

# Mental Health, Wellbeing, and Alcohol and Other Drugs Ministerial Advisory Panel – Communique Meeting 3 December 2024

This communique provides stakeholders with information and outcomes from the meeting of the Ministerial Advisory Panel (MAP) held on 3 December 2024.

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.

## Minister's Update

The Hon. Pierre Yang, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health; Mental Health Co-Chaired the meeting on behalf of the Minister and provided members with a brief update on several priority initiatives, including progress on the Western Australian Eating Disorders Framework.

## Mental Health Clinical Workforce Action Plan

An update was provided to members on the Department of Health Mental Health Clinical Workforce Action Plan, which aims to address clinical workforce opportunities and challenges. Members provided feedback on strategies to improve workforce attraction and retention, including reflecting on what strategies may be transferable from the community sector, opportunities for retraining, and drawing direction from exit surveys. Members highlighted the need for consideration to be given to the unique needs and requirements of the Alcohol and Other Drugs workforce.

## Community Treatment Support and Emergency Response

Members discussed the Community Treatment Support and Emergency Response (CTSER) and noted the extensive consultation undertaken which has informed the Final Report. Members encouraged this approach to continue in the implementation phase. It was confirmed that CTSER is focused on individuals 16 years and older and that several strategies are already underway including ambulance and police co-response. Members highlighted the important role of non-mental health funded community services as part of a collaborative response.

## Psychosocial Supports – Member Paper

This paper outlined the intersection between CTSER and the work of the community sector, recognising how the current capabilities can be built on to address the unmet need for psychosocial support. Members discussed the strategic links between CTSER, the Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategy and the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement. Members discussed the importance of community supports that enhance an individual's quality of life.

## Youth Stream

Members discussed the challenges that related to service provision for 16–17-year-olds, noting that improving access for this cohort and their families is a priority for the Joint Leadership Group. Members highlighted the need to align action with the findings and recommendations from the Infant, Child and Adolescent Taskforce Report particularly in relation to adopting a no 'wrong door' approach, the need for strengthened service navigation and more support for the transition to adult services.

## Joint Leadership Group Update

Members noted a brief update from the Joint Leadership Group meeting on [17 October 2024](#).

## Ways of Working, Language Guide and Power Exercise

Members provided suggestions and improvements to processes, including an increased consideration of the specific and unique issues relevant to the Alcohol and Other Drugs sector at meetings, and continued additions to MAPs Language guide. Members also extended their appreciation for the addition of member-initiated papers on the agenda.



## 2025 Program of Works

Members were invited to suggest topics and items out of session for discussion in 2025.

**The next MAP meeting will be scheduled after the 2025 Western Australia State election.**

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](#).