



# New Adult Community Care Unit

## About the project

In June 2020, the Government announced it had allocated \$24.5 million to operate a new interim adult community care unit (CCU) service in the Perth metropolitan area whilst new capital is being sought to construct facilities for the long term.

The CCU will be the first of its kind in Western Australia and will provide high-level support and rehabilitation services in the community within a home-like environment for adults with severe mental health issues. The service will be focused on individuals who are likely to require mid to long-term support (i.e. greater than six months and on average 18 months).

It is a 'transitional' service, meaning those within the unit will be supported through psychosocial support, peer support and embedded mental health clinical services to maintain and build sustainable living skills and behaviours. It will also promote the capacity and confidence of individuals to transition from the service into suitable accommodation that meets their needs within the community.

## Who will be able to access the service?

Individuals aged between 18 to 65 years with severe and persistent mental illness, which substantially impairs their psychosocial functioning, but who no longer require hospital care, and who would benefit from a supportive transitional care environment to develop their capacity for independent living.

The service will be able to accept younger or older people on a case by case basis.

## Will it be staffed 24/7?

Yes – it will operate 24 hours a day, 7 day per week as a community based residential service.

## Are there any current community care units in WA?

Not yet - this is a first for Western Australia. However, Community Care Units do already operate in Victoria and Queensland with positive outcomes.

## When will the service be operational?

It is scheduled to be operational in 2021.

## Why is this type of service important?

Community care units aim to reduce bed blockages in hospital settings through the delivery of appropriate, transitional residential services focusing on tailored rehabilitation support.

You can find more information in the Mental Health Commission's ['A Safe Place - a Western Australian strategy to provide safe and stable accommodation and support to people experiencing mental health, alcohol and other drug issues'](#).

The significant investment is in line with the recommendations of the [National Mental Health and Wellbeing Pandemic Response Plan](#) and the [Minister's mental health and AOD priorities](#) released in March 2020.