

Budget Commitments 2024-25



Prevention

Suicide Prevention

The State Government will invest a further \$32.2 million to continue existing suicide prevention programs and initiatives, to prevent and reduce rates of suicide and self-harm in Western Australia and support those experiencing grief after a suicide death. This investment will support development of a new Western Australian suicide prevention strategic approach, beyond the Western Australian Suicide Prevention Framework 2021 - 2025.

Investment in Aboriginal Social and Emotional Wellbeing

The State Government will invest \$12.3 million over 2024-25 and 2025-26 to continue the Social and Emotional Wellbeing programs, including youth-specific programs, to continue building on this essential work and deliver improved outcomes in the Kimberley, Pilbara, Goldfields, Midwest and South West regions.



Treatment Services

Active Recovery Teams pilot continuation

The State Government will invest an additional \$10.6 million in 2024-25, for a 12-month extension to the Active Recovery Team (ART) pilot program. Further evaluation will be undertaken to monitor the impact the ART program has in community treatment and intensive support to people with acute and complex needs who would otherwise present to hospital emergency departments.

Infant, Child and Adolescent (ICA) – Acute Care Response Teams

The State Government is investing \$22.4 million to extend the existing east metropolitan Acute Care Response Teams (ACRT), and establish three new teams in the north and south metropolitan areas and the Great Southern region. Teams will provide rapid response to support children and adolescents (under the age of 18) experiencing a mental health crisis, as well as their families and carers.

ICA – CAMHS Crisis Connect

The State Government is investing \$19.5 million to continue the expanded Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Crisis Connect service, providing specialist telehealth urgent mental health support for children and adolescents, and their families and carers. The immediate support provided by Crisis Connect reduces the likelihood of children re-presenting to an ED and being readmitted into inpatient care due to a further decline in their mental health.



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Treatment Services

ICA – WACHS Brief Crisis Intervention

The State Government will invest a further \$4.7 million to continue the WA Country Health Service Brief Crisis Intervention (BCI) Service. BCI is the only regional post-Emergency Department (ED) service for children under the age of 18 years. BCI will provide on-call 24/7 ICA mental health support and expertise to clinicians in rural and remote regions to better manage and support children and adolescents presenting to rural and remote EDs in crisis, along with virtual follow-up to children, adolescents and their families/carers following mental health-related presentations at regional EDs.

Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) reforms

The State Government has provided \$17 million for forensic mental health services required for enactment of the new *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023* (the Act), from 1 September 2024. This also includes funding to the Mental Health Advocacy Service and the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist to support the implementation of the Act.

Western Australian Virtual Emergency Department and ambulance co-response model

The State Government is investing \$7.9 million to a Western Australian Virtual Emergency Department (WAVED) mental health component and an ambulance co-response model in the metropolitan area. The model aims to prevent avoidable emergency department attendances and admissions. The Mental Health Commission and Department of Health will be jointly responsible for the delivery of this model.



Community Support Services

Broome Sobering Up Centre

The State Government is funding \$10.7 million for the construction of a new 26-bed Sobering Up Centre (SUC) in Broome. The SUC will provide a safe, care-orientated environment in which people found intoxicated in public may sober up, diverting them from police lock-up and reducing the likelihood of them causing harm to themselves or others in the community. Where appropriate, brief intervention services and supported referrals will be delivered.

Funding for licensed private psychiatric hostels (LPPHs)

The State Government is investing \$13.6 million over four years to ensure Licensed Private Psychiatric Hostels (LPPHs) providing large congregate living facilities can continue to meet minimum staffing requirements. These LPPHs accommodate up to 375 consumers with complex support needs.