



ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS ADVISORY BOARD COMMUNIQUE – MEETING 13 JUNE 2023

The Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board (AODAB) is established pursuant to section 14 of the *Alcohol and Other Drug Act 1974* (the Act) to provide advice to the CEO (the Mental Health Commissioner) about matters relevant to performance of functions under section 11 - the functions of the CEO. In fulfilling this purpose, the AODAB consults with the alcohol and other drugs (AOD) and related sectors to ensure advice to the Commissioner reflects the broad range of views and experience of people affected by AOD related harm, such as communities, young people, the ageing population and those with co-occurring health issues such as mental health issues and conditions.

The AODAB is committed to communicating about its work where possible and will provide a publicly available communique about the AODAB activities from each meeting.

This communique provides all stakeholders with information from the 13 June 2023 meeting.

Harm Prevention

The AODAB received briefings on the important prevention work engaged in by the Mental Health Commission (Commission) and other government agencies. The AODAB encourages the Government, the health sector in general, and the Commission in particular, to continue to invest in efforts to prevent AOD related harm but also to enhance investment in harm reduction strategies.

Reforming Opioid Dependence Treatment (ODT) Access

The AODAB received advice on the recent national government amendments to accessing medication used in ODT, the implications for Western Australia and the implications for ensuring access to effective treatment. The AODAB emphasises the importance of access to treatment, across Western Australia.

Workforce Development

The AODAB continues to liaise with the Commission about effective workforce development strategies which is critical to ensuring access to effective services and interventions.

The next AODAB meeting is scheduled for 9 August 2023.