

Kimberley Region Public Forum

Broome / Thursday, 19 October 2017

SUMMARY

Public Forums are being held in metropolitan and regional areas to provide input on developing a more sustainable and patient centred health system in Western Australia.

This Summary outlines major themes from the workshop only and is intended to be indicative of the more extensive information from the forum that will be provided to the Sustainable Health Review Panel to consider. This material is not to be regarded as endorsed by the State Government.

To keep in touch with the progress of the Review and for lodgement of Public Submissions, please go to www.health.wa.gov.au/sustainablehealthreview.

The Sustainable Health Review Panel would like to thank all participants for their contributions to improving our health system.



WHAT ARE THE BURNING ISSUES

From a large number of identified concerns, the following burning issues stood out:

- Need for more prevention, primary health and environmental health services in the region
- Lack of clarity, coordination and partnering between State and Commonwealth responsibilities
- Not enough investment into the social determinants of health or into social and emotional wellbeing in the community
- Need for long term health education and promotion to empower local communities
- Lack of coordination of service providers in remote communities
- Need for review of patient transport and improvement in the criteria around PATS
- Need for greater involvement of nurse practitioners and Aboriginal health practitioners in the health system

THE CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS THAT WE MUST HAVE

- Improving health literacy and empowering communities to understand the circumstances and choices around managing their own health
- Clarifying responsibilities and integrating planning so that preventative services can be delivered where they are needed
- Serious investment and greater accountability for social determinants and the resultant preventative health that is needed
- Better use of resources and improved efficiencies
- Support and build a truly sustainable workforce for the region

SUGGESTIONS FOR ALL SERVICE PROVIDERS AND THE COMMUNITY WORKING TOWARDS IMPROVED HEALTH

- Use the Kimberley Aboriginal Health Planning Forum as the key to better integration in the region
- Implement longitudinal health care strategies, linked to the
 20 year generational plan
- Push for progress on shared patient records, to improved integrated care

SUGGESTIONS FOR BREAKING DOWN THE BARRIERS AROUND SCOPE OF PRACTICE AND INNOVATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY

- Embrace new ideas in technology for service delivery
- Encourage and support the innovative service providers currently operating



SUGGESTIONS FOR CONVINCING GOVERNMENTS (FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL) TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT INVESTING IN PREVENTATIVE HEALTH

- Adopt a 20 year plan for generational change in health outcomes
- Implement a 10 year Aboriginal health funding guarantee, supported by legislation
- Focus on incentive based funding for preventative health



