



STEERING COMMITTEE - ROADMAP FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT INCLUDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

COMMUNIQUE – MEETING OCTOBER 2021

The seventh meeting of the Roadmap for Community Mental Health Treatment, including Emergency Response Steering Committee (Steering Committee) was held on 19 October 2021. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by Ms Amanda Waegeli, Consumer Representative and Dr Sophie Davison, Chief Medical Officer Mental Health, Mental Health Commission (MHC). This communique has been developed to provide stakeholders with a summary of key points of discussion and outcomes of this meeting.

The purpose of the Steering Committee is to provide strategic oversight and guidance to the development of the Roadmap to ensure it is fully costed, future proofed, and both implementable and transformational. The Steering Committee includes clinical, lived experience, Aboriginal, and Community Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Council (CMC) representation. The Steering Committee works alongside an internal MHC Project Team and appointed consultancy to develop a clear vision for community mental health treatment and mental health emergency response services that will best meet the needs of people in Western Australia of all ages who require specialist community mental health care and/or emergency mental health care. It should be noted that the Roadmap steering Committee is committed to endorsing a rights-based, recovery-oriented, experiential lens where change is intended to be transformational, and should translate at the community level. The Mental Health Executive Committee (MHEC), the CMC, and the Mental Health Leads Sub-Committee (MHLS) are fundamental components of the governance structure for the Roadmap Project.

Discussion Paper

The Steering Committee intend for the Discussion paper, which will be the first publicly available output of the Roadmap, to demonstrate their commitment to leading transformational change. It was agreed by the Steering Committee that the Discussion paper would boldly articulate the need for a transformed, not tweaked future service system, where the voice of people with lived and living experience is at the forefront. The essential role of primary care and how we can foster meaningful partnerships with such services to ensure seamless access, referral and follow up will need to be thoughtfully explored in the Discussion paper and the final Roadmap. Additionally, the Steering Committee understand that innovation will be critical in overcoming the absence of workforce in regional areas, particularly in the short term.

Stakeholder Consultation

To date, robust consultation with a diverse range of stakeholders has been invaluable in informing the work of the Roadmap – particularly the Discussion paper. Momentum from this engagement will need to be maintained throughout the duration of the project. Following public release, stakeholders will be invited to comment on the Discussion paper. This feedback will be critical in informing the next stage of the project and ultimately the final Roadmap. Additionally, face to face and virtual community forums will be held in early 2022 across the regions and in the metropolitan area. Here, we look forward to further engaging with consumers, families, carers, clinicians and other relevant service providers to develop the final Roadmap.

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for 14 December, 2021.

Please feel free to distribute this Communique to your wider networks. Communiques and other relevant documents are available on the [Roadmap Webpage on the MHC's website](#).

If you have any questions or comments please email CommunityRoadmap@mhc.wa.gov.au