer and Carer Liaison Consultant on 6336 4387 or [lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au) or PO Box 708, Launceston, 7250

**Please note all feedback will be confidential and the information from the survey will not be used in any way that can identify individuals.**

The closing date for providing feedback is **Friday 20 August 2010**. For questions or further information please contact Lynette Pearce at [lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au) or phone 6336 4387.

Feedback from the consultations will be available at [www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth) during September 2010.