

THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION'S PEER WORKFORCE PROJECT
COMMUNIQUE – STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING – 6 April 2022

The Mental Health Commission's (MHC) Lived Experience Peer Workforce Project (Project) aims to guide the development of a thriving state-wide consumer, family and carer Lived Experience (Peer) Workforce across the mental health, suicide prevention and alcohol and other drug sectors. This Project supports strategic directions outlined in the WA State Priorities Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs 2020 – 2024 and the Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Workforce Strategic Framework 2020-2025.

To manage the development and delivery of the Project, a Steering Committee comprising of members representing portfolios across the sectors has been established. The Steering Committee provides the strategic oversight and guidance to the Project. The Steering Committee co-chaired by David McMaster, Director, System Development (MHC) and Margaret Doherty, representing the Family Carer/Community mental health portfolio, last met on 6 April 2022. This communique has been developed to provide all stakeholders with information and outcomes from that meeting.

The aim of the April meeting was to discuss the progress and feedback mechanisms of the Draft WA Lived Experience (Peer) Framework (Framework) and supplementary resources.

The Project Team reported that additional engagement sessions had been held with over 25 Regional and Remote stakeholders and members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce. The sessions were well received and provided valuable feedback to inform the Draft Framework and supporting resources.

The Project Team have continued to progress core Draft Framework while at the same receiving and incorporating some early feedback from a lived experience sub group. The first completed Draft Framework will be provided to the Steering Committee on 8 April, who will provide their feedback by the end of April prior to broader circulation and consultation in May.

Technology consultants Two21 has been engaged to develop the graphics and style of the Framework as well as an online platform to ensure this dynamic work continues to be responsive to the needs of stakeholders.

The next Steering Committee meeting has been scheduled for 5th May. More information about the Project including Terms of Reference documents can be found on the MHC Project page [here](#).

The Steering Committee were also notified out of session that the Project Team are pleased to confirm a request for quote to scope and investigate the establishment of a Lived Experience Peer Workforce Association is now available through the Tenders WA website [here](#), closing 29 April. The outcomes of this initiative will support the growth of the Lived Experience (Peer) Workforce.

Please feel free to distribute the Communique to your wider networks.

For further information or if you have any queries, please contact Louise Howe 08 6553 0600 or email engagement@mhc.wa.gov.au.