



Budget 2019-20

Suicide prevention initiatives

Queensland is stepping up action to reduce suicide, with \$80.1 million allocated over four years under the Shifting Minds Suicide Prevention Flagship.

This included \$61.9 million under the health budget as the major element of a broader package of State Government Budget initiatives towards the early phase implementation of *Shifting minds*, the five-year *Queensland Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Strategic Plan 2018-2023*.

Queensland Health budget allocation

Service reform project

Initiative

This initiative will scope and evaluate comprehensive models of crisis care for people experiencing suicidality and mental distress.

It will be supported by local collaboratives involving first-responders and health and human services stakeholders, with the aim of improving integration and navigation between crisis care options.

A cornerstone of the initiative will be the trial of new crisis care options to reduce demand on emergency departments and other acute hospital-based services, including safe spaces and a community-based sub-acute crisis stabilisation facility.

Budget commitment

The State Budget allocation for the Service Reform Project is **\$4.1 million over three years**.

Safe Spaces – Safe Haven Cafés

Initiative

Based on a successful model in the UK., the Safe Haven Café provides a safe and therapeutic alternative to the emergency department for adults (over 18 years) experiencing mental illness, suicidal ideation or self-harm.

Safe Haven Cafés offer a safe, caring and respectful environment along with peer support to empower people looking for assistance, but not needing acute care.

The cafés do not replace clinical mental health interventions, but rather help people navigate the mental health system, connect them to local services and encourage people to develop self-management skills to maintain their mental health.

Information on the UK's Safe Haven Cafés

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2015/dec/01/mental-health-problems-late-night-cafe-not-a-and-e>

Budget commitment

The budget commitment includes **\$10.8 million over four years** for the establishment of eight safe spaces across Queensland. The spaces will be based on the *Safe Haven Café* model and staffed by mental health clinicians and peer support staff.



Queensland
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Commission

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Community mental health

Initiative

There is immediate need to increase State investment in mental health community support services delivered by non-government organisations for people living with severe and persistent mental illness.

This investment will provide individualised services for people ineligible for the NDIS, but who still require psychosocial support.

Community based crisis stabilisation

Initiative

Community based 24/7 crisis stabilisation facilities are essential crisis care alternatives to emergency departments for people experiencing a suicidal crisis or mental distress.

This facility will provide a home-like environment to help stabilise people during the critical initial period of a crisis. The service provides clinical risk assessment and management (including safety planning), treatment planning and discharge goal-setting. A non-clinical and peer workforce provides crisis support, promotes coping skills to reduce distress, and empowers people on their recovery journey.

The Way Back Support Service

Initiative

The Way Back Support Service is an innovative suicide prevention service developed by Beyond Blue to support people for three months after they've attempted suicide, which is when they are most at risk of dying by suicide.

Partnering hospitals assess and refer people to The Way Back Support Coordinators who then contact the person within 24 hours and work with them to develop a safety plan.

The Way Back delivers one-on-one, non-clinical care and practical support that people can relate to following a suicide attempt so they do not disengage with services they may require.

Queensland currently has a Way Back Support Service operating through the Redcliffe Hospital. It is funded by the Brisbane North PHN and delivered by Recovered Futures (formerly Richmond Fellowship Queensland). More information from [Beyond Blue](#)

Budget commitment

A budget investment of **\$28.1 million over four years** will enhance service coverage over and above current investment.

Budget commitment

The Queensland Government has allocated **\$11.3 million over three years** to trial a facility with crisis 'chairs' to provide mental health clinical assessment and crisis stabilisation for a period up to 24 hours, and short-term crisis beds.

Budget commitment

The Queensland Government has provided **\$7.5 million over four years** to expand the number of sites hosting a Way Back Support Service in Queensland.

This matches Commonwealth funding, and will enable the establishment of Way Back Support Services in priority regions across Queensland.

Queensland Mental Health Commission allocation

Initiative

The Queensland Mental Health Commission is providing \$1.3 million over three years to work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and with the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships to support better mental health and suicide prevention responses.

Budget commitment

The budget allocation for mental health and wellbeing in schools is **\$1.3 million over three years**.

Department of Education budget allocation

Initiative

The Government is providing additional funding of \$10 million over four years from 2019-20 and \$2.5 million per annum ongoing, for additional Guidance Officers and Mental Health Coaches in schools. This funding is being sourced from the increased Queensland Government funding for state schools.

Budget commitment

The budget allocation for mental health and wellbeing in schools is **\$10 million over four years.**

Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships budget allocation

Initiative

The Government is providing additional funding of \$6.0 million over four years to develop and implement an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth mental health and wellbeing program.

Budget commitment

The allocation for the Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Project is **\$6.9 million over four years.**