MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT HELPS MT DRUITT TACKLE GRAFFITI

The NSW Attorney General, Greg Smith SC, and the Mayor of Blacktown City Council, Councillor Alan Pendleton, today opened improvements to the Mount Druitt Swimming Centre, which are designed to reduce graffiti vandalism.

“These improvements will make the area, which is frequently targeted by vandals, more resistant to graffiti and more appealing to the wider community,” Mr Smith said.

The NSW Government provided Blacktown City Council with funding to work with the local community and undertake a range of works at the Mt Druitt Swimming Centre.

The funding was provided as part of the 2010/11 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Graffiti Hotspot program. The purpose of CPTED Graffiti Hotspot program is to fund projects that are able to reduce the incidence of graffiti and improve the amenity of community assets.

The works at the Mt Druitt Swimming Centre include the following:

- Consultation workshops with local schools and community groups
- Development of design mosaic in collaboration with local artists
- Rendering and mosaic installation to façade of Mt Druitt Pool
- Fencing work and green screening landscape works

In 2011/12 the NSW Government will allocate a total of almost $800,000 to councils across the state to help them reduce graffiti in hotspot areas by using proven CPTED principles.

Mr Smith said the program was part of the NSW Government’s comprehensive anti-graffiti strategy.

“Graffiti costs the community more than $100 million a year and combating this scourge is among the O’Farrell Government’s highest priorities.

“The NSW Government is working with a range of community organisations such as Rotary Clubs to establish volunteer graffiti removal squads across the state.

“With the support of local councils, the government will also hold its annual day for community action against graffiti,” Mr Smith said.