

Media Release

Andrew Broad

Member for Mallee

Wednesday, 12 April 2017

NEW HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE WIMMERA MALLEE

People living with chronic illnesses, in the Wimmera Mallee region, will benefit from the Coalition Government's \$5.3 million investment in health across western Victoria, the Member for Mallee, Andrew Broad, said this morning.

Mr. Broad said that consultation, led by the Western Victoria Primary Health Network, has identified that chronic conditions are one of the most significant health concerns for the community and that this latest investment is in response to these findings.

Spread across a number of providers, Mr. Broad said people suffering from Diabetes, Cardiovascular diseases, Cancer, Dementia, mental illness, musculoskeletal conditions, Asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary disease will now be able to receive increased support.

"Services will begin from July 1 and will be delivered by a number of providers, including the Edenhope and District Memorial Hospital, West Wimmera Health Service, Heywood Rural Health, East Grampians Health Services, Rural Northwest Health and Tristar Medical Group.

"We know that chronic disease is on the rise and that it can seriously affect a person's quality of life.

"The new services will help patients both in terms of treatment and management of symptoms through to education and improved co-ordination of care.

"This is about ensuring that people suffering from chronic illness can still have quality of life and the security of knowing that there is support available."

Western Victoria Primary Health Network is responsible for selecting the providers and administering the new services which are consistent with the Government's Long Term National Health Plan.

In welcoming the latest investment, Mr. Broad said he hoped to see further funding allocated to support people living with illness in the Wimmera Mallee.

"Living in rural and regional Australia should not mean sacrificing access to quality health care.

Email andrew.broad.mp@aph.gov.au
Web www.andrewbroad.com
Phone 1300 131 620

Media contact: Kirsten Lloyd
Email kirsten.lloyd@aph.gov.au
Phone 0418 445 233

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“With chronic disease on the rise, we as the Government must work to set in place safety nets for people affected by disease, so that they get appropriate medical care and support, no matter where they live.

“I welcome today’s investment in the health of the Wimmera Mallee and I look forward to further funding injections in the future.”

The new services will be delivered from:

Edenhope	Nhill	Kaniva	Jeparit	Rainbow
Goroke	Harrow	Marnoo	Navarre	Beulah
Stawell	Halls Gap	Minyip	Murtoa	Warracknabeal
Hopetoun	Rupanyup	Woomelang		

ENDS