



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE - MEETING 5 APRIL 2022

The seventh meeting of the Community Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Council (CMC) was held on 5 April 2022. This communique provides all stakeholders with information and outcomes from this meeting. This meeting was scaled down due to COVID related priorities and a potential peak coinciding with the meeting.

The key priority projects of the CMC and Mental Health Executive Committee (MHEC) continue to be the [Community Treatment and Emergency Response Roadmap](#), [Ministerial Taskforce into Public Mental Health Services for Infants, Children and Adolescents](#), [Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensic Taskforce](#) (GRAFT) and the Long Stay Patient Project. The committees continue to be consulted and receive regular updates on progress, noting further information is provided below. Addressing the mental health and alcohol and other drug (AOD) workforce shortages and building a skilled and sustainable workforce through a suitable workforce plan and appropriate strategies are also a key priority.

COVID-19 Preparedness – Mental Health Commission (MHC)

COVID testing prior to admission to a residential service has been well received. The overall coordinated approach for the sector has been provided with valuable lessons, since the pandemic.

Community Treatment and Emergency Response Roadmap Project

The draft discussion paper has been prepared and is expected to be released shortly. The Mental Health Commission (MHC) is working with the Minister to confirm the overall priorities of the project for the next phase, with workforce continuing to take priority across the sector. The Roadmap communique is available [MHC website](#).

Ministerial Taskforce into Public Mental Health Services for Infants, Children and Adolescents aged 0-18 years in Western Australia

The Ministerial Taskforce [Final Report](#) into Public Mental Health Services for Infants ([ICA Taskforce](#)) was made public on 15 March 2022. The Final Report and its 32 recommendations provide the framework to transform the mental health system into a contemporary, evidence-informed model of service and models of care that meet the needs of children aged from 0 – 18 years. The Government is now prioritising work and resources to progress the implementation phase, with the immediate actions being undertaken in the 2022-2023 period. MHC will work closely with the HSPs in the implementation phase. More information is available on the [MHC website](#).

Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensic Taskforce (GRAFT)

The [GRAFT](#) informs the Government's planning and investment decisions regarding the Graylands hospital site, forensic mental health services and the nearby Selby Older Adult Mental Health Service. The project is progressing and more information will be included in the [MHC website](#) as it becomes available.

Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Workforce Planning

The current shortage across the public health and community sectors is a top priority and a critical issue across the committees. It is proposed to set up a CMC workforce sub-group to work closely with MHC to develop a five-year program of works. A proposed 12 month timeline to develop the program of works is underway.

National Agenda

WA Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (WANADA) and MHC provided an update on the National Agenda to members. Discussions covered the National Mental Health Suicide Prevention Agreement and Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ANACAD).

Other Items of note:

Other topics that were on the CMC agenda for noting include:

- The WA State Priorities Quarterly Update February 2022 on all system reform projects underway was endorsed by MHEC and is available on the [MHC website](#).

The next CMC meeting is scheduled for 29 June 2022. *Please feel free to distribute this Communique to your wider networks. Communiques and other relevant documents for the CMC and MHEC are available on the [MHC's website](#)*