

Sustainable Health Review

Consumer and Carer Reference Group Terms of Reference

Definition

The Consumer and Carer Reference Group (the Reference Group) are individuals:

- with experience of the WA public health system; and/or
- with experience in providing care and support to family members, friends or members of the public in WA who have a health condition.

Background

WA continues to enjoy excellent health outcomes and quality health services, however the system has grown significantly and the health budget continues to rise. There is a need to focus on value and innovation to further improve health outcomes; ensure safe and high quality services; improve patient experience; and drive clinical and financial performance.

The WA State Government has committed to a Sustainable Health Review (the Review) to develop a new vision for patient first health care and put the WA health system on a sustainable footing for the future. A Sustainable Health Review Panel has been established to provide advice to Cabinet through the Minister for Health regarding the delivery of patient centred, integrated, high quality, and financially sustainable healthcare across the State.

The Review will include wide engagement through dialogue with patients and consumers, clinicians, front-line staff and health leaders.

Purpose

The Reference Group is established to provide real experience and advice to the Sustainable Health Review regarding the impact of health care delivery on consumers and caregivers, as well as how to ensure or improve the delivery of patient centred, integrated, high quality, and financially sustainable healthcare across the State. Ensuring strong consumer and carer input and engagement in informing the Review is essential.

Key Roles and Responsibilities

The Reference Group be responsible for the following functions in support of the Sustainable Health Review Panel, as requested by the Panel:

- provision of advice from a consumer and carer perspective on key themes, areas of interest and future directions as requested by the Review Panel;
- identification of key opportunities to improve the sustainability of the WA health system including continuous improvement and innovation in the delivery of safe, high quality patient care; and
- provision of advice to the Panel on engagement and communications with the community, health consumers and carers.

Accountability

The Reference Group is accountable to the Chair of the Sustainable Health Review Panel. A report on the activities of the Reference Group will be provided by the Reference Group Chair to the Panel Chair following each meeting of the Reference Group.

Membership

Membership of the Reference Group will include consumer and carers with experience across the areas of:

- hospital care
- outpatient care
- community and primary care.

The Reference Group will have a diverse membership of consumers and carers across population groups and conditions, with experience across a range of different health services.

Chair

The Chair of the Reference Group will be selected by the Minister for Health and is responsible for overseeing the conduct of the Reference Group against the terms. The Chair of the Reference Group will hold the role of Consumer Nominee on the Sustainable Health Review Panel and will be responsible for liaison with the Panel Chair and Secretariat on the provision of Reference Group advice to the Panel.

Term and Meetings

The Reference Group will be appointed to March 2018.

The Reference Group shall meet as required by the Review Panel, on at least three occasions during the course of the Review.

Also in attendance at Reference Group meetings will be the Review Secretariat and any invited guests approved by the Chair. The Review Panel Chair and Panel members may attend reference group meetings.

Operating Procedures

Secretariat

Secretariat Support to the Reference Group will be undertaken by the Review Secretariat provided by the Department of Health. The Secretariat will record the operations of the Reference Group in accordance with public sector standards.

The agenda and meeting papers will be circulated approximately one week prior to the quarterly meetings. Meeting minutes will be provided by the Secretariat and will be circulated to all members (as listed above) within two weeks of the meeting.

Quorum

Fifty percent of the members constitute a quorum.