

## Leigh Philpott

Leigh Philpott is a social worker with ten years' experience working in rural and remote mental health. Whilst working within Hunter New England Local Health District he has taken on a number of senior leadership roles, being recognised at the local and state level for innovation and success in leading positive change for rural and remote communities. He currently holds dual roles within the service as District Service Development Manager and Service Manager for Tablelands and Mehi Cluster. During this time he has overseen growth in recruitment and retention, achieving full staffing in all remote and rural sites within the area, as well as implementation of clinical and operational telehealth programs and processes aimed at increasing effectiveness of leadership and management over distance and improving access for isolated consumers to access specialist mental health services. Firmly committed to improving health services for rural and remote communities, he lives in Tamworth NSW and is currently completing his MBA. In addition to leadership, management and distance technology in health, his other interests include ethics in coercive practice, education and training, health policy and organisational change management.