



The Hon. Brad Hazzard MP
Minister for Health

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Mr Nicolas Parkhill AM
Chief Executive Officer
ACON

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Our ref M23/1144

Dear Mr Parkhill

The NSW Liberal and Nationals Government is firmly committed to celebrating and strengthening diversity, inclusion and belonging, as core to a safe, harmonious and prosperous community for all and has supported a variety of practical measures to ensure that members of the LGBTIQ+ Community are safe and free from discrimination.

We passed the *Criminal Records Amendment (Historical Homosexual Offences) Act 2014* (NSW), introduced by former Liberal Member for Coogee, Bruce Notley-Smith, to clear historic homosexual offences from criminal records.

In 2022, we established a Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ Hate Crimes, led by Justice Sackar, to look into the manner and cause of death in all unsolved suspected hate crime deaths in New South Wales between 1970 and 2010, where the victim was a member of the LGBTIQ community and the death was the subject of a previous investigation by the NSW Police Force.

The NSW Liberal and Nationals Government provided whole-of-Government support to the 2023 Sydney World Pride celebrations including investing millions of dollars through Destination NSW and Create NSW to create a platform for hundreds of events including the Pride March across Sydney Harbour Bridge, the Human Rights Conference, large events like the Sydney World Pride Opening Ceremony through to small community activations across the state.

The NSW Liberal and Nationals Government also added the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade route to the NSW State Heritage Register and announced a permanent home for Qtopia museum at the Old Darlinghurst Police Station – this museum tells the important and sometime painful story of our community's fight for justice and inclusion and celebrates the bravery of the 78'ers.

Recently, we announced increased funding for ACON's Crisis Support and Aftercare suicide prevention service, recognising the mental health challenges for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people.

Through the Health Portfolio, our achievements towards this in the last year along have been significant. As you will recall, one year ago we launched the LGBTIQ+ Health Strategy 2022 for ensuring that LGBTIQ+ people receive high quality, safe, inclusive, and responsive healthcare in our public system, At this time, we also announced Australia's first LGBTIQ+ Health Strategy 2022 for ensuring that LGBTIQ+ people receive high quality, safe, inclusive, and responsive healthcare in our public system, which is part of the NSW Government's landmark \$12 million investment, including:

- \$4.2m to establish a new LQBTIQ+ health centre to deliver primary care and GP, mental health, sexual health and cancer screening services
- \$3.4m annually for NSW Health's Specialist Trans and Gender Diverse Health Service to support trans youth and adults

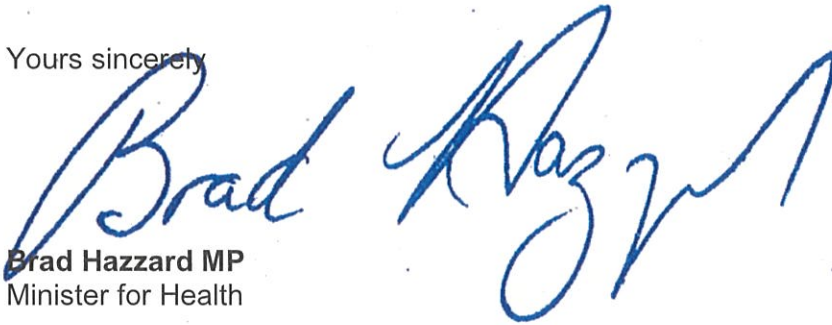
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- \$2.65m to support NSW Health workforce education and training, and the kick-start local initiatives delivered jointly with LGBTIQ+ organisations
- \$1.78m for mental health and suicide prevention initiatives

We have had the opportunity to partner on a number of practical initiatives and there is still more to do as we plan for our state's long-term future. I have enjoyed the opportunity to work closely with many members of the community, and hope to continue our collaboration during the next term of government.

Yours sincerely



Brad Hazzard MP
Minister for Health

16 MAR 2023