

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 <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Dr <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Organisation	Child and Youth Network
Name(s)	Dr Helen Wright & Dr Alide Smit
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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).

Western Australian Youth Health Policy 2018-2023

Background

Young people face many challenges as they move from childhood to independent adulthood. The period of adolescence and young adulthood gives rise to significant physical, emotional, psychosocial and cognitive development, accompanied by the challenges of moving from compulsory schooling, to further education, employment and economic independence.

Inexperience and risk-taking behaviour can result in ill-health and injury, most of which is preventable. Young people have particular health needs requiring service responses which are different to those of both children and more mature adults.

Western Australian Youth Health Policy 2018-2023

The development of the draft Western Australian Youth Health Policy 2018-2023 (The Policy) is the result of contributions from a large number of organisations and individuals from across the Western Australian (WA) health system and the community.

The Policy is a reflection of the increased recognition of youth health as a priority area both in Australia and internationally and outlines key strategic areas to promote the health and wellbeing of young Western Australians. It demonstrates WA health system's commitment towards achieving the shared vision and strategic priorities of the *Healthy, Safe and Thriving: National Strategic Framework for Child and Youth Health*.

The purpose of the Policy is to drive equitable, effective and coordinated health services in order to optimise the health and wellbeing of young people in Western Australia. The policy is focussed on the particular needs of young people 15 – 24 years of age.

It incorporates a broad scope, from health promotion and prevention strategies which enhance the health of all young people, initiatives to improve the early identification and intervention of health issues, through to specialist services for young people experiencing a diagnosed condition. Throughout the document, the needs of particular groups of young people at higher risk of ill-health, are recognised and considered.

The goals of the Policy are:

- Young people are equipped to be healthy, informed and resilient.
- Young people have equitable access to health services that meet their needs
- Young people are provided with high quality health care through coordinated system-wide planning, delivery and evaluation.

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It is the intent of the policy to inform local planning, delivery and evaluation strategies for health services and programs including targeted approaches for priority youth populations whom are at higher risk of poor health. We encourage all Health Service Providers to be supported in implementing the outcomes of The Policy.

Recommendations to the SHR

The Policy will be published in March 2018 and its development has been endorsed by the Commissioner for Children and Young People. We recommend that the Sustainable Health Review facilitate the implementation of the Policy and encourage all Health Service Providers and health services to implement the following to assist in optimising health and wellbeing outcomes for youth in Western Australia:

- Development of a WA Strategic Plan for young people involving high level cross government collaboration to ensure young people in WA have optimal health and wellbeing.
- There is a shared commitment to youth health that improves the health outcomes of young people. Action on improving youth health will be the collective responsibility of multiple governments and non-government organisations, communities, young people and their support networks.
- Young people participate in decisions that affect them and are meaningfully involved in the planning, development and evaluation of youth health services, programs and facilities.
- Health services and strategies are responsive to the holistic health needs of all young people recognising all forms of diversity across WA.
- Targeted prevention and early intervention strategies aim to reduce adverse outcomes and risks to the health and wellbeing of young people. Prevention should focus on building resilience, reducing injury and minimising the risk of chronic and communicable diseases.
- Digital technologies are utilised when engaging with young people.
- Health services are promoted using youth friendly communication campaigns developed collaboratively with young people.
- Confidentiality and privacy rights of young people are widely publicised and upheld.
- Health professionals and support staff undertake professional development to acquire skills need to engage effectively with young people. Demonstrate increased numbers of staff who have undertaken youth health training.
- Organisations/Service providers work collaboratively to improve care coordination and enable better access to services young people need.
- A youth health advocate is identified in each organisation.

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- A youth health policy implementation plan is developed within each organisation.
- Health Service Providers assign transition coordination responsibilities to a position based in a paediatric and an adult health service.

The draft version of the Western Australian Youth Health Policy 2018-2023 and companion resource can be accessed via the links below.

<http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/~media/Files/Corporate/general%20documents/youth-policy/youth-policy-draft.pdf>

PDF:

<http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/~media/Files/Corporate/general%20documents/youth-policy/Draft-Companion-Document.pdf>

Word:

<http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/~media/Files/Corporate/general%20documents/youth-policy/word/Draft-Companion-Document.ashx>