



Mental Health, Wellbeing, and Alcohol and Other Drugs Ministerial Advisory Panel – Communique Meeting 1 April 2024

The first meeting of the Mental Health, Wellbeing, and Alcohol and Other Drugs Ministerial Advisory Panel (MAP) was held on 30 April 2024. This communique provides all stakeholders with information and outcomes from the meeting.

The MAP provides direct feedback to the Minister for Health; Mental Health (Minister) about system performance and reform progress. This advice contributes to the delivery of a system that adopts a person and family-centred approach and encapsulates whole of system priorities. It also includes the transition to more community-based services that provide prevention, earlier intervention, and diversion away from acute in-patient services to achieve better outcomes for individuals, families and the Western Australian community. The MAP is also the forum through which the Minister provides updates to the mental health and alcohol and other drugs sectors on strategic priorities.

Independent Review of WA Health System Governance (IGR)

The Minister provided members with an update and overview of the IGR and further detail on the new mental health and alcohol and other drugs system governance structure. The system governance structure is comprised of the MAP, the Mental Health, Wellbeing, Alcohol and Other Drugs Joint Leadership Group (JLG), the Clinical Advisory Group (CAG) and Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG).

- The Minister has tasked the JLG to be collectively responsible for the performance of public mental health and alcohol and other drugs systems including progressing strategic reform objectives.
- The CAG and LEAG are advisory bodies to the JLG. They are respectively responsible for utilising their collective contemporary clinical expertise and Lived Experience expertise to provide the JLG with practical and achievable advice.

Endorsement of MAP Terms of Reference and Charter

The MAP Terms of Reference and Charter, which set out the purpose, aim and how the operations of the group are managed, were tabled. Discussion occurred between the members on specific items within the documents, including decision-making processes. These documents were endorsed with no changes.

Ways of Working Together Agreement

An agreement was endorsed by the MAP that supports the panel's ways of working together ensuring key principles are reflected in practice and embedded in a meaningful way. As part of the agreement time is allocated at the start and end of each meeting for a member check in, followed by reflections, and members agree to work together in a respectful, robust and courteous manner and maintain a 'safe-enough' space for discussions. This includes respectfully supporting open expression of informed diverse views, ensuring equitable power sharing is achieved and maintained.

Minister's Key Focus Areas

In alignment with the aim of the MAP, feedback was sought from members on the Minister's identified key focus areas and how they progress strategic system reform objectives, including movement toward person and family-centred, and recovery-focussed outcomes. The key focus areas included the Infant, Child and Adolescent Taskforce Implementation; a commitment to elevate alcohol and other drugs; and increasing the focus on community support and treatment services. MAP members held robust discussions in relation to these items which raised other issues that may be considered for future MAP agenda items including addressing paediatrics and alcohol and other drug use, youth, trauma informed care and practice, alcohol and other drug prevention approaches, suicide prevention, mental health research, the interface between community support and treatment and the Community Treatment and Emergency Response Project.

The MAP will aim to finalise a program of works at the next meeting from the items discussed at this meeting.

The next MAP meeting is scheduled for 29 July 2024.

You may distribute this Communique to your wider networks. Communiques and other relevant documents for the other governance groups are available on the [Mental Health Commission's website](#).