



ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
2017-18 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS – QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARINGS

Mental Health Commission

Page Number

Hon Nick Goiran MLC asked:

3)

- a) What is the amount of funding that has been allocated to all initiatives to prevent suicide;

Answer: The State-wide suicide prevention strategy, Suicide Prevention 2020: Together we can save lives (Suicide Prevention 2020), has received funding of \$25.9 million over four years, until 30 June 2019. The funding allocation for 2017/18 is \$7,235,000.00 excluding GST.

- b) Who has this funding been provided or allocated to; and

Answer:

- 360 Health + Community;
- Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia
- Anglicare WA;
- Centre for Transformative Work Design – University of Western Australia;
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service;
- Department of Education;
- Freedom Centre - WA AIDS Council;
- Holyoake;
- Hope Community Services;
- MATES in Construction;
- Mission Australia;
- Neami National;
- Palmerston Association Inc.;
- St John of God Hospital;
- WA Country Health Service;
- Wheatbelt Men's Health Inc. - Regional Men's Health Initiative;
- Youth Focus; and
- Zonta House.

- c) Have the funds been targeted to any specific groups?

Answer: Under Action Area 3 of the Suicide Prevention 2020 strategy, coordinated and targeted responses for high-risk groups, the Mental Health Commission has identified multiple priority populations who are recognised to be at greater risk of suicide than the general population.

Funding allocated in the 2017/18 budget will primarily target the following at-risk populations: Aboriginal people; children bereaved by suicide; the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community; men; people living in rural and remote areas; and those who have previously attempted suicide.

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ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

FORMAT FOR AGENCIES TO ANSWERS QUESTIONS

Mental Health Commission **Page Number**

Hon Jacqui Boydell MLC asked:

- 1) Step Up/Step Down mental health facility in Karratha - I refer to the Budget Paper 2, Volume 1, Page 142, heading Community Bed Based Services and note the commitment to deliver a 6 bed Step Up/ Step Down mental health facility in Karratha and I ask:
 - a) What is the location of this facility?
The current preferred site is Lot 500 Gawthorne Drive, Millars Well.
 - b) Is the community supportive of this location?
Feedback received through the consultation processes undertaken by the Mental Health Commission indicate that whilst the community is supportive of providing a step up/step down service in Karratha there are concerns relating to the proximity of the proposed service to the Millars Well Primary School and the Returned and Services League Club of Australia. Other community concerns relate to alcohol and other drug use, and the criminal history of those using the service.
 - c) What is the start date and expected completion date?
The Mental Health Commission is currently working with the City of Karratha and the Department of Communities, Housing to consider other alternative sites that may be suitable. The commencement of operation was expected to be August 2019, however due to delays relating to site issues, the new expected operational date is February 2020.
 - d) What is the amount required for ongoing funding? Where is the ongoing funding coming from?
As part of the 2015-16 Budget process, \$9.74 million (\$4.52 million capital and \$5.22 million operational) was allocated from the Royalties for Regions Program over three years until 2019-20. As part of the 2017-18 Budget process a further \$2.528 million of operational funding has been allocated for an additional year of operation until 2020-21, from the Royalties for Regions Program.
- 2) Methamphetamine Treatment Facilities - I refer to budget paper 2, volume 1, page 143, under Methamphetamine Action Plan and ask:
 - a) How many treatment facilities will be built?
In relation to the expansion of specialist alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation services in the South West, the Mental Health Commission is progressing with a Request for a Registration of Interest to determine the current capacity of existing services to provide the required expansion in treatment services.



Total funding of \$12.005 million has been allocated from 2018-19 to 2020-21, for the continuation of the 60 beds for alcohol and other drug withdrawal and residential rehabilitation treatment at existing service providers across the State.

- b) What locations/electorates will they be built in?
Locations/electorates to expand specialist alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation services in the South West, and alcohol and other drug treatment services in the Kimberley are yet to be determined and are subject to the registration of interest and planning processes referred to in answer 2 (a).

The 60 beds for alcohol and other drug withdrawal and residential rehabilitation treatment will continue to be provided by existing service providers. The table below outlines the locations and service providers of the beds.

Bed Type and Service Provider	Location	Bed Numbers
Low-medical Withdrawal Beds		
Cyrenian House	South Metropolitan	4 beds
Yaandina Family Centre Inc	Pilbara	2 beds
Abbotsford Private Hospital	South West	2 beds
Residential Rehabilitation Beds		
Cyrenian House	North Metropolitan South Metropolitan	10 beds at Cullacabardee 6 beds at Serenity Lodge
Palmerston	South Metropolitan	8 beds
Hope Community Service	Midwest	10 beds
Abbotsford Private Hospital	South West	14 beds
Goldfields Rehabilitation Service	Goldfields	4 beds

- c) When will building commence in these locations?
Commencement of building to expand specialist alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation services in the South West, and for alcohol and other drug treatment services in the Kimberley, if required, is yet to be determined.

In relation to the continuation of 60 beds, there are no capital works required, as these services have been operational since January 2017.

- 3) 3 Tier Youth Mental Health Program - I refer to Budget Paper 2, Volume 1, Page 140 under Spending Changes and I ask:

- a) What is the 3 Tier Youth Mental Health Program?
The 3 Tier Youth Mental Health Program is targeted at secondary school students and comprises of three components; Tier 1 (awareness), Tier 2 (prevention), and Tier 3 (intervention).
- i) Tier 1 is a presentation to students delivered by the program ambassador and designed to raise awareness of mental health and suicide.
 - ii) Tier 2 is a series of workshops to smaller groups of students delivered within the schools and designed to increase knowledge and coping strategies around specific mental health issues.

iii) Tier 3 is an individual counselling service available to students within the target group, provided by a mental health social worker through Peel Youth Medical Services and within the schools.

b) Has any modelling been done on the differences in mental health within regional WA?

As outlined in the Mental Health Commissions; Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025 (Plan) the Plan Matrix (page 106) which is based on the national modelling tools (National Mental Health Service Planning Framework; and the National Drug and Alcohol Service Planning Model,) details the service types, levels and locations of mental health required in Western Australia by the end of 2025, based on population, demand and population-wide prevalence.

c) There is no funding in the 2020-21 forward estimates, will this program cease after this date and if yes, why?

GP Down South are being provided with \$400,000 to deliver the 3 Tier Youth Mental Health Program for at risk youth in the Peel Region. The term of the agreement is 2017/18 to 2019/20. Funding beyond 2020 has not yet been determined and would be subject to normal budgetary processes, including evaluation of the effectiveness of the program.

4) GPs on 457 visas - I refer to budget paper 2, volume 1, page 145 and the outcome of accessible, high quality and appropriate mental health supports and ask:

When training is being offered to GPs who are coming from overseas on identifying and treating mental health concerns in regional areas?

The Mental Health Commission does not have responsibility for the training of GPs.

The Mental Health Commission does provide workforce training opportunities for medical practitioners, including GPs on 457 visas, through the Community Pharmacotherapy Program that provides support, information, advice, training and resources around treatment for opioid dependence.

The Mental Health Commission has developed an online mental health training package as part of the implementation of the *Mental Health Act 2014*, which commenced on 30 November 2015. This is available to all clinicians and mental health staff, as well as the general public.