

Youth Mental Health Program Oversight Committee

The sixth Oversight Committee meeting, chaired by Dr John Wakefield, Deputy Director-General, Clinical Excellence Queensland, Department of Health, was held on 3 April 2019. Committee members discussed progress of the Youth Mental Health Program to date.

Construction of the Adolescent Extended Treatment Centre (AETC) continues with project variations relating to service provision and functionality being progressed as part of the design verification process.

Communication and community engagement for the Youth Step Up Step Down (SUSD) services in north and south Brisbane has commenced following the recent appointment of a builder. The capital program for refurbishment of the two new adolescent Day Programs is progressing with the negotiation of lease arrangements at Logan and tender release for the building contractor at the Gold Coast.

The AETC Commissioning Project Team, led by Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service (CHQ HHS) has undertaken a number of activities to progress operational planning including the approved formal naming process for the AETC, development of the staffing profile and recruitment of the Medical Director position.

The statewide AET model of service (MOS) which identifies the requirements for delivery of high quality and safe mental health treatment for young people who require subacute care is supporting operationalisation of the AETC. Committee members endorsed a consumer and carer friendly visual representation of the key aspects of the AET MOS.

The Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research presented an update on work and process undertaken to develop the evaluation framework for the delivery of services at the AETC including an extensive review of the literature and consultation with key stakeholders.

Aftercare has been announced as the successful non-government organisation to deliver non-clinical support services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for the Cairns Youth SUSD service alongside delivery of clinical services by Cairns and Hinterland Hospital Health Service (CH HHS). CH HHS, Aftercare, consumers and carers, and Queensland Health have undertaken service development activities reflecting shared youth focused service values.

Queensland Health's "*Guideline for the transition of care for young people receiving mental health services*" has been reviewed and revised and a plan for dissemination is underway to support consumers, carers, mental health clinicians and other community stakeholders to ensure its understanding and uptake.

The Committee also received updates from key partners:

- Department of Education about initiatives to support students with complex mental health conditions including: mental health coaches; inclusive education policy; regional youth engagement hubs; and statewide coordination of hospital education programs.
- Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women regarding initiatives including the new Specialist Service Team and Transition and Post Care Support Team.
- Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors regarding new organizational structure following implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
- Primary Health Networks regarding commissioning activities.
- The next Committee meeting will be held in August 2019. For further information see <http://health.qld.gov.au/improvement/youthmentalhealth>