

Planning for wellbeing

A Regional Plan for North Brisbane and Moreton Bay focusing on mental health, suicide prevention and alcohol and other drug treatment services 2018 – 2023



Strategic Coordination Group

Communique: June – August 2019

Overview of Strategic Coordination Group

The Strategic Coordination group oversees the development, implementation, monitoring, review and evaluation of 'Planning for Wellbeing - A Regional Plan for North Brisbane and Moreton Bay focusing on mental health, suicide prevention and alcohol and other drug treatment services 2018-2023', including to:

- provide guidance and direction on the scope, expected outcomes and implementation of the Regional Plan
- identify issues or areas of strategic importance relating to the success of the Regional Plan
- review and approve key regional plan documentation
- monitor and support progress, and report key milestones as required
- act as representatives of major stakeholders by sharing Regional Plan information between areas they represent
- monitor and respond to risks related to the implementation of the Regional Plan
- escalate unresolved matters relating to the Regional Plan to relevant stakeholders/funders as required
- initiate and endorse a review of the Plan
- lead the development of future plans.

The Coordination Group operates under the authority of Brisbane North PHN's Executive and Metro North Hospital and Health Service (MNHHS) Strategic Executive Team (SET). Membership includes consumer and carer representatives, Metro North HHS, Brisbane North PHN, Qld Department of Health, Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH), the Qld Alliance for Mental Health (QAMH) and the Qld Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (QNADA).

June 2019 Meeting

Peer Participation in Mental Health Services (PPIMS) Network Update

Representatives from the Peer Participation in Mental Health Services (PPIMS) Network provided an update on key achievements, and discussed the focus for the next six months. This included:

- offering another scholarship for Certification IV in Mental Health;
- coordinating another '[Voices for Change](#)' event to further support people with a lived experience to use their personal experience to increase awareness and enhance understanding of mental illness; and
- coordinate a youth-focused mental health first aid training event – run by young people with a lived experience, for young people with a lived experience.

The PPIMS representatives also acknowledged some of the ongoing challenges for consumers and carers, namely:

- representatives not always being recognised as consultants by the sector, and therefore not being remunerated for their time and expertise;
- carers not always being included or updated on changes to consumers' plans;
- lack of consumer peak body in Qld; and
- comparatively smaller numbers of peer workers within Metro North HHS, compared to Metro South HHS.

Despite the challenges, PPIMS representatives expressed thanks for the ongoing support from the PHN and the HHS.

Planning for Wellbeing – Communications

Members of the Strategic Coordination Group discussed strategies to promote, embed and improve engagement with Planning for Wellbeing. Currently, information and resources related to Planning for Wellbeing are available at <https://www.mymentalhealth.org.au/page/resources/regional-plan/>, but the PHN advised it was dedicating additional resources to this work in 2019/20, and hoped to increase awareness, engagement and ownership of the shared objectives within the plan as part of this work. The early outputs will be a first annual report against Planning for Wellbeing, as well as an increased and improved web-presence.

August 2019 Meeting

Suicide Prevention Strategic Partnership Group Update

Representatives from the Suicide Prevention Strategic Partnership Group provided an update against the 30 suicide-prevention focused actions in the Regional Plan. The majority of actions are either complete, or on-track for completion within the time-frame of the Regional Plan, with approximately 30% of actions still to be progressed.

The Partnership Group recommended the Strategic Coordination Group engage specific suicide prevention lived experience and sector representation – acknowledging the unique perspective of suicide prevention, as distinct from mental health and alcohol and other drugs. The Strategic Coordination Group endorsed the recommendation:

- agreeing to re-extend a previous invitation for a representative from Suicide Prevention Australia to join the Group; and
- agreeing to ensure diversity within lived experience representation – across suicide prevention, mental health and alcohol and other drug areas.

The Partnership Group discussed the ongoing challenge of maintaining engagement and momentum across the membership of the Group, when a number of actions have not attracted funding to support implementation. The following strategies are being implemented to address this:

- reviewing and reaffirming the purpose and membership of the partnership group;
- exploring opportunities for the suicide prevention sector to come together for more general networking and partnership development; and
- exploring opportunities for improved communication across partnership groups, including members of the Strategic Coordination Group attending some Partnership Group meetings.

Interagency Meetings

Following a recent survey on the purpose, attendance and perceived value of a range of interagency meetings that exist within the region, the Strategic Coordination Group tasked representatives from the PHN and the HHS to prepare a summary of the meetings, outlining what meetings exist, their purpose, the meeting schedule and a contact person – and to share this information on the *MyMentalHealth* website.

The survey indicated a preference for two half-day full interagency meetings. The Strategic Coordination Group supported progressing with two half-day meetings, with the purpose networking and sharing information, alongside creating opportunities for collaboration and show-casing innovative practice. The Strategic Coordination Group were also supportive of hosting an annual symposia or forum focused on Planning for Wellbeing.

Workforce

Members of the Strategic Coordination Group discussed the growing workforce needs in the region, noting that whilst a few resources exist, there is no plan to address the needs. The Group agreed to seek a strategic commitment from both State and Commonwealth Governments, the Qld Mental Health Commission, and the relevant peaks.