



Government of **Western Australia**  
Mental Health Commission

# Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025.

## Key Achievements 2015-2017

October 2017



## Western Australian Mental Health and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025

- The Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025 (the Plan) is the Mental Health Commission's key planning tool for the mental health, alcohol and other drug (AOD) sector (see Figure 1).
- The Plan was developed through an extensive consultation process with stakeholders across the sector and outlines how we can all work together to achieve an optimal level of services for both mental health and alcohol and other drug services.
- The Plan provides a range of options for investment decisions and priority setting for all levels of Government and non-Government stakeholders, based on the optimal mix of mental health, AOD services required for the population of Western Australia, and subject to regular budgetary processes.
- Implementation of action items within the Plan is dependent on the financial capacity of both the State and the wider mental health and AOD sectors. The Plan is a road map to guide investment.
- A considerable amount of work has been undertaken across the Mental Health Commission (MHC) and the mental health, AOD sector, to meet the goals of the Plan and to support the people of Western Australia. This document outlines key initiatives undertaken over the past two years to meet the objectives outlined in the Plan.
- The Plan can be found [here](#).

### The Two Year Plan Update

- The MHC, in conjunction with stakeholders, has undertaken considerable work towards implementing the Plan, including seeking to rebalance the mental health, alcohol and other drug system towards person centred community based care; and continues to develop new initiatives in line with the Plan's actions and strategic direction.
- The Plan Update, scheduled to be released in early 2018, will include updated modelling and a summary of progress towards key actions outlined in the original Plan.
- Whilst the original Plan continues to be the primary reference for mental health, AOD services development, the Plan Update will provide the latest modelling and population demographics to ensure ongoing responsiveness to emerging trends.
- The Plan Update will also highlight key achievements and review what has changed since the original Plan was released.
- Stakeholders, including the community, will be invited to provide feedback on the draft Plan Update, which is expected to be released towards the end of 2017.
- Further information relating to the release of the draft for comment Plan Update will be provided at the start of the feedback period. To register your interest in being advised of the opening of the feedback period for the Plan Update, email: [communications@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:communications@mhc.wa.gov.au).



Figure 1: Strategic direction of the Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025: Better Choices. Better Lives<sup>1</sup>

## Key Achievements 2015-2017

- Since the release of the Plan in 2015, the MHC's annual service delivery budget for mental health has increased by \$19.4 million (2.6%) and for AOD by \$5.8m million (10.2%)<sup>2</sup>.
- To date, 74 key initiatives have commenced and 21 have been delivered. Key achievements delivered by the MHC in collaboration with stakeholders, since the release of the Plan are outlined in this paper.
- Since the development of the Plan, services have been delivered to help change people's lives across Western Australia.

## Prevention Services

- Implementation of new psychoactive substances legislation, the *Misuse of Drugs Amendment (Psychoactive Substances) Act 2015*.
- Expansion of Drug Aware public education campaigns with \$540,000 of funding to prevent and reduce the harm from methamphetamine use.
- Additional funding of \$500,000 in 2016/17 and 2017/18 to expand school drug education programs including those provided by the School Drug Education and Road Aware program.
- Development of, and additional funding of \$25.9 million from 2015/16 to 2018/19, for the State suicide prevention strategy for Western Australia - Suicide Prevention 2020: Together we can save lives.
- Commenced drafting of the Mental Health Promotion, Mental Illness and AOD Prevention Plan, that builds on existing approaches and activities underway in AOD prevention and mental health prevention and promotion.

## Community Support Services

- Evaluation of the Individualised Community Living Strategy program that supports people with severe mental illness to live independently in the community completed and released.
- Continuation of the Transitional Housing and Support Program with \$2.5 million funding from 2016/17 to 2018/19.
- Engagement in the redesign of community based services, including the establishment of Recovery House, to provide a more flexible, contemporary approach to people's personalised and housing support needs.
- Commenced the development of the Accommodation and Support Strategy for people with mental health and AOD issues.

<sup>1</sup> Image: Extract from the WA Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025

<sup>2</sup> Based on actuals for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

## Community Treatment Services

- Implementation of the new Alcohol Assessment and Treatment component of the Alcohol Interlock Scheme to help offenders stop harmful drink driving.
- Establishment of the State Meth Helpline to provide specialist information, support and referral for individuals and families affected by methamphetamine use with \$300,000 funding over two years.
- Establishment of a new Community Alcohol and Drug Service facility in Joondalup with \$5.4 million in funding over four years from 2014/15 to 2018/19.
- Continuation of nine service hubs across the Kimberley and Pilbara to provide both AOD treatment and prevention services as part of a North West Drug and Alcohol Support Program with additional funding of \$24.5 million from 2016/17 to 2019/20 through the Royalties for Regions Program.
- Establishment of a new Specialist Amphetamine Clinic with \$530,000 funding from 2016/17 to 2017/18 to provide additional services for methamphetamine users including rapid assessment, early intervention and medically supervised withdrawal.
- Expansion of existing Community Alcohol and Drug Services across the State with \$3.7 million funding from 2016/17 to 2017/18 to provide additional prevention and outpatient treatment services for methamphetamine users.
- Creation of a new child, adolescent and youth psychiatrist position in the Kimberley with \$0.5 million in recurrent funding from 2016/17.
- Ongoing development and delivery of a dedicated Youth Mental Health Program by the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) with \$1.8 million funding in 2016/17 to, among other outcomes, improve youth engagement with WACHS Community Mental Health Services in the Pilbara and South West to encourage access to timely and targeted support.
- Implementation of youth community treatment services with \$1.9 million funding in 2016/17 that provides assessment and intensive case management to young people between the ages of 16 to 24 years in the South Metropolitan region who are at a higher risk of developing mental health issues.
- Continuation of the Assertive Community Intervention initiative by the Child and Adolescent Health Service for child and family support services that provides an alternative to hospital based care for young people at high risk of experiencing a mental health crisis.
- Development and implementation of a mental health co-response trial in partnership with the Western Australia Police and the Department of Health, with \$1.0 million funding for the clinical component of the trial in 2016/17. The trial delivers a more effective and appropriate early intervention service response for individuals who experience a mental health crisis in the community.
- Continuation of the Statewide Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Service in 2017/18 with \$9.9 million funding and an evaluation of the program.

## Community Bed-Based

- An additional 52 beds for AOD residential rehabilitation and eight beds for withdrawal/detox in community facilities, in metropolitan and regional areas (\$6.1 million funding over two years from 2016/17 to 2017/18 and \$12 million from 2018/19 to 2020/21).

- Commencement of an \$18 million project to establish additional alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation in the South West.
- Development and community consultation on an Exposure Draft Bill and Summary Model of Service for compulsory AOD treatment legislation in Western Australia.
- A new 10 bed community mental health step up/step down service opened in Rockingham.
- Planning and development of additional step up/step down services in Bunbury, Karratha, Broome and Kalgoorlie commenced.

## Hospital Bed-Based Services

- Increased specialist support services in emergency departments to provide information, support and referral options to individuals, family members and hospital staff for people affected by methamphetamine use through funding of \$2.4 million over two years from 2016/17 to 2017/18.
- Expansion of Hospital in the Home places from 5.5% to 6.2% of the total inpatient bed count from December 2015 to June 2017, and commencement of planning for the development of an appropriate service model for infants, children, adolescents and youth.
- Opening of 135 new and replacement mental health hospital places including:
  - 30-bed acute mental health unit at Fiona Stanley Hospital including eight perinatal (mother and baby) beds, 14 youth beds, and eight short-stay mental health assessment beds; and
  - Opening of 56 inpatient beds at the new St John of God Midland Public Hospital including 16 older adult and 40 adult beds.
- Commenced planning with the North Metropolitan Health Service for the divestment of services at the Graylands Health Campus site.
- Introduction of a mental health observation area at Joondalup Health Campus, as a public private partnership with Ramsay Health Care and the Department of Health, with a total of \$7.1 million in project funding (expected to be operational from late 2017).

## Specialised Statewide Services

- Commissioning a specialised statewide perinatal (mother and baby) inpatient service at Fiona Stanley Hospital with eight beds, operational from June 2015.
- Commencement of a Statewide Gender Diversity Service by the Child and Adolescent Health Service with \$850,000 in annual funding from 2015/16.
- Development of the Western Australian Eating Disorders Outreach and Consultation Service with \$800,000 in annual funding from 2015/16.

## Forensic Services

- Continuation of the Court Diversion Program with \$13.1 million additional funding over three years from 2016/17 to 2018/19 to divert adults and youth with mental illness in the criminal justice system into treatment to reduce reoffending.
- Expansion of mental health services for consumers who experience enduring mental illness and are being released from prison to transition to community mental health services with \$800,000 funding per annum commencing in 2016/17.

## System Wide Reform

- Commencement of the *Mental Health Act 2014* on 30 November 2015 and commencement of the two year Post Implementation Review.
- Commencement of the development of a draft Online Services Directory that will provide a central point for information on Western Australian mental health and AOD services.
- Expansion of AOD frontline workforce training and development to better support those who help others affected by methamphetamine related harm.
- Implementation of a Core Capability Framework for co-occurring mental illness and intellectual, cognitive or developmental disability (including autism spectrum) service.
- Co-design and implementation of the MHC Consumer, Family, Carer and Community Paid Partnership Policy.
- Commencement of the development of a Statewide Consumer, Family and Carer Engagement Framework.
- Commencement of the development of the Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Workforce Development Strategy.
- Establishment of the Mental Health Network and sub networks (in the areas of youth, eating disorders, forensic, perinatal and infant, Joondalup/Wanneroo region, Peel and Rockingham/Kwinana region, multicultural, neuropsychiatry and developmental disability, older adult and personality disorders) to support the development of care pathways, models of care, clinical guidelines, and other service improvements in these key areas.

## Collaborative Partnerships

- The implementation of initiatives that align with the Plan by all partner agencies involved will continue to have an enormous impact on people's mental health, AOD use, and wellbeing into the future.
- The MHC is committed to working closely with stakeholders such as the WA Primary Health Alliance, Department of Health, other Government agencies, service providers and consumers, carers and their families to continue to improve the lives of people with mental health and AOD issues.
- The Two Year Plan Update, scheduled to be released in early 2018, will be a strategic opportunity for all stakeholders across the mental health and AOD sectors to highlight how collaborative partnerships are improving consumers' experience of the system and delivering better outcomes. To register your interest in being advised of the opening of the feedback period for the Plan Update, email: [communications@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:communications@mhc.wa.gov.au).

### Disclaimer

The information in this document has been included in good faith and is based on sources believed to be reliable and accurate at the time the document was developed. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained within is accurate and up to date, the Mental Health Commission and the State of Western Australia do not accept liability or responsibility for the content of the document or for any consequences arising from its use.

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