

Public Submission Cover Sheet

Please complete this sheet and submit with any attachments to the Sustainable Health Review Secretariat

Your Personal Details

This information will be used only for contacting you in relation to this submission

Title Mr Miss Mrs Ms Dr Other

Organisation Aarnja

First Name(s) Jeri

Surname Sein

Contact Details



Publication of Submissions

Please note all Public Submissions will be published unless otherwise selected below

- I do not want my submission published
- I would like my submission to be published but remain anonymous

Submission Guidance

You are encouraged to address the following question:

In the context of the Sustainable Health Review Terms of Reference listed below, what is needed to develop a more sustainable, patient centred health system in WA?

- Leveraging existing investment in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary healthcare, as well as new initiatives to improve patient centred service delivery, pathways and transition;
- The mix of services provided across the system, including gaps in service provision, sub-acute, step-down, community and other out-of-hospital services across WA to deliver care in the most appropriate setting and to maximise health outcomes and value to the public;
- Ways to encourage and drive digital innovation, the use of new technology, research and data to support patient centred care and improved performance;
- Opportunities to drive partnerships across sectors and all levels of government to reduce duplication and to deliver integrated and coordinated care;
- Ways to drive improvements in safety and quality for patients, value and financial sustainability, including cost drivers, allocative and technical efficiencies;
- The key enablers of new efficiencies and change, including, research, productivity, teaching and training, culture, leadership development, procurement and improved performance monitoring;
- Any further opportunities concerning patient centred service delivery and the sustainability of the WA health system.

Submissions Response Field

Please type your response into the field below. Alternatively you may provide your submissions as a separate attachment (Suggested Maximum 5 pages).

Empowered Communities reform agenda is designed and led by Indigenous leaders from eight diverse regions – remote, urban and regional – to deliver on a mutual objective - Indigenous empowerment. Their aim is to shift from passive welfare to empowerment of Indigenous families and individuals. They have designed a model that will rebalance the power between Indigenous people and Government. This involves working with Governments to close social and economic disparity and ensure that identities, languages and cultures are not lost. They have also made a commitment to the goal of development that fosters empowerment. This goal is underpinned by getting greater value and productivity from critical investment in Indigenous programs and services. More details available in the Empowered Communities Design Report <http://empoweredcommunities.org.au/f.ashx/EC-Report.pdf>.

To achieve the Empowered Communities vision, Indigenous peoples need to strengthen their capabilities and have access to more opportunities and choices that put them in the driver's seat. They need to be active players who are able to take on responsibilities and decision making that impact their lives and ongoing development. While the Empowered Communities vision is shared, the specific pathway to empowerment varies across regions to suit local circumstances.

Aarnja is the backbone organisation for Empowered Communities in the West Kimberley region. According to the ABS Census 2016, there are 9,534 Indigenous people that makes up 40% of the total population in the West Kimberley region. Statistics from the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) 2015 indicated that there are significantly less proportion of children aged 5 years who are assessed as on track for each of the five AEDC domains in West Kimberley compared to children in WA. Data sourced from Broome based agencies showed that there are far too many families on the housing waiting list, high proportion of children are directly impacted by family violence incidents, and high volume of self-harm incidents in the Kimberley, those under the age of 35 years to be most at risk.

Aarnja is aware that the aim of this review is to guide the strategic direction of the WA health system to deliver patient centred, integrated, high quality, and financially sustainable healthcare across the State. If Indigenous people are to be empowered to be active drivers of change in their families and communities, they need access to accurate and meaningful data that is collected about them by WA Health, and research bodies commissioned by WA Health. There is a lack of information sharing by Health agencies regarding their service delivery and program performance. If data is to be useful and informative in providing evidence regarding performance of the WA health system, communities in the West Kimberley require access to information disaggregated at their local community level. We call on WA Health to engage with Aarnja in facilitating meaningful information and data sharing so individuals and communities can be better informed and engaged in their own health and wellbeing.