

# ACT Mental Health Advisory Council

## Public Communique - Meeting of 12 September 2019

The ACT Mental Health Advisory Council convened on 12 September 2019. The meeting was chaired by Chair, Ms Sue-Ann Polden. The topic for discussion at the meeting was Wellbeing Indicators and Mental Health Outcomes.

The Council welcomed officers of the Wellbeing Framework Team from the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate and the Office for Mental Health and Wellbeing.

### **ACT Wellbeing Framework and Indicators**

The Chief Minister announced that a Wellbeing Framework will be launched on Canberra Day 2020. The ACT Government is developing a set of wellbeing indicators to monitor progress across a broad range of areas that reflect the values of Canberrans and influence our quality of life. The indicators will help guide government decision-making and priorities for future investments.

The consultation model for the project is leveraging off networks from community organisations to ensure a high level of engagement from a diverse range of people. The Wellbeing Indicators Project is seeking feedback from the community in general including people with mental illness. They have met with Ministerial Advisory Council and community groups.

The Council heard that to date the project has received positive and valuable input. Council Members were informed that the Your Say Community Panel, a group that has a good representation of the Canberra community, has already provided valuable feedback.

### **Mental Health Outcomes Framework for the ACT**

The Council heard that while the broader ACT Wellbeing Indicators are likely to include a small number of high-level indicators, the proposed Mental Health Outcomes Framework will set out a comprehensive range of outcome indicators. The Framework aims to improve mental health and wellbeing of Canberrans by providing the structure for reviewing and reporting on the range of reforms and development activities. The Framework aims to reflect the interests of the consumer, family and carers, clinicians and the broader community.

The proposed approach for the mental health outcome framework is a hierarchy of outcomes measures. It will include a set of population level outcomes and set out an approach to the development of service system level outcomes. The framework will aim to encourage the ongoing development of service and individual level outcome indicators and measures. The framework is expected to be further refined over time.

The Council noted the need for outcomes measures to be balanced with qualitative evidence through real-life stories and individual lived/living experiences which are interpreted, reflected and integrated in planning activities.



## Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 14 November 2019 and the topic will be “Review of Children and Young People’s Mental Health”.

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