



Prioritising Mental Health – national headspace network

The Government will expand the headspace network by creating new sites in 30 locations nationally, and will provide more funding to boost frontline services and reduce wait times.

headspace provides vital mental health, related physical health, substance misuse, and social and vocational support for young people.

The Government will invest \$111.3 million to increase the number of headspace sites from 115 to 145 across Australia by 2021. There will be 10 new headspace centres and 20 new satellite services, including satellites in Sarina and Whitsunday, Queensland.

Additional funding of \$152 million will be provided to help headspace centres experiencing high levels of demand to improve their services and reduce wait times so that young people can get more rapid support in times of need.

Why is this important?

This investment builds on recent significant additional funding provided for headspace, and demonstrates the Government's commitment to the mental wellbeing of young Australians.

Early intervention can reduce the duration and impact of mental illness. About 560,000 Australian children and adolescents are estimated to have a mental illness and one in four young Australians aged 16 to 24 experiences mental illness in any given year. Three quarters of all mental illness starts in people under 25.

Young people get the mental health services they need, when they need them. It engages young people and supports them. They see it as approachable and accessible.

Who will benefit?

Young Australians aged 12–25 with mental health needs will benefit.

How much will this cost?

This will cost \$263.3 million from 2018–19 to 2024–25.