

Western NSW Local Health District

Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol Services HSU and NSWNMA Joint Consultative Committee Meeting

Large Meeting Room, Barwon Building, Bloomfield Campus or via Teams
 Wednesday 13 Dec 2023, 13:30 — 15:00 AEDT

Present:

Helen McFarlane	A/Director MHDA
Sharon McIntyre	MHDA Director of Nursing
Zelda Giblett	Organiser HSU NSW
Vicky Scott	Hub Manager Dubbo & Regions
Kristen Szulik	MHDA Hub Manager, Orange & Region
Bryan Billington	HSU Rep
Gail Owens	HSU Rep
Jillian Duclos	HSU Member Representative
Sam Baylis	Vice President Bloomfield NSWNMA
Joshua Spicer	MHDA Hub Manager, Bathurst & Region

Absent:

Eamonn Corvan	NSWNMA Branch Member, Mudgee
Suzanne Kerwick	NSWNMA Branch Member, Orange
Debbie Groves	NSWNMA Member, Orange
Alistair Ball	NSWNMA
Roseann Slattery	Branch Secretary Central West CMHDA NSWNMA
Tracey Coyte	NSWNMA

Apologies:

Peter Young	HSU Local Branch Rep
Tiffany Charlton	Human Resources Manager
Wayne Ozols	NSWNMA Branch Member, Orange
Jessica Borg	HR Representative
Matt Grant	NSWNMA Member, Orange
Carol Vesey	Business Manager MHDA
Michael Hillier	DDON Acute Services
Joyce Muriithi	DDON Non Acute Services

1 Acknowledgement of Country and Introduction

2 Apologies and attendance

3 Confirmation of previous minutes - 18 October 2023

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 18 October 2023 were confirmed as a reasonable record of proceedings (Zelda Giblett).

4 Action summary

Action Summary from meeting 18 October 2023			
No	Action	By Whom	By When

Summary Table of Outstanding Action Items from Previous Minutes				
Meeting Date	Item No	Item	By Whom	By When
16/08/2023	6.2	<p>Zelda raised that one of the contract provisions for the Aboriginal MH Trainees is that they are issued with a laptop. Several of the trainees have never received a laptop and this is causing issues with their training and assignment completion. Zelda will send through the names of those affected and it will be actioned.</p> <p><u>Update 18/10/2023:</u> Names have been provided (see following) and forwarded to the applicable Hub Manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirrikie Shaw Dubbo • Tijuana Richards Dubbo • Pollyanna Canty Bathurst • Ashleigh Powell Bathurst. <p>No update provided on progress, rollover to next meeting.</p> <p><u>Update 13/12/2023</u> Dubbo have ordered Bathurst – Josh to provide an email update.</p>	Complete Update sent 20/12/2023	
21/06/2023	6.3	<p>Jessica Borg will follow up with the workforce team re onboarding processes.</p> <p><u>Update 16/08/2023</u> Rollover to the next meeting 18/10/2023</p> <p><u>Update 18/10/2023:</u> Jessica advised that following consultation with the HR Team that the onboarding will include Union Information.</p> <p>Zelda noted that Dubbo and other sites do not do face to face orientations which makes it difficult to reach those staff.</p> <p>Sharon McIntyre tabled that MHDA will be trialing virtual orientation sessions in November. A generic session is planned at the start of the sessions and the Unions could link in during that.</p> <p>Zelda noted that she was scheduled to attend an orientation at Bloomfield yesterday and was not advised prior that there was no HSU involvement required for this intake. This meant there was a lot of wasted time for her attending when not needed. Reiterated that she needs notification of when required and not required to attend sessions.</p> <p>Hold the over until November</p>	Complete	

		<p><u>Update 13/12/2023</u> Sharon McIntyre advised the online orientation has been trialed and in Unions will be invited to attend the February session.</p>		
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5 Standing Items

5.1 Update from MHDA Executive

Vicky Scott, Hub Manager, Dubbo & Regions:

- Recruitment is ongoing with some success from some of the positions. The Bourke Child & Adolescent position is filled and will be based in Coonabarabran providing outreach.
- Looking at options to provide dietitian services for inpatient services with outreach to community. Brief to be progressed and union consultation to be undertaken.

Kristen Szulik, Hub Manager, Orange & Regions:

- Awaiting approval of submitted applications for incentives for the ACCT and MHEC Team.
- Successful recruitment to a Social Work and Mental Health Clinician in the ACCT Team. Further Social Work interviews being scheduled.
- The ACCT Team currently has the most vacancies.
- The Orange Teams are participating in the Orange Clinical Services plan consultation. This has been a good opportunity for engagement.
- Preparing for Christmas break and rostering cover.

Sharon McIntyre, Director of Nursing:

- Recruitment finishes this week for the Christmas/New Year period.
- Successful recruitment to an Admin 2 positions and a CSO position
- Community NGNs will be working in inpatients to assist with vacancies and are undergoing orientation.
- Wattlegrove Unit has been paused until 5 Feb.
- DDON role still recruiting.
- Nurse Manager recruitment has been successful

Helen McFarlane, A/Director Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol Services:

- The Director MHDA position will go out for recruitment in the near future.
- The District has significant budget restrictions in place. Long standing vacancies have been submitted to the CE for review and advice on whether they remain on profile or not.
- Forging ahead with workforce initiatives.
- Transport/travel for conferences etc will have to slow down as part of the budget restrictions as this is one of our identified savings strategies. There was a lot of travel and conference attendance in the first part of the year and slowing down now.
- Doing all we can to recruit to positions. Competing with all LHD's in the state and nationally for staff.
- Many people are moving to agency work. The State is aware and are looking at this.
- Invite Shaun McNiven, Business Manager to the future meetings. **Action: Secretariat**
- The District will take 3-4 years to recover financially, especially from COVID.

6 New business

6.1 Update Aboriginal Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol Coordinator role (recruitment)

The e-list applicant is currently on leave. It is hoped to have them commence in January until Donna Stanley returns from secondment.

6.2 Aboriginal MHDA Clinical Leader Roles - update

The Clinical Lead positions are advertising. Closing 19th November.

7 Next meeting - Wednesday 21 February 2024, 1.30-3.00 pm

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all.

Meeting closed: 1.57 pm

Action Summary from meeting 18 October 2023			
No	Action	By Whom	By When
5.1	Invite Shaun McNiven, Business Manager to the future meetings.	Secretariat	21 Feb 2024

Summary Table of Outstanding Action Items from Previous Minutes				
Meeting Date	Item No	Item	By Whom	By When