



COMMUNIQUE

Peer Workforce Development Guidelines Steering Committee 22 August 2019

The Steering Committee for the Peer Workforce Development Guidelines project held a meeting via teleconference on 22 August 2019.

The National Mental Health Commission (NMHC) provided an update on processes for recruiting a contractor to support the implementation of the project. The contractor will be responsible for coordinating engagement to inform the development of the Guidelines, and drafting written content for the Guidelines. We provided further feedback for consideration to the NMHC.

We discussed the draft communication and engagement strategy developed by the NMHC for the project in consultation with us. The strategy includes options for engaging with peer workers, peak consumer and carer organisations, peer workforce networks, mental health professionals, service providers and health professional bodies. We provided additional suggestions of key stakeholders to be included in the strategy. We will continue to review and contribute to the communication and engagement strategy on an ongoing basis as it's important to all of us to engage well and widely.

We also provided feedback on the proposed agenda and approach for a workshop on the Peer Workforce Development Guidelines, to be convened by the NMHC at the upcoming [TheMHS Annual Conference](#) in Brisbane.

As a next step, the NMHC will proceed with the procurement process and work with the successful candidate to develop a plan for the engagement process to inform the project. We will convene for a face-to-face meeting in early November, to discuss progress with the project and engagement process.

The Peer Workforce Development Guidelines project now has a [dedicated page](#) on the NMHC's website. If you are interested in this project, sign up to the [interest register](#) to receive regular updates. You can also email the project team at PeerWork@mentalhealthcommission.gov.au.

Sign up and stay connected ☺

Tim Heffernan and Margaret Doherty
Deputy Co-Chairs
Peer Workforce Development Guidelines Steering Committee