



Government of **Western Australia**
Mental Health Commission

BUDGET BULLETIN 2020-21

The 2020-21 State Budget will deliver more than a billion dollars (\$1.013 billion) to mental health, alcohol and other drug services in 2020-21, representing an increase of 7.5% (\$70.6 million) from the last budget.

Key initiatives funded in the budget include capital works as part of the WA Recovery Plan for A Safe Place initiatives and a significant boost to suicide prevention.

A Safe Place

Two major initiatives from A Safe Place have been funded as part of the WA Recovery Plan.

\$24.5 million has been allocated to deliver a new 20-bed adult community care unit, to provide high-level support and rehabilitation services in a home-like environment in the community.

We will also establish a new 16-bed youth mental health, alcohol and other drug homelessness service in the Perth metropolitan area, with \$25.1 million of funding over four years. This service will provide stable transitional supported accommodation for young people aged 16 to 24, who have a severe mental health issue and who are experiencing homelessness. This is the first time a youth residential mental health service will also formally incorporate alcohol and other drug support and treatment to cater for young people who have co-occurring issues.

Suicide Prevention

\$49.6 million has been invested into suicide prevention programs and initiatives with \$7.5 million allocated in 2020-21. This includes:

- \$32.3 million in funding from 2020-21 to 2023-24 to continue existing services and support the implementation of the new Western Australian Suicide Prevention Framework 2021-2025;
- \$9.8 million across the forward estimates for the development and implementation of regional specific Aboriginal suicide prevention plans; and
- \$4.8 million over two years to provide additional aftercare following a suicide attempt; a service to support communities affected by a suicide death; and increasing capacity of services that provide long-term support to children who have been bereaved by a suicide death.

An additional \$7.3 million over four years was provided to the Mental Health Commission as part of the Government's package in response to the Kimberley Coronial inquest and Learnings from the Message Stick inquiry. This will provide a boost to clinical mental health services in the Kimberley; FASD education campaigns and programs; and an Aboriginal girls education program.

Table 1: 2019-20 State Budget - Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drug Services

| 2020-21 State Budget | 2019-20 Actual (\$'000) | 2020-21 Budget Estimate (\$'000) | \$ Growth (\$'000) | Growth (%) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Hospital Bed-Based Services | 410,697 | 426,501 | 15,804 | 3.8% |
| Community Bed-Based Services | 56,942 | 87,811 | 30,869 | 54.2% |
| Community Treatment | 412,795 | 426,966 | 14,171 | 3.4% |
| Community Support | 51,599 | 54,151 | 2,552 | 4.9% |
| Prevention | 15,405 | 17,266 | 1,861 | 12.1% |
| Total | 947,438 | 1,012,695 | 65,257 | 6.9% |

Service categories as per the Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan: 2015-2025.

Mobile Clinical Outreach Team

\$3.7 million over four years has been allocated to the Mobile Clinical Outreach Team service, which will continue to deliver essential mental health care to people who are homeless in Perth and Fremantle.

This service is provided by the East Metropolitan Health Service and delivers mental health triage, assertive outreach, clinical assessment and treatment to some of the most vulnerable in our community. It consists of a psychiatrist, social workers and mental health nurses, who work closely with other local specialist homeless, mental health, alcohol and drug services.

Fremantle Mental Health Hub

The Department of Health has been allocated \$20 million for 20 more mental health beds at Fremantle Hospital - bringing the total number of new beds to 40.

The 40-bed mental health development will transform Fremantle Hospital into a key mental health hub, significantly boosting the current 64-bed inpatient admission capacity and providing better access to expert care for patients with a mental illness in the South Metropolitan region.

Other funding initiatives in the 2020-21 State Budget and across the forward estimates include:

- \$2.2 million as part of the Government's Covid-19 Response to support people already accessing mental health, alcohol and other drug services; help services adjust to the new environment; and maintain the infection control standards required during the pandemic.
- \$2.35 million over two years as part of the WA Recovery Plan to upgrade vital alcohol and other drug support and treatment facilities throughout Western Australia. These upgrades include the sector-leading Next Step Drug and Alcohol Services provided by the Mental Health Commission in East Perth; a boost to the Midland Intervention Centre, which will support people in alcohol or other drug crisis; and sobering up centres in Broome, Roebourne, Carnarvon and Wyndham.

Community services pay equity

An additional \$39.4 million will be provided over four years to government-funded community services organisations across service types to deliver pay equity following the 2012 Fair Work Australia Equal Remuneration Order.

Table 2: 2019-20 State Budget - Mental Health Services

| 2020-21 State Budget - Mental Health Services | 2019-20 Mental Health Actual (\$'000) | 2020-21 Mental Health Budget Estimate (\$'000) | Mental Health Growth (\$'000) | Mental Health Growth (%) |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hospital Bed-Based Services | 406,805 | 422,946 | 16,141 | 4.0% |
| Community Bed-Based Services | 35,679 | 61,790 | 26,111 | 73.2% |
| Community Treatment | 360,515 | 374,226 | 13,711 | 3.8% |
| Community Support | 44,689 | 46,607 | 1,918 | 4.3% |
| Prevention | 7,353 | 8,557 | 1,204 | 16.4% |
| Total | 855,041 | 914,126 | 59,085 | 6.9% |

Table 3: 2019-20 State Budget - Alcohol and Other Drug Services

| 2020-21 State Budget - AOD Services | 2019-20 AOD Actual (\$'000) | AOD Budget Estimate (\$'000) | AOD Growth (\$'000) | AOD Growth (%) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Hospital Bed-Based Services | 3,892 | 3,555 | -337 | -8.7% |
| Community Bed-Based Services | 21,263 | 26,021 | 4,758 | 22.4% |
| Community Treatment | 52,280 | 52,740 | 460 | 0.9% |
| Community Support | 6,910 | 7,544 | 634 | 9.2% |
| Prevention | 8,052 | 8,709 | 657 | 8.2% |
| Total | 92,397 | 98,569 | 6,172 | 6.7% |