



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

COMMUNIQUE – MEETING DECEMBER 2021

The tenth meeting of the Roadmap for Community Mental Health Treatment, including Emergency Response Steering Committee (Steering Committee) was held on 14 December 2021 (noting that the Steering Committee met on two extraordinary occasions since the last communique was released). 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 an update on the Roadmap including progress of the Discussion Paper and consultation.

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, pragmatic 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.

Transformation

The Steering Committee is committed to transformation whilst acknowledging the immediate serious pressures on the system. The Roadmap should include a 5-10 year vision that aligns with contemporary understandings and practice and has the capacity to evolve to keep up with future challenges and modern approaches and a practical phased plan to achieve the vision. The system must change to become even more trauma competent and recovery oriented. Further, the Roadmap will need to consider the socioeconomic needs driving, or impacted by, mental health or ill-health and ensure people are considered in the context of their lives and experiences. In line with this, responses and resources should extend to address the social and relational needs people, their families and carers may have. Change takes time and cannot occur without the resources required to do so.

Discussion Paper

A Discussion Paper is being developed to provide the community with an opportunity to provide feedback on learnings to date, the case for change, and the key proposed directions the Roadmap will need to take to best meet the needs of people in Western Australia who require specialist community mental health care

and/or emergency mental health care. Stakeholder feedback on the Discussion Paper will inform the next stage of consultation and ultimately the final Roadmap.

The draft Discussion Paper is anticipated to be delivered by the end of February 2022 for Ministerial review and endorsement. Following this, the Discussion Paper will be release publicly and open for community feedback. At this stage, it will be critical that the Discussion Paper is shared widely to ensure diverse perspectives and voices are heard and captured.

Consultation

A programme of engagement with consumers, carers, families, clinicians and other stakeholders is being undertaken to inform the Discussion Paper and the Roadmap. At the time of the December Steering Committee meeting, previous engagement included targeted interviews with representatives from Health Service Providers, Non-Government Organisations (NGO) including consumer and carer peak bodies, Alcohol and Other Drug service providers and peak bodies, WA Health Statutory Bodies, Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Organisations and the Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia, Service Provision peaks, professional colleges, and the WA Police. Additionally, the Steering Committee and project team have been supported by Expert Working Groups comprising lived experience, clinical, interagency, and NGO representation. Further targeted consultation with consumers, family members and carers has taken place to ensure the experiential lens is meaningfully captured.

The Steering Committee acknowledge that consultation will continue throughout the project, and that targeted engagement with specific stakeholder groups who have been underrepresented in engagement to date, or have specific considerations and needs, is a priority. This includes people from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds, older adults, and youth. Additionally, following release of the Discussion Paper, community forums will take place in each region to further engage with stakeholders, including consumers, families, carers, and service providers.

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for 1 February 2022.

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