

Budget Commitments 2023-24

Prevention



Western Australian Suicide Prevention Framework 2021-2025

The State Government will invest a further \$9.8 million to extend the initiatives under the Western Australian Suicide Prevention Framework 2021-2025 (the Framework) for a further 12 months (to 30 June 2025). The Framework addresses suicide prevention activity under the four streams of prevention/early intervention, support/aftercare, postvention, and Aboriginal people. This funding will enable the continuation of initiatives under the Framework.

For more information contact PreventionServices@mhc.wa.gov.au

Treatment Services

Infant, Child and Adolescents Ministerial Taskforce and Implementation

The State Government will invest a further \$35.5 million to progress the recommendations of the Infant, Child and Adolescent (ICA) Taskforce. This investment will include the establishment of a 2.5 year pilot of a Community ICA Mental Health Service Hub in Bunbury, continuation of a 9.5 FTE uplift at the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, establishment of a 2.5 year pilot of an East Metropolitan Acute Care Response team, funding for 10 additional Aboriginal Mental Health Workers and an expansion to the Touchstone Service which provides specialised intensive treatment for children aged 12-17 years with complex personality disorders. This investment will ensure uplifts to metropolitan and regional services.

For more information contact MHC.TreatmentServiceProvision@mhc.wa.gov.au or [read more](#)

National Agenda

Under the Bilateral Schedule on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention: Western Australia, the State Government and the Commonwealth will provide \$61.5 million of new investment in Western Australia for Aftercare services, Eating Disorder services, and the establishment of a new Head to Health Kids Hub. A Joint Implementation Plan is being developed to guide implementation of the Bilateral Schedule and associated initiatives in Western Australia. This funding and collaboration between the State Government and Commonwealth is important in progressing reform in Western Australia and ensuring that everyone has high quality and accessible mental health care in the community.

For more information contact MHC.TreatmentServiceProvision@mhc.wa.gov.au

Active Recovery Teams

The State Government will invest an additional \$9.9 million to extend the Active Recovery Teams (ART) for another year in 2023-24. ART are a partnership between community mental health teams and non-government organisations that provide recovery planning and crisis response for individuals with complex needs recovering from an acute or crisis episode. This funding will enable the State Government to continue to support people to stay well in the community, minimise future presentations to emergency departments and reduce prolonged inpatient stays.

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Treatment Services

Mental Health Emergency Telehealth Service

The State Government will invest a further \$24.4 million over four years to the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) for the Mental Health Emergency Telehealth Service. This service provides health professionals in regional and remote areas with 24/7 access to an acute mental health specialist workforce. The service provides equitable access to contemporary, inclusive, and culturally safe care, provided closer to home, for more patients. The Mental Health Emergency Telehealth Service delivers high-quality, specialist acute mental health services to rural and remote Western Australians across 86 small hospitals and nursing posts across the Wheatbelt, Great Southern, Goldfields, South West, Kimberley, Pilbara and Midwest regions.

For more information contact MHC.TreatmentServiceProvision@mhc.wa.gov.au



Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Reforms

The *Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Act 2023* received the Royal Assent on 13 April 2023, and will repeal the *Criminal Law (Mentally Impaired Accused) Act 1996*. The State Government will invest a further \$0.74 million to assist in preparing mental health services for the associated reforms. The reforms will play a significant role in protecting the human rights of people with mental impairment in the justice system, ensure procedural fairness, and bring WA into line with best practice in other States.

For more information contact CMOMH@mhc.wa.gov.au

Community Treatment Uplift

The State Government will invest a further \$7.97 million to continue the uplift to Adult Community Treatment Services from 2021-22. This is to ensure additional access to mental health treatment in the community and ease the pressure on the hospital system through reduced Emergency Department presentations. This will continue to provide additional clinical, allied health and administrative staff for Assessment and Treatment Teams (ATT) and Community Treatment Teams (CTT) for more responsive services; and greater flexibility for service delivery. The community mental health treatment services operate with multidisciplinary teams, providing outreach, transition support, relapse prevention planning, physical health assessment and support for people experiencing mental health issues.

For more information contact MHC.TreatmentServiceProvision@mhc.wa.gov.au

East Kimberley Psychiatric Services

The State Government will invest \$5.4 million over 4 years for the East Kimberley psychiatric services as part of the ongoing State Government commitment to Aboriginal Youth Wellbeing. This investment is a continuation of the funding that has been provided to the WA Country Health Service since 2021 to employ a Psychiatrist and Staff Educator in the East Kimberley region. The continuation of these roles will increase access to mental health clinical services and community support options available to children, young people and their families in the East Kimberley region. This funding will contribute towards the long-term State Government strategy to improve wellbeing of Aboriginal young people through the development, upskilling and retention of the Aboriginal workforce, promote a workplace culture of continued learning and strengthen clinical governance and leadership in the Kimberley region.

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