

Media Release

SA Health

Friday, 10 February 2017

CONSULTATION OPEN ON PROPOSED NEW STRUCTURE FOR CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Proposed changes to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) will see more vulnerable South Australian children having access to specialist mental health services and greater equity of such services across the state, with consultation on the changes open today.

Clinical Director Dr Prue McEvoy said the proposed new structure would ensure CAMHS consistently delivers a high standard of contemporary care to infants, children, adolescents and their families with mental health needs across the state.

“Our highly skilled and committed clinicians have spent the past two years extensively planning and consulting with our consumers, carers, staff and other key stakeholders to develop a new structure and model of care for CAMHS,” Dr McEvoy said.

“We believe we now have the structure and model of care that will take CAMHS into the future and offer a contemporary and multi-disciplinary mental health service for all South Australian children and adolescents.”

One of the proposed changes involves moving to a consolidated mental health model that includes larger multi-disciplinary team hubs with a number of outreach sites to ensure access for the most vulnerable groups across high-need areas.

Another proposed change is to redesign the two therapeutic programs from CAMHS Enfield site and partner with education to enable those interventions to be delivered in schools.

“Our research showed us that having in-reach services into schools rather than delivered from one site would enable clinicians based in community teams to work directly with young people and their school,” Dr McEvoy said.

“This will provide more children and adolescents with access to these services beyond the current site at Enfield.

“By focussing on local arrangements with schools and providing targeted and early individual and group therapeutic interventions we believe we can provide better outcomes for both young people and the schools.

“We look forward to hearing from our consumers, carers, staff and other key stakeholders on these changes as we ensure CAMHS delivers for those most in need in our community.”

The proposed new structure, if implemented, would mean no reduction in permanent staffing positions and no reduction in funding for CAMHS.

For more information

Call the WCHN Media Line

Telephone: 08 8161 7164 For urgent, after hours media ph 0401 125 630

 www.twitter.com/sahealthnews  www.youtube.com/sahealthaustralia



Staff, consumers, carers, unions and other key stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed structure and model of care during the four week consultation period.

Comments and feedback can be provided in writing before 14 March 2017 via the online survey monkey link

http://www.wch.sa.gov.au/services/az/divisions/mentalhealth/camhs_structure_clients_carers_stakeholders.html

For more information

Call the WCHN Media Line

Telephone: 08 8161 7164 For urgent, after hours media ph 0401 125 630

 www.twitter.com/sahealthnews  www.youtube.com/sahealthaustralia



Government
of South Australia

SA Health