

The Reform Agenda for the Alcohol and Drug Sector in Tasmania

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www.health.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth/alcohol_and_drug/reform_agenda_for_ads

The development of what is now the Reform Agenda for the Alcohol and Other Drugs Sector in Tasmania (Reform Agenda) has been informed by a range of reviews, most notably the 2017 work of Siggins Miller Consultants who were engaged to undertake an independent analysis of the current alcohol and other drugs (AOD) sector in Tasmania. It has also been informed by the work undertaken by Primary Health Tasmania in 2016 on the Commissioning Intentions Document as part of its federal funding commissioning of services in Tasmania.

The Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Directorate (Directorate) of the Tasmanian Department of Health has been leading this work. It wishes to acknowledge the input from the Reform Agenda Drafting Working Group which includes members from the Directorate, Government Relations and Strategic Policy of the Tasmanian Department of Health, the Alcohol and Drug Service of the Tasmanian Health Service, Primary Health Tasmania and the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Council Tasmania.

Progress to date

A Consultation Draft was released for public consultation in September 2018 and closed 2 November 2018. This included the opportunity to provide a written response, complete an online survey and meet with the Project Officer. Twenty written responses were received; 34 surveys were completed; and 16 consultation meetings/forums were held across the state in October and November 2018.

A draft of the Reform Agenda was provided to members of an expert panel of advisors who were engaged to provide input at relevant times in the process, most notably to 'provide advice and feedback on the draft and final Framework' (now the Reform Agenda). The panel included associates from Siggins Miller – Professor Steve Allsop and Associate Professor Robert Ali as well as the Professor Alison Ritter of the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

That combined feedback has informed the final draft of the Reform Agenda. The Directorate and the Drafting Working Group acknowledge and thank the many clients/consumers, individual clinicians and workers, service providers and organisations that provided input through those consultation processes.

The Reform Agenda, together with its Implementation Plan, will focus on the client/consumer journey through the system, using a continuum of care approach.

Next steps

A final draft of the Reform Agenda has been completed by the Drafting Working Group, including consideration of feedback and advice received from the expert panel members. It has also been provided to and considered by the Reform Agenda Advisory Group, which includes representatives from the Tasmanian Department of Health, Tasmanian Health Service, Primary Health Tasmania, the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Council Tasmania (ATDC), private providers and consumers.

Once cleared through the Advisory Group, it will be presented to the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing for consideration, following which implementation planning will commence.