Summary

A plan for Queensland’s State-funded mental health, alcohol and other drug services
# Connecting care to recovery 2016–2021

## A plan for Queensland’s State-funded mental health, alcohol and other drug services

### Our Aims

**Promote wellbeing**
- individuals, families and carers have a positive experience of our mental health, alcohol and other drug services
- individuals experience better health, social and economic outcomes
- identification and intervention occurs as early as possible, in response to suicide, attempted suicide and suicide risk; and in addressing the impact of these events on families, communities and service providers

**Delivering healthcare**
- individuals, families and carers are supported to engage and actively participate in decision making across policy development, planning, implementation, service delivery and in evaluating the mental health, alcohol and other drug services they receive
- patient rights are strengthened through implementation of the Mental Health Act 2016
- an appropriately trained, supported and experienced workforce is available with skills being used to their fullest and most efficient potential

**Connecting healthcare**
- access is available to a range of necessary and appropriate mental health, alcohol and other drug services as close as practical to an individual's community and support networks
- effective collaboration, coordination and integration occurs across the care continuum and between service providers

**Pursuing innovation**
- information and communication technology (ICT) supports clinical practice, information sharing, data collection and performance reporting
- mental health, alcohol and other drug services are continually evaluating, innovating and improving

## State-funded services in-scope of Connecting care to recovery 2016–2021

### Community treatment services

**Mental health**
A range of assessment and treatment services provided by specialist multidisciplinary teams to support individuals in the community, as well as in-reach to individuals admitted to bed-based services. These include child, youth, adult and older adult services across acute, continuing care and consultation liaison functions. Specialised and statewide services are also provided for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, mothers and infants, transcultural populations, forensic referrals, people with eating disorders and rural and remote populations.

### Community support services

**Mental health**
A range of services including group support, individual support, peer support and psychosocial rehabilitation for those experiencing severe and persistent mental illness as well as support for families and carers. These community support services are delivered by community managed organisations.

### Hospital bed-based services

**Mental health**
Hospital bed-based care and treatment for individuals in a safe environment delivered through emergency departments, adult and older adult acute inpatient units, secure mental health rehabilitation units, forensic inpatient units, adult and older adult extended care services. This type of care is provided to individuals who are experiencing an episode of mental illness not able to be managed in a less restrictive setting, such as community bed-based and community treatment services.

### Community bed-based services

**Mental health**
Community bed-based services include sub-acute, non-acute and residential rehabilitation services such as Step-up/Step-down units, Community Care Units and nursing home-based services for older adults. This is short and medium to long-term recovery-oriented treatment for individuals delivered in the least-restrictive environment in the community as close to home and community as possible. This type of care is often delivered in partnership with the community managed organisations.

### Alcohol and other drugs

**Mental health**
A range of specialist alcohol and other drug treatments including assessment, psychosocial interventions and care coordination delivered in the community through HHSs and non-government organisations.

**Alcohol and other drugs**
Services to support individuals and families in the community including early intervention, harm reduction, information and education and peer support programs delivered across providers, settings and modalities.

**Alcohol and other drugs**
Bed-based and specialist services including medically supervised withdrawal management, brief intervention and consultation and liaison, integrated with community treatment and support services delivered in Queensland’s public hospitals.

**Alcohol and other drugs**
Bed-based services in the community including withdrawal management, pre and post treatment support. This is primarily delivered by non-government organisations.
Our Priorities

Connecting care to recovery 2016–2021 focuses effort across five priority areas. These priority areas aim to reform and improve the system for mental health, alcohol and other drugs consistent with the principles and directions outlined in My health, Queensland’s future: Advancing health 2026.

- **Priority 1**
  Access to appropriate services as close to home as practicable and at the optimal time

- **Priority 2**
  Workforce development and optimisation of skills and scope

- **Priority 3**
  Better use of ICT to enhance clinical practice, information sharing, data collection and performance reporting

- **Priority 4**
  Early identification and intervention in response to suicide risk

- **Priority 5**
  Strengthening patient’s rights
  Mental Health Act 2016

Services are safe and continually improving

**Evaluation and measurement**

We are committed to measuring and evaluating the impact of Connecting care to recovery 2016–2021.

We want to monitor how the reforms implemented through new and existing investment make a difference to service and individual outcomes.