

Youth Mental Health Program Oversight Committee

Issue #1

A new Oversight Committee (Committee) has been established to oversee the next phase of work following delivery of the Government response to the Barrett Adolescent Centre (BAC) Commission of Inquiry (COI) Report. The Committee is chaired by Dr John Wakefield, Deputy Director-General, Clinical Excellence Division, Department of Health as the project sponsor, reporting to Michael Walsh, Director-General, Queensland Health. Committee members include:

- Relevant Department of Health Divisions including Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch (MHAODB), Infrastructure Strategy and Planning Branch and Healthcare Purchasing and System Performance Division (HPSPD);
- Five Hospital and Health Services (HHS) including Metro South HHS, Metro North HHS, Gold Coast HHS, Children's Health Queensland HHS and Central Queensland HHS;
- Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC);
- Department of Education and Training (DET);
- Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS); and
- Two consumers and two carers.

At its first meeting on 13 October, 2017, the Committee noted the importance of:

- ongoing active participation of consumers and carers and acknowledged the continued support from Health Consumers Queensland
- the involvement of other Departments on the Committee for progressing the next steps of both the capital and reform streams of the Youth Mental Health Work Program; and
- ongoing transparency of processes within the in-confidence limitations of Government procedures.

The Committee also noted the progress of the reform and capital programs including:

- a public expression of interest process through HCO calling for consumers and carers who wished to participate in the ongoing reform program;
- a meeting for 14 consumers and carers was held on October 6, 2017 to orient them to the youth mental health program;
- the capital program will finalise design and specifications sufficient for a tender process for the statewide Adolescent Extended Treatment Facility (AETF) at The Prince Charles Hospital, Step Up Step Down Units (SUSDU) in north and south Brisbane and refurbishment of existing Day Program (DP) spaces in Logan and the Gold Coast;
- a series of infrastructure co-design workshops for each facility are planned starting with the AETF;
- early works program is proceeding with construction to commence in 2017 for the AETF;
- proposed reform stream framework has been developed outlining five clusters of work to guide the next phase of work: transitions; adolescent extended treatment services enhancement; evaluation, research, clinical quality and safety; dual disability; and strengthening policy and planning; and
- a child and youth team has been established within MHAODB.

The Committee agreed that a Communiqué be made publicly available following each meeting.

The next Committee meeting will be in early 2018. For further information see

<http://health.qld.gov.au/improvement/youthmentalhealth>