MEDIA RELEASE

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Preventing youth suicide - Committee to visit Singleton

"Youth suicide is a big problem in some of our regional and rural areas. That's why the Committee on Children and Young People has chosen a regional location, Singleton, to hold a hearing," said Committee Chair and Holsworthy MP Melanie Gibbons.

The public hearing in Singleton on Monday, 27 November 2017 is part of the Committee's inquiry into the prevention of youth suicide in New South Wales.

"A number of significant programs aimed at preventing suicide are being trialled in the Hunter region. These include LifeSpan and The Way Back Support Service.

"The Hunter is also home to many leading researchers and policy-makers, including Everymind, formerly the Hunter Institute of Mental Health.

"We will also speak with service providers working on the frontline to prevent youth suicide to know what's working well in the Hunter community, and what can be improved."

The inquiry's terms of reference also focus on the approaches taken by schools and the services available to vulnerable and at-risk groups. The Committee values the opportunity to learn more about these and other matters at its Singleton hearing.

To learn more about the hearing and the Inquiry, visit the Committee's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/children. Details of further hearings will appear online when available.

If you or anyone you know needs help, please contact Lifeline on 13 11 14, Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 or the Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467.

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