

## Youth Mental Health Program Oversight Committee

The seventh Oversight Committee meeting, chaired by Dr John Reilly, A/Executive Director, Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch, Clinical Excellence Queensland, Department of Health, was held on 22 August 2019. Committee members discussed progress of the Youth Mental Health Program to date.

Construction of the Adolescent Extended Treatment Centre (AETC) continues with a ‘topping out ceremony’ held in June 2019 – a builder’s milestone signifying the main structure is complete. Construction is on-track for completion in early 2020 with commencement of services to follow.

The AETC Commissioning Project Team, led by Children’s Health Queensland (CHQ) Hospital and Health Service (HHS) continues activities to progress operational planning including workforce promotion and recruitment. Health Consumers Queensland reported a good response from health consumers and carers to their Expression of Interest to participate on recruitment panels for the AETC staff recruitment.

The first Youth Step Up Step Down (SUSD) service opened in Cairns in June 2019. Building has commenced for the two Youth SUSD services in Caboolture and Logan. Integrated service development activities between Metro North and Metro South HHSs and the non-government organisation have begun with a commitment to joint recruitment and orientation of Youth SUSD services staff and development of service guidelines with consumers and carers involved across all activities. Service commencement is anticipated in early 2020.

The tender for the building contractor for the adolescent Day Program at the Gold Coast was awarded in July 2019 and design is progressing with anticipated completion of construction in early 2020. Finalisation of the lease for Day Program at Logan is progressing.

The evaluation framework for the AETC has been developed by the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research, with planning underway for its implementation.

Following extensive consultation, the Queensland Health Guideline ‘*Transition of care for young people receiving child and youth mental health services*’ is endorsed and progressing to publication.

The Department of Education provided a presentation to the committee regarding activities undertaken to implement a statewide continuum of educational delivery to ensure that students with chronic health or complex mental health conditions receive specialised and appropriate educational support at all stages of their illness. Five key themes have been identified to support this: access to learning at all stages of illness; delivery of high-quality teaching and learning programs; students experience continuity of learning; students and staff feel a sense of belonging; and staff engage in multidisciplinary collaboration.

The Committee also received updates from other key partners:

- Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women regarding initiatives to strengthen links and pathways across health and family support and Child Safety services.
- Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors regarding their new organisational structure following implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
- Primary Health Networks (PHN) regarding Brisbane North PHN commissioning activities including a new *headspace* centre for Strathpine and a new program Brisbane MIND4KiDS. The MHAODB highlighted the commitment for HHSs to work collaboratively with their respective PHN across Queensland to achieve integrated regional planning and service delivery.

It was noted that the Youth Mental Health website <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/improvement/youthmentalhealth> has further updates including monthly photos showing construction progress. Recent additions to the website also include the AET Visual model of service (MOS) and Dr Paul Robertson’s report (independent clinical and expert advice on operationalising the MOS for the statewide AETC).

The next Committee meeting will be held in November 2019.