

Supplement to the Annual Report of the Stokes Review Implementation Partnership Group (IPG)

An annual report of the implementation of the Stokes Review recommendations was prepared for the period March 2013 to March 2014 (the Annual Report). This was endorsed by the Stokes Review Implementation Partnership Group on 26 June 2014, and recently submitted to the Minister for Mental Health for approval prior to public release.

This supplement summarises the recent progress being made by the Mental Health Commission (MHC) and the Department of Health (DOH) – Office of Mental Health (OMH) in partnership with key stakeholders, in implementing the recommendations of the Stokes Review since March 2014.

A total of 31 recommendations of the Stokes Review have been implemented to date. DOH did not endorse two recommendations (7.10.2 and 7.10.3) as it would not be reasonable or cost effective to implement these. The implementation of the remainder of the recommendations is underway.

Table 1 provides an update of implementation status of recommendations as originally reported at page 26 of the Annual Report.

Significant progress continues across the majority of recommendations, which broadly fall into three main categories:

1. The principal recommendation of the Stokes Review is addressed by the Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025 (the Plan) and deals, in part or in full, with 46 recommendations. The Plan is progressing well with the final Plan and technical report expected to be provided for initial Government consideration before the end of 2014.
2. The Mental Health Bill 2013 (the Bill) was introduced into Parliament on 23 October 2013. Certain provisions contained in the Bill have relevance to the recommendations of the Stokes Review and proclamation of the Bill will provide further impetus for implementation.
3. The OMH is leading the implementation of recommendations with operational implications, with significant progress, particularly in relation to recommendations concerning governance, standardized documentation for service provision and workforce development, achieved to date.

Since the Annual Report, through negotiations between the MHC and OMH, the lead agency for delivery of recommendation 8.10.9 has been changed to the OMH. The majority of the recommendations that 8.10.9 refers to are the responsibility of the OMH, which is the reason for changing the lead agency role. Additionally, the timeframes listed in the Government Response to the Stokes Review have been altered to meet the requirements of implementation as developed through stakeholder liaison and an integrated approach between the DOH and MHC to delivering outcomes.

The Alcohol and Drug Authority Amendment Bill 2014 was also introduced into the Legislative Assembly on 14 May 2014 by the Premier. This is a significant milestone in the merger process of the MHC with the Drug and Alcohol Office (DAO), with a view to addressing the need identified by the Stokes Review, for improved delivery of support and treatment for people with co-occurring mental health and alcohol and other drug problems.

The 2014/15 Budget provided funding to consolidate and build on key reforms including the expansion of public mental health services; services for Aboriginal people with mental illness; expanding of community based subacute care facilities; youth and adult court diversion services; and State-wide suicide prevention.

Following the production of the Annual Report of the Stokes Review Implementation Partnership Group, significant work has been progressed on the implementation of various recommendations. The following are some key achievements between March 2014 and August 2014.

- The MHC is committed to building on the successes of the Statewide Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Service (SSAMHS). The MHC was successful in securing \$29 million in funding for three years through the 2014/15 budget, to enable continuation of the SSAMHS beyond June 2014, during which time services will be evaluated. (Recommendations 7.6, 7.8)
- Implementation of a pilot Mental Health Court Diversion and Support Program which commenced in 2013 and forms part of what is intended to be a comprehensive forensic service that will be developed over the next decade. The pilot comprises an adult program, the Specialised Treatment and Referral Team (START) Court and a children's program, Links. These are located in the Perth Magistrates' Court and Perth Children's Court respectively. The program integrates clinical and non-clinical supports and aims to reduce reoffending through diversion to appropriate mental health and other services. Additional funding of \$4.6m has been provided through the 2014/15 budget process to continue these programs to 30 June 2015, during which time the programs will be evaluated. (Recommendations 8.10.7, 9.1.2)

- MHC Special Purpose Accounts (SPAs) in each Health Service have been established and are functional for 2014/15. The SPAs provide an opportunity for the development and implementation of an improved Mental Health financing and accountability process between the MHC and the DoH. Processes around acquittal of services (that is, weighted activity units) and funding will be strengthened throughout 2014/15. This includes further processes to share financial and performance information. (Recommendation 1.1.8)
- The Department of Health has developed a mandatory suite of State-wide Standardised Clinical Documentation (SSCD) for Mental Health Services to facilitate a consistent and standardised approach for the assessment and care of mental health consumers. The Acting Director General DOH, the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Psychiatrist have endorsed the SSCD for implementation across all Western Australian Mental Health Services. The DOH is currently in the process of implementing the SSCD on the public mental health information system (PSOLIS). (Recommendations 1.1.3, 2.12)
- Risk assessment and the development of risk mitigation strategies (such as for self-harming behaviour) are outlined in the Triage to Discharge framework that accompanies the mandatory SSCD. (Recommendations 1.1.3, 7.10.15)
- A review of mental health management structures has been completed by Ernst and Young. The report and its recommendations are being considered by the Department of Health's Executive. (Recommendation 1.7)
- There are a range of compliance reporting requirements arising from the *Mental Health Bill 2013* (MHB) and the Stokes Review Recommendations. In response to these requirements, the OMH has commenced the development of a Draft Compliance Reporting Framework which aims to detail the relevant compliance reporting against clauses within the MHB and Stokes Recommendations.
- As part of the development of the framework, the OMH is calling for representatives from the Area Health Services, Office of the Chief Psychiatrist, Mental Health Commission and Health Information Network to establish a 'Compliance Reporting Working Group'. This Working Group will be charged with providing guidance and advice in regard to matters pertaining to the development of compliance reporting, such as; in which circumstances compliance reporting is appropriate, data/information sources, outcome measures, reporting frequency and responsibility. This group will be chaired and facilitated by the OMH, with expected frequency of meeting to be monthly. (Recommendations 7.10.1, 7.11.1a, 7.11.1b, 7.11.1c, 7.11.2a, 7.11.2b, 7.11.2c, 7.11.3a, 7.11.3b, 7.11.4a, 7.11.4c)

- The Broome inpatient unit opened in 2012. The MHC continues to progress the implementation of subacute step up, step down services. The first Western Australian Step-up, Step-down service commenced operations in Joondalup in May 2013. With sites purchased for Rockingham and Broome, the Rockingham (10 bed) and Broome (6 bed) subacute services are now in the process of design development. (Recommendation 7.10.13)