‘Vital services’ for women stay

FUNDING IS RESTORED TO FIVE ORGANISATIONS

Rohan Smith

WOMEN’S services in the inner city have been saved through a last-minute policy shift by the State Government.

Last week, Community Services Minister Gabrielle Upton announced annual funding of $8.6m over three years towards five services.

Funding had been cut to the services earlier this year, part of the State Government’s Going Home Staying Home reforms.

SOS Women’s Services spokeswoman Roxanne McMurray said funding was restored after “lengthy discussions” with government.

“We’re particularly pleased that Young People’s Refuge will remain open.

“It’s the only girls-only crisis refuge in NSW, and provides a critical service to girls as young as 13 escaping domestic violence and sexual abuse.”

Balmain state Greens MP Jamie Parker said it was “disappointing that it took months of community campaigning to get the government to see the importance of these vital services”.

He thanked the community organisations that were involved in the campaign.

They’re Saved

- Glebe: Detour House
- Leichhardt: Young People’s Refuge
- Darlinghurst: 8 Miles
- Leichhardt: Stepping Out
- Chippendale: Community Restorative Centre

“VITAL SERVICES’ FOR WOMEN STAY

Roxanne McMurray from Leichhardt Women’s Community Health Centre, Kerri Betteridge from Detour House and Ana Mamblona of Young People’s Refuge were among those community service workers who lobbied for more support for women’s services.

Singapore expert to give talk on Bays precinct

Rohan Smith

A PAIR of forums on the Bays Precinct have been scheduled for the same date and will clash.

Leichhardt Council is hosting its public meeting to discuss local concerns about the project at Balmain Town Hall from 6.30-8.30pm.

Sydney University had earlier scheduled a talk on the subject at Sydney Town Hall at the same time. The university is flying in an international expert from Singapore for the event as part of its Festival of Urbanism, which runs until Thursday, November 6.

Professor Stephen Cairns will join a local panel to talk about how Sydney could learn from Hamburg’s Hafencity, known as Europe’s largest inner city development project.

The Bays Precinct is the topic of two forums.