



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**AMANDA RISHWORTH MP**  
**Member for Kingston**

14 April 2011

### **LEAD AGENCY SELECTED FOR NEW YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE IN NOARLUNGA**

Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Member for Kingston welcomed the announcement today by the Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing that the General Practice Network South Inc (GPNS) has been selected to operate the new *headspace* youth mental health service at Noarlunga.

Minister for Mental Health and Ageing Mark Butler said the GPNS's leadership will ensure Noarlunga's *headspace* service supports more local young people to access support for depression, substance abuse and other mental health issues.

Ms Rishworth said "I am delighted that the GPNS will be receiving a \$300, 000 grant to establish the Noarlunga *headspace* service as well as ongoing funding to support the operation of this important new service in our community.

"GPNS supports more than 100 general practices in the Southern Adelaide region and I believe they are very well placed to spear-head the new youth-specific mental health service at Noarlunga."

Ms Rishworth said the new *headspace* service would address the lack of youth-specific mental health services in the local area.

Ms Rishworth said "We know that one in four young Australians aged 16-24 years will experience mental health disorders—including substance use disorders—in any year.

"However, three-quarters of these people aren't receiving the professional help they need, partly because of a lack of access to youth-specific mental health services.

"The Noarlunga *headspace* will give young people in our local community and their parents and carers somewhere to turn to for help with the knowledge that 92 per cent of surveyed clients have reported improvements in their mental health after using *headspace*."

Ms Rishworth said that the General Practice Network South Inc was independently selected to run the Noarlunga site following an open Expression of Interest process by the *headspace* National Youth Mental Health Foundation.

For more information about *headspace* see <http://www.headspace.org.au/>.