

Shared Commitment 4: A responsive and sustainable community sector

Shared Commitment 4 seeks to achieve:

- *access for people living with mental health difficulties or issues related to substance use – including those with exceptionally complex problems – to quality services in the community and as close to home as is safe.*
- *responsive, sustainable, evidence-based, cost-effective services delivered by the community sector.*
- *a community sector that can operate and thrive in a changing funding and service delivery environment.*

Actions

The non-government sector plays a major role in improving the mental health and wellbeing of Queenslanders and supporting people who are living with mental illness, problematic alcohol and other drug use, and suicide, their families, carers and support people. Many of the actions under the other Shared Commitments to Action involve partnerships with, or capacity building of, the non-government organisations. Actions included support for the Regional Mental Health and Wellbeing Hubs and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Service Reform Project.

Connecting Care to Recovery 2016-2021 - A Plan for Queensland's State Funded Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Services (Connecting Care to Recovery) highlights the need for commissioning, procurement and contractual processes that support sustainable service provision by the non-government and community-managed sector. Connecting Care to Recovery also promotes reform driven by funding models that provide incentives for partnering and collaborating to occur between Hospital and Health Services, Primary Health Networks, non-government and community-managed organisations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Services, private providers and peak bodies.

Increasing employment opportunities through social procurement

In 2016-17, the Commission continued to support the Toowoomba Social Procurement Project, delivered through the Toowoomba Clubhouse. The project aimed to increase job opportunities for people living with mental illness by building the capacity of local businesses to identify employment opportunities and engage with social enterprise. Through this project, 66 employment opportunities were provided.

A partnership between the Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW) and the Commission seeks to increase the social value derived from Queensland Government spending, including generating jobs for people living with mental illness, through social procurement. In 2016-17, the Commission committed to investing \$130,000 a year for up to three years on a project that would:

- build capability and awareness among Queensland Government buyers about social procurement policy and practice, particularly as it relates to social enterprises
- develop and deliver practical information, advice and a social procurement tool kit
- support the Queensland social enterprise sector to build capability and capacity as suppliers to government.

Evaluation of the West Moreton Adult Integrated Mental Health Service (Floresco Centre)

The Commission provided a total of \$145,000 over three years to Aftercare to engage the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research, University of Queensland, to evaluate the Floresco Centre.

Floresco is a co-location model that provides one intake, assessment and trial process for all people accessing the centre; all co-located services work from one care plan; all services use one client information management system (apart from public mental health that need to also enter back into their system); and all service providers use an agreed set of outcome measures to monitor people's progress.

The result of the evaluation will provide valuable insight as to whether models of this nature produce better outcomes for consumers and carers and take pressure off the public mental health system.