The Western Australian Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services Plan 2015-2025 (the Plan) sets the direction for mental health, alcohol and other drug service provision in Western Australia from 2015 to 2025. It outlines the Government’s expectations about the changes needed to build on, and enhance the improvements made in recent years.

Key priorities aim to achieve system-wide change to help the sectors meet the needs of Western Australians with mental health, alcohol and other drug problems and support their families and carers. A first of its kind for Western Australia, the Plan sets a bold and ambitious agenda to create a more connected, high quality, and person-centred system.

Community Treatment Services

Community treatment provides clinical care in the community for individuals with mental health, alcohol and other drug problems. These services generally operate with multidisciplinary teams, and include specialised and forensic community clinical services.

Expanding community treatment services will enable individuals to be treated in an environment best suited to their needs. Currently, people who are unable to access the help they need in the community have little choice but to rely on emergency departments and inpatient services. More people being supported in the community will alleviate demand on hospital based services, improving access to treatment for individuals with complex needs and acute illness.

Expanding community treatment services will enable individuals to be treated in an environment best suited to their needs.
The Plan at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern and Remote</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>554</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perth Metropolitan</td>
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<td>3,128</td>
<td>4,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Country</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. MH = Mental health
2. AOD = Alcohol and other drug
3. All services are MH and AOD combined unless otherwise specified.
4. Hours of service (prevention and promotion, community treatment, specialised state-wide services and forensics): are the hours which the workers/staff are employed for, and include all duties such as “face-to-face” services with individuals, administration, training and other duties.

Note: The Plan articulates the overall intentions regarding service development and transformation of mental health, alcohol and other drug services over the next ten years. Exact locations and distributions of services as shown are subject to the Government’s fiscal capacity and approval through normal budgetary processes.
Community Treatment Services Actions

By 2017 to prepare for the future:

• Boost infant, children and adolescent mental health community treatment services by doubling the provision of community treatment hours of service across the State
• Build on current youth services by commissioning dedicated public mental health youth services across the State for 16 to 24 year olds
• Work with police to develop and commission a mental health police co-response program
• Establish an effective 24 hour mental health crisis and emergency response service, to provide triage, assessment, and treatment services
• Establish clear referral pathways and system navigation support to ensure access to services occurs at the earliest point of contact
• Establish two integrated alcohol and other drug treatment services in Joondalup and Mandurah and develop another community alcohol and drug service hub in the Midwest (Meekatharra)

By 2020 to rebalance the system:

• Expand metropolitan alcohol and other drug integrated treatment services with Rockingham, Midland, Armadale and the Perth central Metropolitan area as priorities
• Increase the number of regional alcohol and other drug service hubs and their capacity to provide additional services such as outreach (initial focus on the South West, Great Southern, Wheatbelt, Midwest and Goldfields)
• Expand the training and engagement of General Practitioners and other primary care providers to:
  ▶ expand the Community Program for Opioid Pharmacotherapy across the State, particularly regional areas
  ▶ increase screening, brief intervention, early intervention, and referrals for mental health, alcohol and other drug problems in all regions

By 2025 to continue the reform:

• Continue the expansion of community mental health, alcohol and other drug services (co-located where possible)
• Maintain engagement with the primary care sector across the State to increase screening, brief intervention and early intervention
Consultation
Stakeholder forums will be taking place across Western Australia until mid-March 2015.
Consultation has already taken place as part of the development process of the Plan. The optimal mix of services described are based on national models for the mental health and the alcohol and other drug sectors. This consultation will focus on specific areas of the Plan to ensure we have identified any gaps, as well as how and when we deliver these services over the short, medium and long term.
Individuals are also invited to submit feedback and comments on the Plan through an easy to use web portal on the Mental Health Commission’s website.

Find out more
The Plan is now open for consultation until Sunday 15 March 2015 and can be downloaded and read in full on the Mental Health Commission’s website:
www.mentalhealth.wa.gov.au/ThePlan

How can I give my feedback on the Plan?
Individuals are invited to submit feedback and comments on the Plan through an easy to use web portal:

More information
The Mental Health Commission’s website has more information on the Plan. Factsheets cover each of the seven service streams, regional information and detail on the gradual closure of Graylands.

Questions?
You can find responses to frequently asked questions on the Mental Health Commission’s website:
www.mentalhealth.wa.gov.au/ThePlan
If you have difficulties accessing the Plan please email:
plantechnicalsupport@mentalhealth.wa.gov.au

A summary of feedback will be available on the Mental Health Commission’s website. The final Plan will be published following consultation in the first half of 2015.