



# Consumer, Carer and Family Forums to Inform Alcohol and Other Drug Services in the Kimberley Region

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Background

The Mental Health Commission (MHC) is seeking input from consumers, carers and families to help inform the development of alcohol and other drug (AOD) services in the Kimberley region.

The aim is to plan for comprehensive and integrated AOD services in the Kimberley, with consideration to services for co-occurring mental health issues. Consideration will be given to ensuring an appropriate mix of AOD services aligned to the Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025 (the Plan) in the service streams of prevention, community support, community treatment, community bed-based services (including withdrawal and residential rehabilitation services), and hospital-based services.

As part of the 2017 election commitments, the State Government committed to a statewide, integrated Methamphetamine Action Plan to reduce the demand, supply and harm from methamphetamine use. This includes the allocation of \$45 million of new and existing funding over four years to deliver the key initiatives outlined in the election commitments.

As part of this, funding of \$200,000 has been allocated from the Royalties for Regions Program for the MHC to identify and undertake planning regarding gaps in AOD treatment services (and co-occurring mental health) in the Kimberley. The MHC has engaged a consultant, Nous Group, to assist with undertaking the consultation with a range of people which includes:

- Targeted consultation with current AOD service providers, consumers, carers and family members and key groups in the Kimberley region;
- Targeted consultation with key stakeholders in the Perth metropolitan area; and
- Coordinating online submissions via the MHC website including an online survey.

A discussion paper has been prepared by the MHC to guide the consultation process, which outlines the optimal mix of AOD (and co-occurring mental health) services in the Kimberley region.

The findings of the consultation will inform the development of a business case for the consideration of the State Government in the 2019-20 Budget process.



## What is involved in the Forums

The MHC, via the contracted consultant Nous Group, is seeking the views of consumers, carers and families as part of the consultation process. The Nous Group team will be led by Ms Emma White, Ms Janine Dureau and Mr Nick Psanoudakis.

Two Forums will be held to gain the views of the consumers, carers and family members from the East Kimberley and West Kimberley as follows.

- Broome - 3 September 2018 (9.00am – 12.00pm)  
Goolari Media, 7 Blackman St, Broome
- Kununurra - 4 September 2018 (10.00am – 1.00pm)  
IBIS Styles Kununurra, Messmate Way, Kununurra.

You only need attend one Forum (either Broome or Kununurra).

## What about previous consultations?

The MHC is aware of the many previous consultations undertaken in the Kimberley region, by different Government agencies on a range of topics. In preparing the discussion paper, the MHC has summarised the outcomes of some of the previous consultations to check back with stakeholders, if anything has changed.

## Roles and Responsibilities

The MHC is responsible for the overall project and for developing the business case for consideration by Government.

Nous Group will be responsible for running the meetings and summarising all of the feedback received from a range of stakeholders. Nous Group may also contact you directly regarding the arrangements for the Forum.

## What support is there for me to attend?

In line with the MHC's [Consumer, Family, Carer and Community Paid Partnership Policy](#), on this occasion, the MHC is pleased to confirm that forum participants will receive a \$100 retail voucher for their efforts.

You can decline the offer to receive the voucher if you wish.

The MHC understands that it can be hard to physically attend one of the meetings, given Broome or Kununurra might be far from where you live. If you need some assistance to travel to attend the forum, then you can call the MHC to discuss this further.

## How do I register?

If you are interested in attending one of the Forums, please complete and return the [registration form](#) by **4pm, Thursday 30 August 2018** (places may be limited) to [pps.enquiries@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:pps.enquiries@mhc.wa.gov.au)

Please call the number below if you are unable to submit a registration form electronically.



By submitting a registration form, please note that you agree for the MHC to release the details that you provide to Nous Group in case they need to contact you before the Forum.

### **How else can I be involved?**

If you would like to provide feedback on the consultation discussion paper and as part of this project, but are unable to attend a Forum, please visit the Mental Health Commission website ([www.mhc.wa.gov.au](http://www.mhc.wa.gov.au)) for more information about making a submission.

For more information please contact Ms Carla Patterson or Ms Lindsay Leek on (08) 6553 0600.