


# MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 2, 2020

<b>Attendees</b>	Rod Astbury (RA), Emily Wilding (EW), Andrew Williams (AW), Lee Steel (LS), Tracey Young (TY), Stan Chirenda (SC), Michael Wright (MW)	Videoconference Thursday, 2 April 2020 9:15am – 12:15pm
<b>Chair</b>	Margaret Doherty (MD)	
<b>Secretariat</b>	Bianca Fish (BF)	
<b>Apologies</b>	Jessica Nguyen (JN), Gemma Powell (GP), Amit Banerjee (AB), Richard Oades (RO)	
<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION LOG</b>
<b>1. Welcome and apologies</b>	MD welcomed everyone and acknowledged JN, GP and AB as apologies for the meeting. MD noted that some health services have cancelled staff participation in non-essential meetings due to the COVID19 situation.	
<b>2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners</b>	MD acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the Land.	
<b>3. Acknowledgement of Lived Experience</b>	MD acknowledged those around the table with personal and family lived experiences. MD also recognised and extended appreciation to health, community and front line workers who are prioritising the health and wellbeing of the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.	
<b>4. Reflection: Co-Production principle two - capabilities</b>	RA reflected on co-production principle two, capabilities, and how Council incorporates this into its work. Council noted that the COVID-19 pandemic is a particularly relevant time to be discussing capabilities. Council agreed it is essential to have lived experience input in decision making around COVID-19.	
<b>5. Conflicts of Interest</b>	Nil Conflicts of Interest declared.	
<b>6. Acceptance of previous meeting minutes</b>	Minutes from the 12 March 2020 meeting were accepted as a true and accurate representation of the meeting.	
<b>7. Action Log</b>	<b>Completed actions:</b> action 23, action 24, action 27, action 28, action 29, action 30 Action 25: This has been put on hold given the COVID-19 pandemic.	

	Action 26: This has been put on hold given the COVID-19 pandemic.	
<b>8. Budget</b>	Council viewed and discussed the budget.	
<b>9. Member updates on COVID-19</b>	<p>The A/Commissioner wants to quickly identify solutions to mental health problems emerging due to COVID-19. The A/Commissioner is particularly interested in diverting people from emergency departments and ensuring they can access the treatment and support they need in the community.</p> <p>Council discussed how COVID-19 has highlighted gaps in the mental health sector and how resources to ensure people have access to the services they need are lacking, particularly in the community.</p> <p>Council discussed how the COVID-19 pandemic provides an opportunity for advocacy to get required services in place now. Noted advocacy will also be required to keep services in place after the COVID-19 pandemic has ended.</p> <p>Council members each gave an update on emerging issues from their community, and discussed possible solutions for each issue.</p> <p>Agreed to provide advice on issues and possible solutions to the A/Commissioner by the following day (Friday, 3 April 2020).</p>	<p><b>Action 31:</b> Send WAAMH slides to Council members.</p> <p><b>Action 32:</b> Draft COVID-19 advice to the A/Commissioner and send to Council members for feedback.</p> <p><b>Action 33:</b> Send final COVID-19 advice to A/Commissioner by COB Friday, 3 April 2020.</p>
<b>10. Presentation:</b> Working Together: Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drug Engagement Framework 2018 – 2025	<p>Louise Howe, the Mental Health Commission Consumer Advisor, presented on consumer engagement and the engagement policy and resources that the MHC has produced and implemented.</p>  <p>Engagement Framework</p>	
<b>11. Advice to the Commissioner</b>	<p>Council agreed to provide advice to the A/Commissioner on the importance of consumer engagement, and the need for continued implementation and sharing of the Working Together Framework and Toolkit with other agencies.</p> <p>Council endorsed advice to the A/Commissioner on inclusive language and the LGBTI community.</p> <p>Council endorsed advice to the A/Commissioner on the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander</p>	<p><b>Action 34:</b> Draft advice to the Commissioner on consumer engagement framework</p> <p><b>Action 35:</b> Send Advice notes and background PPT on Inclusive</p>

	recruitment process.	Language to the A/Commissioner
<b>12. Other business</b>	<p><b>Priority area working groups</b></p> <p>Council discussed the three priority area working groups and whether to continue working on them during the COVID-19 pandemic. Agreed to continue working on the priority areas where possible, noting advice on COVID-19 is priority at this time.</p> <p><b>COVID-19 consultations with lived experience</b></p> <p>Council discussed the possibility of holding a virtual meeting with lived experience people to hear about their COVID-19 experiences and to inform solutions to be communicated to the A/Commissioner.</p>	<p><b>Action 36:</b> Working groups to share information/update on their priority area with the whole Council.</p> <p><b>Action 37:</b> Work with Louise Howe to identify lived experience people for a virtual meeting.</p>
<b>13. Values Representative</b>	<p>AW provided feedback on how Council had reflected its values during the meeting.</p> <p>Value one: This was covered quite well. The videoconference process was very inclusive and the presentation on the MHC engagement framework really highlighted this value.</p> <p>Value two: The COVID-19 situation requires people to think outside the box and as a group, Council covered this value well. It is important to consider that in the future, consumers may actually want to keep some of the changes that come about due to COVID-19 and Council should advocate for this where possible.</p> <p>Value three: Council considered different cultural perspectives and how inclusivity is vital during discussions, value three was particularly apparent in discussions relating to COVID-19.</p>	<p><b>Action 38:</b> Note LS as values representative for the May meeting</p>
<b>Meeting closed at 12:20pm</b>		
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	<p><b>Thursday, 14 May 2020</b></p> <p><b>8:30am – 12:30pm</b></p> <p><b>Videoconference</b></p>	