



Australian Government

Department of Health



An Australian Government Initiative

Northern Sydney Primary Health Network

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Activity Workplan 2021-2024

Northern Sydney - Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services 2021/22 - 2023/24 Activity Summary View



AOD - 1 - Increase capacity of alcohol & other drugs treatment services for young people and adults



Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

Activity Prefix *

AOD

Activity Number *

1

Activity Title *

Increase capacity of alcohol & other drugs treatment services for young people and adults

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing



Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

Increase capacity of local community managed organisations to provide specialist alcohol and other drugs treatment support for young people and adults.

Description of Activity *

The NSPHN Needs Assessment (2019-22) identified that access to community-based alcohol and other drugs treatment and rehabilitation programs remains a key need for the community. NSPHN will continue to commission established alcohol and other drugs treatment services. These specialist treatment services provide counselling and rehabilitation support to young people aged

12-25 years and adults across the NSPHN region.

NSPHN will continue to work with commissioned providers to:

- Increase uptake of services in geographic areas of need (Hornsby and Ryde LGAs)
- Expand flexible access options, including provision of group and individual counselling outside of business hours
- Improve client access to, and transfer between AOD services, commissioned mental health services and the broader service system
- Appropriately address clients' co-occurring mental health and physical health issues
- Enhance continuity of care for clients
- Increase service provision to clients from CALD backgrounds
- Promote services to the local community
- Proactively engage with GPs and other health service providers
- Develop the AOD workforce through accredited and relevant training and education activities
- Adapt services as necessary to accommodate telehealth and face-to-face delivery of treatment throughout COVID-19
- Implement programs and initiatives to address emerging drug and alcohol issues and meet the needs of identified priority population groups

The expected outcomes of this activity are:

- Increased access to evidence-based treatment services for people with substance use issues
- Improved health and wellbeing outcomes for serviced clients
- Better coordination of care and follow up for people with substance misuse issues

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

NSPHN Needs Assessment 2022-2025

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
AOD – access and availability of rehabilitation support	98
Young people – AOD – access to non-residential support program	99



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

The target population includes people residing in the NSPHN region who are recovering from alcohol and other drug misuse and require non-residential rehabilitation programs, either as an alternative to, or a step down from, residential rehabilitation programs.

Services will be offered for:

- Young people and their parents
- Adults, including women with children
- Vulnerable populations, including people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex (LGBTI), people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds, people leaving correctional facilities, people with co-occurring mental illness and other complexities.

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

- Counselling
- Withdrawal management
- Aftercare/relapse prevention
- Case management, care planning, and coordination

- Workforce Development, Capacity Building, including supporting the workforce through activities which promote joint up assessment and referral pathways, quality improvement, evidence-based treatment, and service integration

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments**Coverage****Whole Region**

Yes

**Activity Consultation and Collaboration****Consultation**

The Northern Sydney Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Alcohol and Other Drugs Regional Plan (the Regional Plan) was developed by Northern Sydney Primary Health Network (NSPHN) and Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) in collaboration with local stakeholders. The Regional Plan has been informed by extensive consultation with local service providers, clinicians, people with a lived experience, carers, and community members to explore local issues and determine actions for inclusion within the Plan.

The Northern Sydney Regional Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Alcohol and Other Drugs Leadership Group (the Regional Leadership Group) has been established with the aim to support delivery of the actions outlined in the Regional Plan and enable key stakeholders from the health, community, and social sectors.

The Regional Leadership Group will be responsible for:

- Oversight of the implementation and evaluation of the Regional Plan
- Regular reviews of the Regional Plan to ensure alignment with broader Commonwealth and NSW strategies and directions including oversighting a mid-point review
- Facilitation of strong partnerships and effective communication between agencies and organisations within the Northern Sydney region to improve mental health, suicide prevention and alcohol and other drugs health outcomes
- Establishing working groups reporting into the Regional Leadership Group for specific purposes or activity areas

The term of this Regional Leadership Group will (in alignment with the Regional Plan) be from 2021 – 2026 and is subject to annual review.

The Regional Leadership Group will establish a regional forum biannually. Chairing of this forum will be shared between agencies with each meeting having a specific focus e.g., older people, children and young people, housing, and homelessness.

In addition, as part of NSPHN Commissioning Evaluation Framework (CEF), ongoing consultation to assess the impact of commissioned services will inform further quality and service improvement initiatives. NSPHN works closely with commissioned service providers to support ongoing quality improvement through quarterly provider support meetings and submission of quarterly progress reports/data reporting templates and monthly data submissions into the AODT NMDS, aligned to the CEF. NSPHN undertakes an annual evaluation of the service collating information captured from progress reports, provider support meetings, data reporting templates and AODT NMDS data in a dashboard format, aligned to the CEF. The dashboard is presented to the NSPHN Board and Clinical Governance Committee and informs development of quality improvement metrics for the next financial year.

Collaboration

These activities will continue to be undertaken in collaboration with:

- General Practitioners
- Allied health providers and broader primary healthcare workforce
- Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) Mental Health Drug and Alcohol services
- Local NGO AOD services

- AOD NGO peak body NADA
- CALD services and communities
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services and communities
- Research and educational institutions
- Family and Community Services Northern Sydney District
- Local health, mental health and social services
- Youth services including headspace
- Neighbouring PHNs including Central & Eastern Sydney PHN and Western Sydney PHN

Key advice and guidance on all activity is provided by the PHN Mental Health and AOD Advisory Committee, the PHN Board, Clinical and Community Councils.



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

01/07/2019

Activity End Date

30/06/2024

Service Delivery Start Date

July 2019

Service Delivery End Date

June 2024

Other Relevant Milestones

Northern Sydney Joint Regional Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Drug & Alcohol Plan (the Regional Plan) was completed in December 2020. Planning for implementation of the priorities and actions identified in the Regional Plan has commenced.



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No

Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes

Direct Engagement: No

Open Tender: No

Expression Of Interest (EOI): No

Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Yes

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

N/A

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

See activity consultation and collaboration for further detail.

Is this activity in scope for data collection under the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Services?

Yes



AOD - 2 - Build capacity in primary care through shared care activities



Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

Activity Prefix *

AOD

Activity Number *

2

Activity Title *

Build capacity in primary care through shared care activities

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing



Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Other Program Key Priority Area Description**Aim of Activity ***

Continue to deliver shared care activities that build capacity in general practice to:

- Improve pathways between primary care and specialist drug and alcohol treatment services
- Enhance capacity for screening and brief intervention
- Increase provision of non-residential detox and withdrawal management

Description of Activity *

Access to primary care services is an identified need for people experiencing substance use issues. Similarly, primary care practitioners need access to specialist treatment providers to support patients with problematic or complex drug and alcohol use. NSPHN will continue to work in collaboration with Northern Sydney Local Health District Drug and Alcohol services and local General Practitioners to deliver an Alcohol and Other Drugs Shared Care program for the region.

Shared care activity includes:

- Delivering training and resources to GPs to increase awareness of AOD issues and increase provision of drug and alcohol treatment, including: screening, brief intervention and referral, and planning and coordination of treatment and support. Training will include:
 - Education workshops
 - Peer support facilitated workshops

- Clinical Attachments

- Implementation and evaluation of an AOD nurse led clinic in general practice pilot
- Continue AOD Shared Care Advisory Group
- Developing referral pathways between primary care and specialist drug and alcohol treatment services and promoting developed Health Pathways
- Improving access to primary care services for people experiencing substance use issues
- Providing education and support to prescribers regarding pharmaceutical drug misuse
- Supporting and building capacity of GPs to appropriately prescribe and manage withdrawal from opioids
- Increasing capacity for non-residential detox and withdrawal management
- Improving management of physical health conditions, including Hepatitis C
- Improving treatment and management of people using performance and image enhancing drugs

The expected outcomes are:

- Increased number of patients supported in primary healthcare setting
- Increased integration between primary health and specialist AOD treatment services
- Increased awareness and use of HealthPathways, the Northern Sydney Local Health District Drug & Alcohol services hotline and the Drug & Alcohol Specialist Advisory Service (DASAS)

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

NSPHN Needs Assessment 2022-2025

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Hepatitis C	98
AOD - service coordination	98
AOD – access and availability of home detox	98



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

General Practitioners and people who experience substance use issues across the NSPHN region.

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

- Screening
- Early intervention (including Brief Intervention)
- Withdrawal management
- Information and Education
- Workforce development, Capacity Building, including supporting the workforce through activities which promote joint up assessment and referral pathways, quality improvement, evidence-based treatment, and service integration.
- Coordination and referral pathways

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Consultation and Collaboration

Consultation

The Northern Sydney Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Alcohol and Other Drugs Regional Plan (the Regional Plan) was developed by Northern Sydney Primary Health Network (NSPHN) and Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) in collaboration with local stakeholders. The Regional Plan has been informed by extensive consultation with local service providers, clinicians, people with a lived experience, carers, and community members to explore local issues and determine actions for inclusion within the Plan.

The Northern Sydney Regional Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Alcohol and Other Drugs Leadership Group (the Regional Leadership Group) has been established with the aim to support delivery of the actions outlined in the Regional Plan and enable key stakeholders from the health, community, and social sectors.

The Regional Leadership Group will be responsible for:

- Oversight of the implementation and evaluation of the Regional Plan
- Regular reviews of the Regional Plan to ensure alignment with broader Commonwealth and NSW strategies and directions including oversighting a mid-point review
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The term of this Regional Leadership Group will (in alignment with the Regional Plan) be from 2021 – 2026 and is subject to annual review.

The Regional Leadership Group will establish a regional forum biannually. Chairing of this forum will be shared between agencies with each meeting having a specific focus e.g., older people, children and young people, housing, and homelessness.

Collaboration

Shared care activities will be undertaken in collaboration with:

- Northern Sydney Local Health District Mental Health Drug and Alcohol services
- Local NGO AOD services
- General Practitioners
- Education and research institutions, including the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC)
- Subject matter experts



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

01/07/2019

Activity End Date

30/06/2024

Service Delivery Start Date

July 2019

Service Delivery End Date

June 2024

Other Relevant Milestones

Northern Sydney Joint Regional Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Drug & Alcohol Plan (the Regional Plan) was completed in December 2020. Planning for implementation of the priorities and actions identified in the Regional Plan has already commenced.



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No

Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No

Direct Engagement: No

Open Tender: No

Expression Of Interest (EOI): No

Other Approach (please provide details): Yes

- Contracting of GP AOD Shared Care Coordinator and AOD Clinical Nurse Consultant.
- Direct procurement of education activities.
- In-kind contribution from Northern Sydney Local Health District

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Yes

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

N/A

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

See activity consultation and collaboration for further detail.

Is this activity in scope for data collection under the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Services?

No



AOD - 3 - Enhance capacity to deliver culturally appropriate treatments for Indigenous community members



Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

Activity Prefix *

AOD

Activity Number *

3

Activity Title *

Enhance capacity to deliver culturally appropriate treatments for Indigenous community members

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing



Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Other Program Key Priority Area Description**Aim of Activity ***

Continue to support commissioned provider to deliver culturally appropriate individual and group treatments, care coordination and case management for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members

Description of Activity *

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities require access to alcohol and other drug treatment services that are accessible, welcoming, culturally safe and appropriate. To facilitate access, NSPHN will continue to commission culturally appropriate treatment services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with substance use issues. NSPHN will support its commissioned provider to:

- Maintain recruitment of an Aboriginal Liaison Worker
- Deliver specific culturally appropriate treatment programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients
- Adequately train and develop their workforce
- Provide flexible funding to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients entering or exiting culturally specific residential rehabilitation services.
- Partner with local Aboriginal organisations to develop and deliver community health events for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents
- Develop culturally appropriate service resources and marketing materials
- Collaborate with local Aboriginal services to ensure effective referral pathways and service promotion, enabling collaborative care
- Provide secondary consultation to other drug and alcohol services in the region to improve capacity for culturally appropriate

treatment

The expected outcomes of this activity are:

- An increase in the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people engaging in treatment
- Improved health and wellbeing outcomes for serviced clients
- Enhanced capacity for services to provide culturally safe and appropriate services

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

NSPHN Needs Assessment 2022-2025

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People – access to AOD treatment and support	100



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents of the NSPHN region who are experiencing substance use issues

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

- Counselling
- Aftercare / relapse prevention
- Case management, care planning and coordination

Indigenous Specific *

Yes

Indigenous Specific Comments

The commissioned provider is required to maintain recruitment of an Aboriginal Liaison Worker. Activities are to be undertaken in collaboration with local Aboriginal services, including NSPHN commissioned Aboriginal Mental Health service and the Northern Sydney Local Health District Aboriginal Health Service.

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Consultation and Collaboration

Consultation

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Collaboration

These activities will be undertaken in collaboration with:

- Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services and communities
- General Practitioners
- Allied health providers and broader primary healthcare workforce
- Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) Aboriginal Health Service and Mental Health Drug and Alcohol services
- Local NGO AOD services
- AOD NGO peak body NADA
- Research and educational institutions
- Local health, mental health and social services

Key advice and guidance on all activity is provided by the PHN Mental Health and AOD Advisory Committee, the PHN Board, Clinical and Community Councils and local Aboriginal reference groups and committees.



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

01/07/2019

Activity End Date

30/06/2024

Service Delivery Start Date

July 2019

Service Delivery End Date

June 2024

Other Relevant Milestones

Northern Sydney Joint Regional Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Drug & Alcohol Plan (the Regional Plan) was completed in December 2020. Planning for implementation of the priorities and actions identified in the Regional Plan has already commenced.



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No

Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes

Direct Engagement: No

Open Tender: No

Expression Of Interest (EOI): No

Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Yes

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

N/A

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

See activity consultation and collaboration for further detail.

Is this activity in scope for data collection under the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Services?

Yes