

WA Primary Health Alliance acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Owners and Elders of this country and recognises the significant importance of their cultural heritage, values and beliefs and how these contribute to the positive health and wellbeing of the whole community.



Service Provider Connect #82 - 7 December 2022

In this edition:

Foreword from the General Manager

Procurement and contracting

- Current tenders
- Commissioning tender notification and subscription
- WAPHA commissioning contract acknowledgement and brand guide
- Service provider panel session

WAPHA Long COVID discussion paper

- Long COVID discussion paper

General resources and information

- WAPHA Year in Review
- Aboriginal Health Strategy
- WAPHA Health Priority Report Cards
- State Government to ban LGBTQIA+ conversion practices in WA
- Launch of the Parenting Education and Support Program

Webinars, events, education and training

- Mental Health Professionals' Network 2023 National Online Conference: ALL TOGETHER BETTER - Collaborative Mental Health Care in a Changing World
- New resources to support safe communication in National Suicide Prevention Trial Site communities
- WAPHA December 2022 events calendar

[Access to previous editions resources](#)

Dear Commissioned Service Provider

WA Primary Health Alliance recently held an all-staff day in Perth. This was the first time that we had all been in the one space for 12 months, as an earlier event 6 months ago was cancelled due to COVID. This provided a great opportunity to connect face to face, not in the virtual world, and connect across the many activities of our organisation. Like so many of our commissioned service providers, the impact of COVID has been significant – it has no doubt challenged us personally and professionally, it has changed the way we work, and has perhaps altered/reinforced our view of what is important in this world.

The end of the calendar year does provide opportunity for reflection on what has been achieved, and what we didn't quite get to as COVID stepped in – new activities and priorities that we hadn't considered or thought possible.

This edition of Service Provider Connect presents some of the work of WA Primary Health Alliance in 2022 – we could not have achieved it without the passionate commitment, work and effort of each of your organisations and staff. It is you who are providing care and support across our communities and make a real difference in people's lives. Thank you.

We wish you and your families and friends the happiest and healthiest of Christmas | New Year. May it be a time to relax, reflect and rejuvenate.

Regards,

Mark Cockayne

General Manager Commissioned Services

COVID-19 resources and information

WAPHA Long COVID discussion paper

The purpose of the paper is to articulate the current and possible future role of WAPHA in supporting primary care providers in the ongoing management of the condition commonly known as long COVID, from population health and primary care perspective.

This includes the impact on service provision, role of primary care and the implications for WAPHA as a Primary Health Network (PHN), noting core business functions such as chronic condition management and support for general practice as well as the impact of deferred chronic conditions care and promotion of cancer screening and childhood vaccinations.

Read the discussion paper [here](#).

If COVID-19 is impacting your WA Primary Health Alliance commissioned service, please contact your Contract Manager.

Procurement and contracting

Current tenders

The WA Primary Health Alliance has released the following Request for tenders:

- RFT 2022-2 - Head to Health Adult Mental Health Centre (Armadale) and Satellite (Gosnells)
- RFT 2022-3 – Head to Health Adult Mental Health Satellite – Balga/Mirrabooka

The tender documents can be found [here](#).

For an overview of the establishment work being undertaken by WA Primary Health Alliance on Head to Health centres please click [here](#). For further information on the service model please refer [here](#).

Commissioning tender notification and subscription

As part of its communication strategy for the release of its commissioning activities, including Request for Tenders, WAPHA issues a tender notification to service providers outlining the relevant details of the respective request.

In order to receive tender notifications, service providers must be registered via a simple subscription process on the WAPHA website. Access to subscription can be found [here](#).

WAPHA Commissioning acknowledgement and brand guidelines

A friendly reminder for contracted service providers that as part of the service agreement, activity schedule conditions, it is a requirement that WAPHA activity branding applied. This relates to:

- any website, document, email or other publication that advertises or displays the activity; and
- in a publicly disseminated activity material, produced with the activity fees or a part of the activity.

Furthermore, WAPHA has established brand guidelines in any promotion of the activity. The Brand Guide for Commissioned Services can be found [here](#). Please email communications@wapha.org.au if you would like more information or require support.

Service provider panel session

Service Provider reference groups have been critical to the development and implementation of initiatives including the provider reporting portal and performance management framework. Consultation with service providers undertaken by Painted Dog Research recommended WAPHA increase engagement with commissioned service providers in the decisions that impact them.

A new Special Interest Panel for Service Providers was established in September 2022 with the aim to facilitate discussion with the sector and act as a sounding board for actions and change related to service providers and the commissioning cycle.

The Service Provider Special Interest Panel met for its first discussion session on Tuesday 8 November 2022. Participants represented a diversity of service size and type, with representation from all seven Country WA regions and Perth metro area.

Conversation was predominantly focused on cultural competency in the context of Aboriginal health and needs of Aboriginal people in the community and as employees.

The service provider session summary can be found [here](#).

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General Information

WAPHA Year in review 2021-22



After seven years of operations, WA Primary Health Alliance is celebrating progress towards helping Western Australians to get the care they need, closer to home, and experience better health outcomes and quality of life.

This overarching achievement, and the many more included in this review, equally reflect the work and dedication of you, our commissioned service providers.

Take a tour around Western Australia to see how we've been working to improve health outcomes during 2021-22: [A whistlestop tour of activities across the state](#).

From awarding innovation and suicide prevention grants, to investing about \$130 million across more than 300 services and programs, read about our top highlights in our [Year in Review](#).



Aboriginal Health Strategy launched



The WA Primary Health Alliance is pleased to launch its [Aboriginal Health Strategy 2021-2023](#), which serves as a blueprint for strategic commissioning.

The strategy will guide staff in making transparent, consistent purchasing decisions, within the scope determined by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care.

[Read more.](#)

WAPHA Health Priority Report Cards

Our Health Priority report cards showcase just some of our recent achievements across the seven Health Priority Areas set out for PHNs by the Australian Government, being Aboriginal Health, Aged Care, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Digital Health, Health Workforce, Mental Health and Population Health.

These achievements reflect the commitment of our staff, commissioned service providers, general practice teams and the many other organisations we support which, each in their own way, are helping communities and people most at risk of poor health to get better access to care closer to home.

Read our Report Cards [here](#).

State Government to ban LGBTIQ+ conversion practices in WA

The McGowan Labor Government has announced that it will move to criminalise practices that seek to change or suppress an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity.

Conversion and suppression practices are formal and informal practices that are based on the ideology that LGBTIQ+ people have a disorder and require treatment. They can include teachings, counselling, spiritual care activities, or other psychological or medical interventions.

The Premier commented that, "not only are conversion and suppression practices ineffective but they undermine the fundamental value of personal dignity and have long term negative impacts on the health and mental health of LGBTIQ+ people in our community".

LGBTIQ+ communities and the medical profession will be consulted as new laws are drafted.

Read the full media statement [here](#).

Launch of the Parenting Education and Support Initiative

The Australian Government is funding a range of initiatives targeted at parents and carers to provide them with the knowledge and tools to understand support the social and emotional development of their children as they grow and develop.

In partnership with Triple P International Pty Ltd (TPI), the Australian Government is providing \$40.6m for the Parenting Education and Support Program (the Program) to deliver free, universal access to evidence-based, online parenting education and support to all Australian parents and carers with a child under 12 years.

The suite of parenting resources offered by TPI will enable parents and carers to develop the confidence, skills, and strategies required to better support child mental health and wellbeing as infants and children progress through the key development milestones, and help them identify potential problem behaviours early. The current program offering includes Triple P online under 12, Fear-less Triple P online and the new Triple P online for Babies.

TPI will also deliver a national communications campaign to build awareness of the Parenting Program, with a focus on reducing stigma around parents reaching out for support to nurture and assist the mental health and wellbeing of their children through the key developmental milestones in these years.

The media release can be found [here](#).

Webinars, events, education and training