



**John Barilaro**  
NSW Deputy Premier

**Dominic Perrottet**  
Treasurer

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **\$7.5 MILLION FOR DUBBO DRUG AND ALCOHOL REHAB**

Dubbo will receive a \$7.5 million boost to drug and alcohol treatment services, including a purpose-built facility for withdrawal management and residential rehabilitation.

Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said the NSW Government was delivering on its commitment to provide the Dubbo community with the new centre.

“This \$7.5 million investment in drug and alcohol treatment for Dubbo is on top of a significant investment in the 2020-2021 Budget to tackle the challenges of addiction across this state,” Mr Perrottet said. “The devastation can have a ripple effect throughout the community and we want to break that cycle.”

Deputy Premier John Barilaro said the drug and alcohol treatment centre is the first of its kind in the Central West and is an example of the NSW Government bridging the gap in health services between those living in the city and those in the bush.

“Addiction doesn’t identify postcodes and regional communities suffer the same health and social problems created by drugs as those in the city,” Mr Barilaro said.

“People in the bush deserve access to the best quality healthcare and this centre will genuinely change lives for those people living in our regional communities who have been directly or indirectly affected by the impacts of substance abuse.”

Member for Dubbo Dugald Saunders said this facility will be a lifesaving project that will create real change in Dubbo and the wider region.

“Unfortunately, too many people in our community are either directly or indirectly impacted by drug addiction and the associated societal problems, and this is a huge step forward in providing access to services that will help people,” Mr Saunders said

“There has been plenty said and written about the need for a facility in Dubbo and I have always supported the concept and fought for this funding, but it is also important that we provide the appropriate services that ensure this isn’t just bricks and mortar.

“This money, along with \$3 million from the Federal government, will ensure the facility is constructed, but we have also committed to recurrent funding for those services.”

Hospital data shows that between 2013-14 and 2016-17, the rate of methamphetamine-related hospitalisations in the Western NSW LHD for people aged 16 years and over more than doubled.

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