

ACT Mental Health Advisory Council

Public Communique - Meeting 24

The ACT Mental Health Advisory Council (the Council) convened on 23 September 2021. The meeting was chaired by Sue-Ann Polden.

The Council met with the Minister for Mental Health to discuss the findings and recommendations of a project currently underway by the ACT Health Directorate on addressing the impacts of trauma and adverse childhood experiences and the needs of young people with complex support. This included discussion on a whole-of-government response to affect collective impact for a model on trauma informed approaches across the whole lifespan. The Council agreed and expressed strong support in the development of a model to sit under a lead organisation that has influence and structures to support it. Consideration was also made around workforce planning and the trauma informed training needed in this space.

The Council also spoke with the Minister for Mental Health on the Office for Mental Health and Wellbeing's (the Office) next work plan. The Council were in joint agreement and support of the Office to take a 12-month period to focus on consolidating learnings from the past three years and to embed a strategic approach to inform future projects.

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