

PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

#### FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

#### **Community Recognition Statement**

## 29 March 2022

# ASHRAF ABDELBAKY

## Ms SONIA HORNERY (Wallsend):

The Premier's Multicultural Community Medals and Honour Roll pay tribute to the many outstanding people who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to promote social cohesion and harmony across our state.

One local man was the recipient of the All Graduates Interpreting and Translating Language Services Medal.

Congratulations to Ashraf Abdelbaky.

This award recognises the achievements of an interpreter or translator for the role they play in ensuring that the community of NSW has access to essential information and services.

Ashraf has been an interpreter in the Newcastle community for the last six years. He has participated in many programs at an academic level and for the broader community.

Ashraf has championed mental health awareness training for the Arab community and he is currently working with STARTTS, the Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors and with the Hunter New England Health Local Health District as a bicultural worker helping to deliver important COVD-19 messaging to the Arab community about vaccines and testing.

He has also worked on a translation book club initiative in the Wallsend library for the Arab community.

Thank you Ashraf for all your amazing work in our community.