

Youth Mental Health Program Oversight Committee

The fifth Oversight Committee meeting, chaired by Dr John Wakefield, Deputy Director-General, Clinical Excellence Division, Department of Health, was held on 21 November 2018. Members discussed progress of the Youth Mental Health Program to date.

The Chair acknowledged the ongoing contribution of consumer and carer member representatives across all levels of the youth mental health program.

Consumer and carer member representatives presented a reflection on the progress of work completed so far and a summary of next steps, which will be used as a checkpoint for work moving forward. Key themes included continued collaboration and open communication including developing of strategies to provide ease of accessibility and information to services and improved coordination between services.

Early works on the expansion of an existing carpark have been completed at The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH) campus site for the new state-wide adolescent extended treatment (AET) centre. ADCO Constructions has been appointed as the building contractor for the AET centre. On 19 November 2018, the Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, Health Minister Steven Miles and Member for Stafford Dr Anthony Lynham announced commencement of construction at the state-wide AET centre building site. Both a consumer and carer member spoke at this event from the perspective of lived experiences of mental health services and the continuing consumer and carer involvement in co-design processes.

Associate Professor James Scott from the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research presented to the committee on the progress of developing an evaluation framework for the AET centre with an emphasis on outcomes for the young person and their family/carer. The AET Model of Service (MOS) will inform development of and the evaluation framework and clinical profile for the state-wide AET centre. Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service provided an update on commissioning activities (see Commissioning Communiques at <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/improvement/youthmentalhealth/news> for further details).

Evaluation of offers received from non-government organisations to deliver non-clinical support services to the three Youth Step Up Step Down (SUSD) services in north and south Brisbane and Cairns has concluded with anticipated announcement of successful offeror/s imminent. The Cairns Youth SUSD service is expected to commence in early 2019. The tender process for the Youth SUSD units in north and south Brisbane will close at the end of November 2018 to secure a builder.

The capital program for refurbishment of the two new adolescent Day Programs is progressing with finalisation of tender documentation.

The Committee also heard updates from key partners:

- Department of Education (DoE) regarding preparatory work to support the three education programs to be based at the new state-wide AET centre and the two new adolescent Day Programs at Logan and the Gold Coast including exploration of vocational education and training options. Additionally, DoE have recently developed a mental health and wellbeing training package to build capacity of school staff to respond to mental health difficulties of students.
- Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women regarding a joint review of Evolve Therapeutic Services with Queensland Health and other key projects to further support children and young people in care.
- Primary Health Networks (PHN) regarding their review of Brisbane North PHN commissioned child and youth services and regional plan actions.

The next Committee meeting will be held in February 2018. For further information see <http://health.qld.gov.au/improvement/youthmentalhealth>