



ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS ADVISORY BOARD COMMUNIQUE – MEETING 4 OCTOBER 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 information about its work where possible and will provide a publicly available communique about the AODAB activities.

This communique provides all stakeholders with information from the 4 October 2023 meeting.

Holyoake's New Alcohol and Other Drugs Community Prevention Service

The AODAB received a presentation from Holyoake on their prevention service, funded by the Mental Health Commission and noted the critical importance of investment in prevention in relation to AOD use and related harm.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Harm Reduction

The AODAB received a presentation from the Mental Health Commission prevention team regarding current and planned harm reduction strategies. The AODAB agreed that evidence-based harm reduction strategies are critical elements of effective response to AOD related harm.

Independent Review of WA Health System Governance (IGR)

The AODAB was informed of the progress of the IGR in relation to the Mental Health Commission.

The next AODAB meeting is scheduled for 28 November 2023.