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| Attendees | Paul Parfitt (PP), Tracey Young (TY), Richard Oades (RO), Virginia Catterall (VC), Jessica Nguyen (JN), Jennifer Wilton (JW), Lee Steel (LS) | Mental Health Commission Djeran Room, Level 1, 1 Nash Street Perth WA 6004 and MS Teams Thursday, 8 December 2022 08:30am – 12:00pm |
| Chair | Margaret Doherty (MD) | |
| Deputy Chair | Patricia Councillor (PC) | |
| MHC Support | Caitlin Parry (CP) | |
| Guests | Uncle Charlie and Aunty Helen Kickett, Mental Health Commission's Aboriginal Elders in Residence | |
| Apologies | Nafiso Mohamed, Pauline Cole | |
| AGENDA ITEM | DISCUSSION | ACTION LOG |
| 1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners | The Deputy Chair acknowledged the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation and the Yamatij people. Respects were paid to Elders past, present and future. Their knowledge, traditions, memories and understanding of the land, waterways and seas were recognised. Aboriginal Council members were also acknowledged. | |
| 2. Welcome and apologies | The Chair welcomed attendees and noted apologies. | |
| 3. Recognition of Lived Experience | The Chair recognised those with lived and living experience and acknowledged the emotional labour that comes with drawing upon it. Whilst Mental Health Advisory Council (Council) members are not represented in a designated Lived Experience capacity, the Council strives to create a safe place for members to bring their lived experience perspectives to discussions. | |
| 4. Member Check In | Members did a round table check in. | |
| 5. Reflection Item | <p>Jessica Nguyen presented the reflection item:</p> <p>The discontinuation of the service NPS MedicineWise and the videos which share young people's lived experiences on the webpage. Members noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lived Experiences related to use of prescribed medications. • Appreciation that Lived Experience Consumer stories were highlighted. • Having an independent body is important and Members are keen to see what will replace this independent service, particularly noting whether it will be consumer-informed. | Note: Virginia Catterall to provide reflection item for next meeting. |

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| 6. Conflicts of Interest | No new conflicts of interest to be noted. | |
| 7. Acceptance of previous meeting minutes | <p>Council members endorsed the minutes from the meeting on 13 October 2022.</p> <p>10 November 2022 meeting minutes - CEOs and Directors attended in response to invitation to services to send a representative. However, it would have been beneficial to have had more community members and people working on the frontline of services attend to hear their thoughts. The November Minutes will be amended to highlight that the representatives were at a higher level. Council members endorsed minutes from the meeting on 10 November 2022 based on this amendment.</p> <p>A learning for next time is to potentially invite people at an Executive level as they are likely to want to attend and represent their agency and request them to bring a community member or frontline practitioner too.</p> | |
| 8. Action Log | <p><u>Completed actions:</u> 231, 235, 225</p> <p><u>Outstanding actions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action 227 – Requires further follow up. • Action 210 - Paul Parfitt will be contacted to confirm whether this will occur at the February 2023 meeting. • Action 149 – An invitation to Eamon Ryan (Office of the Chief Custodial Inspector) will be drafted to attend the March 2023 meeting. • Action 183 – Tracey Young has provided this information to MHAC@mhc.wa.gov.au. Secretariat to locate and forward to members. | |
| 9. Budget | The Chair noted Council budget. | |
| 10. Discussion on Geraldton visit and advice to A/Commissioner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair and Council members expressed their gratitude to the Deputy Chair for her hard work on the ground and responsiveness in facilitating the visit to Geraldton and to the Mental Health Commission (MHC) team for being flexible and supportive of the visit especially given the short notice changes. Particular appreciation was expressed for the beautiful Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country. <p>Advice to the Acting Commissioner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During the visit, there was discussion regarding Western Australian Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) funding to support a specific youth-initiative. It was noted that the level of funding | <p>Action: Provide thank you letters to panel members attending the Geraldton event.</p> |

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| | <p>flexibility was quite unusual as usually all funding is generally linked to specific outcomes whereas more flexibility facilitated a community development approach. This flexibility and funding support highlights what can be done when funding is around and available. WAPHA provided funding that was tied to developing a program, but the flexibility allowed for projects to be supported that relate more broadly within the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During discussions held on the day, gaps in communication were identified. There was a supported accommodation within the community that had vacancies, but no one on the ground was aware of this. The networking at the event between agencies in Geraldton facilitated that information sharing. - It was reported there was a high level of engagement and energy within the community after the event, with many community members, including the Mayor, staying back for continued conversations and speaking of the success of the event. - Council agreed that resourcing and strengthening of partnerships is required. It was suggested the MHC could look to fund periodic networking opportunities for mental health and alcohol and other drug (AOD) services to meet, with a lead agency in a co-ordination role to keep momentum going and consider exploring flexible funding which would allow hosting of events to shift from agency to agency. It was noted that in order to be of maximum benefit, this would optimally be independently facilitated, with a variety of frontline staff and people in decision making roles as attendees. | |
| <p>11. Member Profile – Tracey Young</p> | <p>Tracey Young provided the Member Profile.</p> | <p>Note: Jennifer Wilton will provide the member profile for the February 2023 meeting and Virginia Catterall will provide the member profile for the March 2023 meeting.</p> |
| <p>12. Discussion on Recovery College presentation and advice to A/Commissioner</p> | <p>Following a presentation from the Chairperson and Principal of the WA Recovery College Alliance at the last meeting, members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The lack of clarity regarding level of impact of the program to date. - Model of the triangle – members queried why the most important elements are pictured at the peak (smallest element) while administration and educators make up the broader element. - | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whether the current Recovery College model is currently meeting the needs of the community, noting the requirement for an independent evaluation process to capture the learnings that are being had regarding the challenges involved in delivering to meet the Integrity Framework state-wide, without additional resources. The college is in discussions with the MHC regarding the outcome and future of the program. - It was noted that prevention outcomes are likely to be achieved via the education available within a Recovery College. Members agreed it is important to increase this percentage of funding dedicated to Prevention Services and that Recovery College could be a key contributor in the prevention area. - Whether delivery of courses could be more inclusive of innovation, i.e., training is face to face and while that is important, if courses were also offered virtually, more people could be reached. Given the resources required to respond state-wide, this could also be a cost-effective approach, however, not at the expense of local engagement. - Council strongly support the sustainable funding of the WA Recovery College initiative as it is a disruptive innovation which supports system transformation. Any initiatives that will increase the innovation offered within the model while maintaining the integrity of the framework is welcomed. | |
| BREAK | | |
| 13. Independent Governance Review of the Health Services Act 2016 | <p>Council discussed the Health Review and its recommendations.</p> | |
| 14. Other Business | <p>Council discussed Banksia Hill Detention Centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Chair acknowledges that this item has been so distressing for the Aboriginal community, with majority of detainees being of Aboriginal descent. It was noted that an extra \$25 million has been allocated but public reporting has highlighted tension within discussions and there is no clarity regarding what was agreed and not agreed to in the recently held Summit. It has been heartening in this situation to witness key leaders from a range of areas contributing to these discussions and pushing back for the benefit of justice-involved young people and their families and communities which are often disadvantaged and under-represented in such discussions. | <p>Action: Nil</p> |

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| | <p>Council noted the Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Bill 2022 which repeals and replaces the existing <i>Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 1996</i> (CLMIA Act).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Bill was tabled in State Parliament on 1st December by the Attorney General. - The Bill proposes an end to indefinite detention. The AG flagged that this change alone may possibly increase the number of people who may be captured under a new Act as currently individuals may choose to enter a guilty plea (where they are able to do so) to avoid the possibility of indefinite detention. - There are fifty-four people currently on Custody Orders in Western Australia. The Bill contains transitional provisions for these individuals. Members acknowledged the amount of long term and consistent advocacy which has gone into achieving this new Bill and the importance of this legislative reform by government. | |
| 15. Discussion with Mental Health Commission Elders-in-Residence | <p>The Council invited the MHC Aboriginal Elders in Residence, Uncle Charlie and Aunty Helen Kickett to meet with Council and to thank them for their important work at the MHC.</p> | Note: Draft Thank You letter to Uncle Charlie and Aunty Helen for Chair to review. |
| 16. Values Reflection | <p>Council members provided Values reflections as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversations were robust, honest and Uncle Charlie and Aunty Helen reminded everyone to deeply listen and seek to understand what is happening for an individual or community. • One of the values is to listen to unheard voices. Hearing from Uncle Charlie and Aunty Helen gave voice to and understanding of the needs of some of the most unheard individuals and communities. | |
| Meeting closed at 12:00pm | | |
| NEXT MEETING | Thursday, 9 February 2023 | |