

A contemporary, best practise vision and plan for the future of older person’s mental health in Tasmania.

Recommendation One

Establish a Project Advisory Group to support implementation of the recommendations of the Review Report.

Older Persons Mental Health Services (OPMHS) should be a statewide program within Statewide Mental Health Services (SMHS) and have its own dedicated leadership.

Action 1

- A Project Advisory Group (PAG) with representation from key stakeholder groups including consumers and their families, Roy Fagan Centre and Older Persons Mental Health Services, Council of the Ageing, Mental Health Council of Tasmania, Flourish, Mental Health Family and Friends Tasmania, and UTAS will soon be established.
- The advisory group will seek input from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, LGBTQI+ and Migrant communities.
- The advisory group will provide updates and advice to the Deputy Secretary Community Mental Health and Wellbeing regarding the recommendations of the Review Report.
- Additional stakeholders, including staff and unions, will be engaged in the implementation of the recommendations.

Action 2

- Determine statewide operational and clinical governance structure to support OPMHS as a statewide program within SMHS.
- Determine the staffing model required to support a statewide OPMHS program.
- Recruit statewide clinical director of OPMHS to support implementation of the statewide model.
- Implement the OPMHS statewide model.

Recommendation Two

OPMHS should develop a comprehensive system of Clinical Governance, with dedicated resources to support this function, in line with the Tasmanian Quality Governance Framework.

Action 3

- Determine clinical governance structure to support OPMHS as a statewide program within SMHS.
- Determine system of clinical governance requirements including governance, leaders and culture, patient safety and quality improvement systems, clinical performance and effectiveness, safe environment for the delivery of care and partnering with consumers.
- Determine resources to support establishment of the clinical governance system. This should include not only a focus on medical and nursing but also allied health and peer work.
- Develop Statement of Duties for the required positions.

Recommendation Three

OPMHS should be funded to deliver the full range of service elements found within a contemporary statewide OPMHS.

Action 4

- Fully cost the statewide operational and clinical governance structure required to support OPMHS as a statewide program within Statewide Mental Health Services.
- Fully cost the recommended model of care for the Roy Fagan Centre and the OPMHS.
- Prepare budget submission as required.

Recommendation Four and Five

The Roy Fagan Centre should undertake a project over the next 12 months to develop a model of care based on a new level of resourcing adequate to undertake the roles it will need to deliver in the next 10 years.

The Community OPMHS should develop a model of care that meets the needs of the Tasmanian community based on similar programs elsewhere in Australia.

Action 5

- Commence a Practice Development Project to develop contemporary models of care for the OPMHS inpatient and community services respectively.
- Ensure all key stakeholders, identified by the Project Advisory Group, are actively involved and that this is done in collaboration with UTAS to ensure a robust evaluation.
- Identify the key elements of a best practice model for OPMHS inpatient and community services specific to the Tasmanian context, as part of the Practice Development Project including any relevant recommendations resulting from the Royal Commission into Aged Care, the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System and other National Reforms.
- Review the current models of care for OPMHS inpatient and community services against the best practice model identified in the project and identify areas for improvement and action accordingly.

Recommendation Six

OPMHS should develop a project, as part of the broader Tasmanian Mental Health reforms that ensures they are able to take advantage of processes that will assist them in attracting a suitable workforce.

Action 6

- Establish a dedicated OPMHS project, as part of the Tasmanian Mental Health Reforms, to assist with attracting a suitable workforce.
- Ensure the needs of OPMHS workforce are considered as part of the broader Health Staff Recruitment Taskforce established by the Government to assist with the recruitment of health staff.