



Attendees	Jessica Nguyen (JN), Lee Steel (LS), Paul Parfitt (PP), Tracey Young (TY), Richard Oades (RO), Emily Wilding (EW), Dr Pauline Cole (PCole), Virginia Catterall (VC), Patricia Councillor (PC)	Mental Health Commission Djeran Room, Level 1, 1 Nash Street Perth WA 6004 and MS Teams Thursday, 14 October 2021 09:30am – 12:30am
Chair	Margaret Doherty (MD)	
Secretariat	Caitlin Parry (CP)	
Guests	Dr Nathan Gibson, Chief Psychiatrist, Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (NG) Adjunct Associate Professor, Theresa Williams, Director Mental Health Research and Strategy, Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (TW) Dr Geoff Smith, Senior Psychiatrist Research and Strategy, Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (GS) Dr Sophie Davison, Chief Medical Officer Mental Health MHC (SD) Belinda Brett, Executive Manager System Development MHC (BB)	
Apologies	Gemma Powell	
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION LOG
1. Welcome and apologies	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies. Members were advised that Andy Williams has stepped down from his role on the Mental Health Advisory Council (Council) due to a new work role. The Chair acknowledged his contributions. The appointment of two new members is currently progressing through the Cabinet process.	
2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners	The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land and paid respects to Elders, past and present. The Chair acknowledged the Council's two Aboriginal members Paul Parfitt and Patricia Councillor, noting that their contributions particularly with respect to sharing cultural knowledge are invaluable and respected.	
3. Acknowledgement of Lived Experience	The Chair recognised those at the meeting with personal and family lived and living experiences. The Chair acknowledged the significance of the roles, recognising the emotional labour that comes from bringing a lived and living perspective to discussions.	
4. Reflection: Song by Robert Binsiar	PC provided a song by Robert Binsiar as the reflection item for the meeting. Council members reflected on frequency of Aboriginal deaths by suicide, noting that a number of members of the Council have been affected by this experience. The song highlights the heartbreak of people not reaching out to others when they feel like they cannot go on. It also provides an opportunity to talk about other issues and engage with young Aboriginal people who may be at risk. Council members thanked PC for sharing the video and noted how it was communicated that out of the	Note: Pauline Cole will provide the reflection item for the November meeting.

	<p>heartbreak of losing someone, people came together and worked through their grief to produce a song with a strong message, helping people to know they are not alone.</p> <p>Council members acknowledged the beauty and pain in the song and spoke about the need to deeply consider what responses in these situations are helpful and culturally appropriate. Indigenous suicide is a situation that occurs too often, resulting in ongoing pain and trauma and must be addressed. The vulnerability of Aboriginal staff in the mental health, alcohol and other drug workforces was also noted, and it is imperative they are adequately supported, and their cultural needs understood. These realities need to be front and centre when discussing future workforce development across the sector.</p>	
5. Conflicts of Interest	<p>MD advised she is the Co-Chair of the Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensic Taskforce Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG) and the Community Treatment Emergency Response Roadmap Expert Working Group Steering Committee. VC advised she is a member of the LEAG and has been appointed to the Community Treatment Emergency Response Roadmap Expert Working Group. LS advised she is also a member of the LEAG. A Conflict of Interests Register will be circulated to capture any conflicts going forward and it will be tabled for noting prior to each meeting.</p>	Action: The Conflict of Interests Register to be circulated to Council members for self-completion prior to the November meeting.
6. Acceptance of previous meeting minutes	<p>The Minutes from the previous meeting were endorsed following an amendment from TY on the status of the Western Australian Community Care Unit.</p>	
7. Action Log	<p><u>Completed actions:</u></p> <p>Actions 121, 137, 144, 153 and 175 have now been completed. Actions 25, 63, 93 and 169 have now been closed.</p> <p><u>Outstanding actions:</u></p> <p>Action 26: This has been postponed to 2022.</p>	
8. Budget	<p>A snapshot of the Council's budget was circulated with the meeting papers indicating both the budgeted and actual figures for the 2021/22 period. Council members confirmed the information provided was sufficient and the table will be updated and recirculated with meeting papers each month.</p>	

<p>9. Meeting with the Minister for Mental Health Update</p>	<p>On Tuesday, 21 September 2021 the Honourable Stephen Dawson, MLC, Minister for Mental Health (Minister Dawson) welcomed Council members to his office at Dumas House for a 30 minute meeting. MHAC attendees were Ms Margaret Doherty (Chair), Dr Pauline Cole, Ms Tracey Young, Ms Lee Steel and Ms Virginia Catterall. Also present from the Mental Health Commission (MHC) were Ms Sara Walsh and Ms Caitlin Parry.</p> <p>Those who had attended provided an update to other Council members and spoke of a positive meeting where the discussion was largely based around current projects being undertaken through the Mental Health Commission (MHC). Meeting attendees noted that Minister Dawson has a broad background with a strong regional focus and that he also holds the Aboriginal Affairs portfolio. Attending members shared that the Minister spoke of promoting collaborative commissioning (versus competitive commissioning) as an enabler for services to work together effectively which was seen as a positive enabler to achieve appropriate and integrated responses for individuals and their families. Meeting attendees appreciated the chance to meet with Minister Dawson and were appreciative of the opportunity to hear his priorities for the portfolio. As an independent Council, the Chair suggested inviting the Opposition Leader for Mental Health to provide an update and this will be progressed as appropriate. Additionally, another meeting will be arranged with Minister Dawson in six to nine months' time.</p>	<p>Action: Chair to invite the Opposition Leader for Mental Health to provide an update.</p> <p>Action: A future meeting with Minister Dawson to be arranged for mid-late 2022.</p>
<p>BREAK</p>		
<p>10. Presentation: A Vision for the Graylands site, and Secure Extended Care Units and Community Care Units</p>  <p>Presentation_Collab%20Centre_MHAC_</p>	<p>Dr Nathan Gibson, Dr Geoff Smith and Adjunct Associate Professor Theresa Williams from the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (OCP) attended to present to Council members on a vision for the Graylands site, Secure Extended Care Units (SCU) and Community Care Units (CCU).</p> <p>The presentation is attached following which discussion was held.</p> <p>Discussion points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of ensuring appropriate services for the groups with multiple, unmet needs identified in the 2019/20 Auditor General's Report https://audit.wa.gov.au/reports-and-publications/reports/access-to-state-managed-adult-mental-health-services/. These are the groups who are often excluded from community treatment and support services and therefore have little options but to attend at Emergency Departments and acute services. • The opportunities provided by creating a Centre of Mental Health and Wellbeing on the Graylands Hospital site. Examples of where this has been achieved in other jurisdictions 	<p>Action: Circulate presentation and supporting papers to Council members.</p>

	<p>are outlined in the presentation. The opportunities relating to the transformation of the Graylands site include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Addressing stigma and public attitudes towards Graylands itself and mental health in general. ○ Creating a dedicated space within which individuals, family members, researchers, staff, service providers are co-located and work together to help achieve optimal outcomes. ○ Ensuring that any new builds are designed with models of care/service in mind as well as a strong cultural focus, including places for Aboriginal healers to meet with people; welcoming spaces for people to yarn such as a fire-pit, verandahs which facilitate people to sit outside and spend time together in less confined spaces. ○ Developing services which address specific populations such as individuals with diagnoses of Personality Disorders; Neurodivergence or cognitive impairment. ○ Maintaining green spaces for people in secure units and within the overall complex as these are conducive to healing and social contact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rehabilitation and Recovery services must be contemporary, appropriately staffed and resourced and designed in partnership with individuals, family members, carers and staff. ● The failure of mainstreaming for mental health services which has seen them relegated within general health services. Therefore, initiatives must address the current fragmentation. Concerns were expressed about current on-site treatment services being re-distributed to individual Health Service Providers where they may not receive the priority they require. ● Strong agreement that forensic mental health services should not be relocated to a site on or near a prison, given the increased stigma this would involve for individuals and their families. 	
<p>11. Community Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Council Update</p>  <p>cmc-meeting-5-com munique-16-sept.pc</p>	<p>The Chair gave an update on the latest Community Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Council (CMC) meeting which was held on 16 September 2021.</p> <p>It was noted Minister Dawson had attended the meeting to provide an update on his priorities and to hear from other CMC members. The CMC meeting provided updates on major projects such as GRAFT, the Community Treatment and Emergency Response Roadmap and the Ministerial Taskforce into Public Mental Health Services for Infants, Children and Adolescents. The Chair noted that the Council is well informed and remains up to date on these projects. The Chair</p>	<p>Action: Circulate the CMC communique once available.</p>

	<p>confirmed that the Council’s paper on forensics services was tabled at the meeting and reiterated that if Council has an item they wish to raise with the CMC, this can be done via the Chair.</p> <p>Council members discussed suicide rates during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was noted the number of completed suicides has reduced nationally, however in Western Australia it increased by 17%.</p> <p>The Chair advised that Kerry Hawkins and Amanda Waegeli, consumer and carer representatives have drafted a paper advocating the introduction of the Lived Experience Expertise Leadership Group. This group would help inform and lead the strategic development of lived experienced expertise to support the MHEC and CMC and would operate as a sub-group similar to the Sub-leads clinical group to the MHEC. This paper was also accepted by the CMC.</p>	
<p>12. Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensics Taskforce Project Update</p>	<p>Dr Sophie Davison and Ms Belinda Brett attended to provide an update on the GRAFT project, noting that it is being led by the Department of Health however they are responsible for the MHC’s input. It was noted that the Council has already received several presentations and updates from different areas on the GRAFT project. .</p> <p>SD advised that part of the GRAFT project is to explore how decommissioning of both Graylands and Selby fits with the wider system modelling, while still ensuring needs for these cohorts continue to be met. Rehabilitation services in the community and forensic beds have been identified as urgently required. The question remains as to where forensic services should be located if Graylands was closed. Once the Government has advised their plans for the current Graylands site, more detailed planning can be undertaken. It was agreed the project is not just building the right buildings; it is ensuring the correct models of care and the appropriate pathways are in place to minimise gaps in transitions between services. Additionally, further consideration needs to take place regarding the needs of older adults including the Selby Centre older adult care.</p> <p>The Council also discussed the demand modelling which forecasts detailed demand up to 2032, noting that this has been based upon the current mental health system which does not actually have sufficient coverage of all service elements. SD noted there had been considerable discussion on this topic with attention given to forecasting on how future services will be delivered and incorporating the community into future planning. Discussion took place as to whether services would be implemented in a staggered approach and it was noted this level of detailed planning has not yet occurred.</p>	

	<p>Council members appreciated the opportunity to be kept up-to-date with this important project.</p>	
<p>13. Discussion on presentations and advice to the Commissioner</p>	<p>Meeting attendees discussed the presentations received today and agreed to draft advice on GRAFT, using the information and knowledge provided by recent presentations at Council meetings. It was agreed that the advice would focus on the principles of the space i.e. a welcoming, community oriented and culturally appropriate space, incorporating research with training, instead of the geographical location of the space. The Council discussed the possibility of focusing on the metropolitan area for acute treatment with regional locations for extended recovery treatment. It was agreed that this would be more inclusive for people from regional, rural and remote communities. This would reduce long travel times for treatment and enabling people to stay in contact with their family and community, also making it easier for families to visit. It was noted that a travel time of four to five hours is greatly different to that of as opposed to eight which has a significant effect on people who may need to take time off work; organise and finance overnight accommodation and</p>	<p>Action: Council to draft advice to the Commissioner on the principles of the GRAFT project.</p>
<p>14. Other Business</p>	<p>The Chair noted new terminology in the form of a Temporary Care Unit (TCU) which East Metropolitan Health Service is progressing. The purpose of the TCU is to facilitate the move of people out of long care units and acute beds to a rehabilitation option. The TCU will differ from Step up Step Down facilities which currently have a 28 day cap on stays and require people to have an address for admission. It is important to understand the differing models of care for each facility (SECU, CCU, TCU) as this will directly influence the workforce that is required.</p> <p>The Chair acknowledged Mental Health Week is taking place this week with a focus on children. Council members are all busy being involved in various activities within the sector. The Chair also acknowledged that it is National Carers Week, an important week recognising the invaluable contribution by carers and it helps raise awareness of carers, the caring role and relationships, and carer supports and services. The Chair noted that the role of a carer exceeds ‘just what a family does’ and the informal cost to replace one carer is estimated to be \$129,000 per annum with an overall saving to government estimated at \$14.3 billion in 2015 as per the 2017 Report – the Economic Value of Informal Mental Health Caring in Australia https://www.mindaustralia.org.au/sites/default/files/Mind_value_of_informal_caring_full_report.pdf. This represents a substantial saving to the Government. The Chair acknowledged the incredible work that carers and families undertake in the mental health, alcohol and other drug areas.</p>	

	<p>CP advised the March 2022 is the date proposed for the Geraldton site visit to PC. Members advised CP of their availability to attend and an outline of the visit was discussed.</p> <p>TY advised Council members that she would be sharing a piece of research by the Telethon Kids Institute on a trial of a postvention support service in the Peel, Rockingham and Kwinana area. The final report is due to be released later this month and will be circulated by the Secretariat once received.</p> <p>TY also advised Orygen has received an award for their research program called #chatsafe which provides advice to young people on how to keep safe online. A link to this, and ReachOut Australia an online mental health service for young people will be circulated.</p> <p>The Chair advised the Council of the National Mental Health Commission’s National Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Strategy which is holding online workshops in November. https://www.mentalhealthcommission.gov.au/Mental-health-Reform/National-Stigma-Strategy.</p> <p>They are looking for attendees with lived and living experience in the mental health system, health system, social services, disability, housing education and income support. The Chair will send registration information to the Secretariat for circulation to members.</p>	<p>Action: TY to send through the postvention support services report when released.</p> <p>Action: A link to #chatsafe and ReachOut will be circulated to Council members.</p> <p>Action: MD to send workshop info to MHAC Secretariat for circulating to Council members.</p>
<p>15. Values Representative</p>	<p>LS was the appointed values representative and noted that Council members ‘hit the ball out of the park’ in representing Council values at the meeting. Discussions were full of hope and the questions asked and feedback given showed that Council members are representing the broader community and encompassing a diversity of voices and perspectives. It was noted that the meeting was very positive with engagement and contributions from all Council members.</p>	<p>Note: Virginia Catterall will act as Values Representative at the November meeting.</p>
<p>Meeting Closed at 12:30pm</p>		
<p>NEXT MEETING: Thursday, 11 November 2021</p>		