



Government of Western Australia
Mental Health Commission

Mental Health
Commission

Mental health reform in WA: Some key opportunities and challenges

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IPAA (WA) Conference

11 August 2011



Context for mental health reform

- First Mental Health Commission in Australia and unique role as a “Commissioning” body
- National mental health reform and national health/hospitals reform
- Major WA reform directions: person centred, partnerships and a more coordinated/connected system, rebalancing investment
- Economic Audit Committee reforms and excellent alignment: citizen centred, community sector, outcomes focus and social innovation
- Review of the Mental Health Act and a new Quality Assurance system for mental health in WA: rights protection and quality



Some key opportunities

- Strong partnership and investment in WA Association for Mental Health and sector capacity
- Implementation of Sustainable funding stages 1 and 2
- Contracting reforms and simplification of arrangements eg multiple state funders
- Mental health outcomes work across government and community
- New budget initiatives: 100 personalised packages for people leaving hospital, new sub acute facilities as alternatives to hospital
- More integrated commissioning across state and commonwealth agencies in mental health



Some key challenges

- Culture change and capacity
- Equal investment in consumer and carer capacity and leadership, importance of self directed supports and shared management
- Fairness across the community sector
- Capacity and quality systems in the community sector
- Private sector and public sector investments via a commissioning model
- Joined up planning and delivery eg Wraparound Milwaukee