



Lived Experience (Peer) Workforce Project Steering Committee Communique #28

The Mental Health Commission's (Commission) Lived Experience (Peer) Workforces Project (Project) aims to guide the development of thriving state-wide consumer, family, and significant other Lived Experience (Peer) Workforces across the mental health, suicide prevention and alcohol and other drug sectors. This includes the implementation of the [Western Australian Lived Experience \(Peer\) Workforces Framework](#).

This Project supports strategic directions outlined in documents such as the Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Workforce Strategic Framework 2020-2025. The Steering Committee provides strategic oversight and guidance to the Project. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by Margaret Doherty, representing the Family Significant Other/Community mental health, alcohol and other drug and forensic portfolios, and Director Strategic Policy and Planning, Mental Health Commission.

This Communique is to provide all stakeholders with information and outcomes from the meeting held on Tuesday, 30th October 2024.

Peer Principles

Committee members centred discussions around the Lived Experience principle of *Safety*, reflecting on the importance of creating and maintaining safety in professional spaces and the power of allyship.

Supervision Working Group

A draft document has been developed by Sub Group members, with additional detail to follow which will be complemented by a series of infographics which were shared with members. This document has been collaboratively authored by Sub Group members and will be promoted as such.

Re-Orientating to Peer Work initiative

Delivery of the eight-week online course is going well, with 15 peer workers and allies taking part. The course is approximately halfway through. Partnering with Cross Walk Media, work is also being done to develop additional video resources around roles, settings, and diversity.

Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategy 2025-30

Members were provided with a link to the Commission's discussion paper and an overview of the consultation process, which includes planned regional and metro workshops, survey options, email, dedicated phone line, online sessions, and targeted engagements with diverse agencies. It is anticipated that the first draft of the strategy will be developed before the end of 2024. Member discussed coming together as a group to collectively review the document.

Current Projects

Members were updated on several other projects including: The Lived Experience (Peer) Workforces website; the guest speaker training initiative; development of peer worker JDFs and classifications; the ongoing development of the Values-Based Recruitment package; and the delivery of several other training packages including supervision training, Peer Work Positives, and Intentional Peer Support training.

More information about the project and initiatives underway can be found on the [Commission's website](#). If you have any queries, please email the Commission at LivedExperienceWorkforces@mhc.wa.gov.au.

