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## Chair, Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia and New Zealand) appointed Mental Health Commissioner

The Australian Government recently announced the appointment of five new mental health commissioners. The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia & New Zealand) in particular congratulates its Chair, Professor Wendy Cross for her appointment to the National Mental Health Commission.

Professor Cross identifies herself as a mental health nurse with more than 35 years experience. She holds a number of leadership positions in nursing and midwifery in Australia and is acknowledged internationally for her work in mental health and education. As well as Chair of the Council of Deans of Nursing & Midwifery she is President of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses and a Fellow of the Australian College of Nursing.

Professor Cross's expertise will be invaluable and she will assist the Commission as it conducts reviews and makes recommendations to the Australian Government on a wide range of issues such as the *services available to veterans and members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) in relation to the prevention of self-harm and suicide, mental health and suicide prevention, the roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, housing and homelessness as they relate to mental health and mental health concerns of people living in rural and remote areas, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.*

Professor Cross is an esteemed nurse leader and the foundation of her work has always been to improve the lives of Australians and in particular those living with mental health problems.

The Council is very proud and congratulates Professor Cross on her appointment to the Commission.

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