



Expressions of Interest

Members of the Lived Experience Advisory Group

The Mental Health Commission is seeking to appoint 12 members to join the newly created Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG) with Lived Experience expertise, as a consumer, family member, significant other or community with a lived experience of mental health, and/or alcohol and other drug issues, harms, and service use across the systems.

This is an exciting opportunity that is open to Lived Experience experts and emerging Lived Experience leaders from across public, private, non-government and academic organisations who:

- can use their Lived Experience expertise to take a strategic and whole of system view when considering issues and solutions;
- are willing and able to work collaboratively to provide innovative and contemporary advice and solutions; and
- are passionate about contributing to policy, strategy and continuous improvement and reform of the mental health and AOD systems.

Applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, members of the LGBTIQ+SB community, age diverse, individuals living in regional and remote locations, individuals living with a disability, and people from diverse cultural backgrounds are particularly encouraged and welcomed to apply. We are committed to providing an inclusive environment in which people can be themselves and their voices heard.

Click on the following links to go to the relevant sections of this brief:

[How did the LEAG come about?](#)

[What we are looking for](#)

[Additional Details](#)

[How to Apply](#)

[Where can I go to for further information?](#)



How did the LEAG come about?

On 31 August 2023, the Western Australian Government committed to establishing new governance arrangements for the mental health and AOD systems in Western Australia (Figure 1) as part of a [package of reforms](#) associated with the [Independent Review of WA Health System Governance](#). The aim is to strengthen leadership, accountability and collaboration of the Western Australian mental health and alcohol and other drugs systems. To help achieve this, a LEAG is being established to advise key system leaders on priorities.

The LEAG will bring together a collective group of diverse individuals that provide collective independent, evidence-informed, practical and achievable advice, relating to the strategic reform priorities and objectives that the Mental Health, Wellbeing, Alcohol and Other Drugs Joint Leadership Group (JLG). The advice is grounded in Lived Experience, voicing matters on behalf of all consumers, families, and significant others.

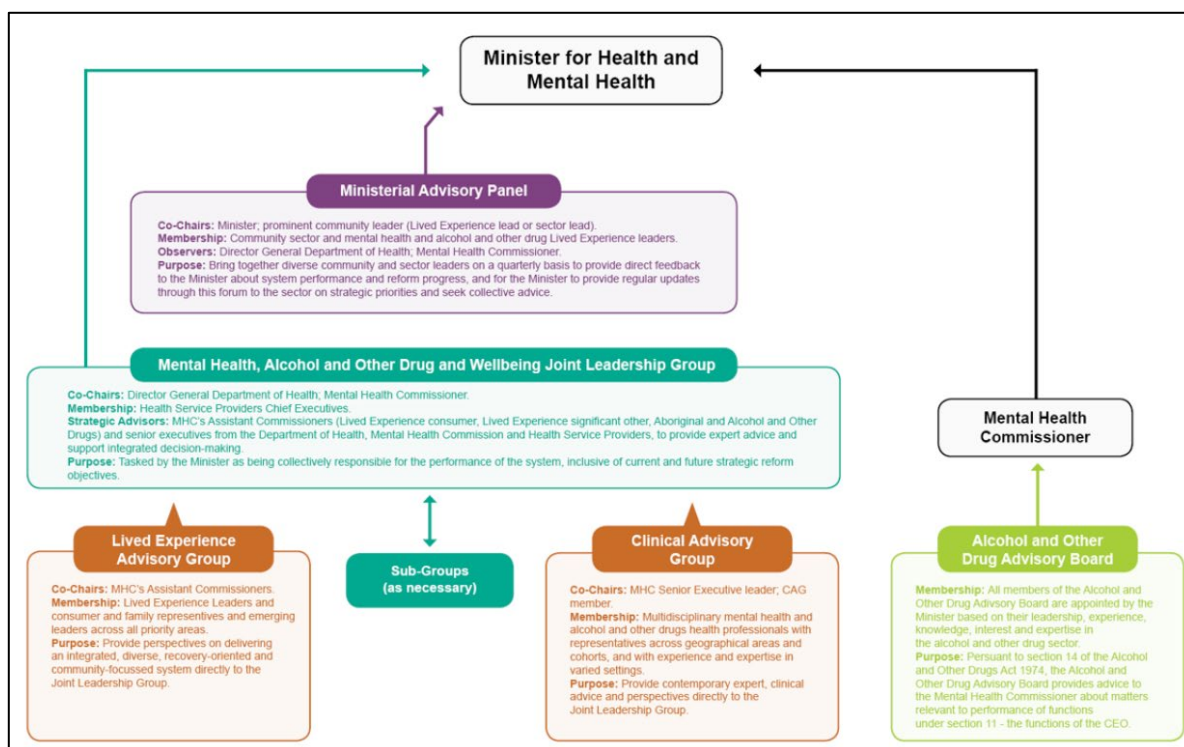


Figure 1: Structure of the Western Australian Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs systems Governance Committees (2023).

The purpose of the LEAG is to:

- Provide Lived Experience perspectives on JLG priorities to deliver an integrated, diverse, recovery orientated and community focussed system;
- Liaise and work collaboratively with key stakeholders within the health system, broader government agencies, academics, professionals and the community sector; and
- Provide advice on emerging issues as requested by the JLG.



What we are looking for

1. Lived Experience expertise

- Lived experience of mental health, and/or alcohol and other drug (AOD) issues, harms, and service use across key systems, as an individual or as a family member or significant other;
- Existing connection to the mental health and/or AOD community, with a strong understanding of the diverse, evolving and needs of the community which they are connected to;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural expertise;
- Ability to speak collectively of lived experience; and
- Understand principles of trauma-informed practice, decolonisation, social justice, disability justice, and human and emancipatory rights.

2. Technical skills

- Ability to read and understand high level documents containing key strategies, frameworks, and discussion papers;
- Demonstrate critical analysis by identifying gaps, impacts and potential solutions to complex mental health and alcohol and other drugs system level issues;
- Understand system-wide matters that impact mental health and AOD systems across Western Australia; and
- Apply strategic thinking, decision-making, and planning skills.

3. Leadership skills

- Demonstrates skills, vision, passion, and collaboration to help support the success of the LEAG as an important part of mental health and AOD systemic reform; and
- Previous experience in leadership, which can be within formal roles (e.g., manager, coordinator, team leader, board member) but can also include informal roles, such as a community organiser or recognised community leader.

Members of the LEAG must be residents of Western Australia.

Members of the LEAG cannot be:

- Employees of the Mental Health Commission;
- Representing on behalf of an organisation;
- A member of the Mental Health, Wellbeing, and Alcohol and Other Drugs Ministerial Advisory Panel; and



- Members of more than two State Government Boards or Committees, including committees that are Ministerially endorsed, and individual membership to any one board should not exceed 10 years in total.

Additional Details

Who will Chair the LEAG?

The LEAG will be permanently co-chaired by the Assistant Commissioner Alcohol and Other Drugs and co-chaired on a rotational basis by the Assistant Commissioner Lived Experience (Consumer) and Assistant Commissioner Lived Experience (Significant Other).

Details of Appointments

Members will be appointed for an initial term of up to three years. Members can be considered for reappointment at the discretion of the Minister for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

Availability and Time Commitment

It is anticipated the LEAG will meet quarterly for three and a half (3.5) hours. The first meeting to undertake induction is planned for November 2024.

Pre-readings and out of session work will be required in between meetings.

Opportunities for practise development will be provided to LEAG members. The scope of these activities will be provided to members upon appointment.

Meetings are held in-person at the Mental Health Commission (Workzone: 1 Nash Street, Perth 6000), however an online option is available in certain circumstances, including for regional participants.

Dates and times of the meetings will be confirmed once appointments are finalised.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference and Charter including all LEAG governance documentation will be provided to successful applicants prior to the first meeting.

Remuneration

For members who are not public sector employees or otherwise engaged through a contract of services, payment for meeting preparation and attendance will be offered for the role in alignment with the Commission's Consumer, Family, Carer and Community Paid Participation Policy.

Details about formal engagement, including work required, associated payments and any legal requirements for engagement, will be confirmed in an Agreement upon appointment.



How to Apply

If you are interested in becoming a member of the LEAG, please complete the following EOI (Expression of Interest) form [here](#).

EOI applications will close on Friday 20 September 2024 at 5pm.

The assessment of applications will include:

- A review of the EOI application against the selection criteria to shortlist applicants;
- Invite shortlisted applicants to participate in an interview; and
- Conduct referee checks.

Please note successful applicants are required to provide a Criminal Record Screening (CRS). The outcome of a CRS does not necessarily exclude the applicant from the selection process by any means and several factors are taken into consideration. Applicants are welcome to discuss their experience within the justice system over the phone, in person, or in writing.

Where can I go to for further information?

For further information, the following is available:

- [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) document](#);
- Pre-recorded Information Session;
- Attend our Q&A session; and/or
- Reach out to the Mental Health Commission (details below).

Who can I contact?

Please contact Matthew Monkhouse on (08) 6553 0230 or via email on matthew.monkhouse@mhc.wa.gov.au if you require additional information about the role or assistance relating to your application, including alternative options for application if required.

Pre-recorded Information Webinar

To access the pre-recorded information webinar explaining details of the LEAG and how to apply, please [click here](#).

Live Q&A Webinar

There will be an optional thirty (30) minute question and answer (Q&A) webinar that will be held online on Thursday 5 September 2024 at 4:30pm to answer any additional questions.

To register your participation at this session please complete the registration [link here](#). Shortly after registering your interest, you will receive a Microsoft Teams link via email to join the session at the designated time.