

## Mental Health

*The 2023-24 budget saw a significant investment of \$420 million on a package of mental health initiatives. The package prioritises investment on acute care and mental health treatment. It appears that minimal funding has been dedicated to preventative services and mental health supports within the community. This will have to be a priority in future budgets if the government wishes to deliver on their vision of a collaborative recovery based mental health system.*

<b>Initiative</b>	Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensics Taskforce (BP2, V1, P314)
<b>Investment</b>	\$218.9 million in forward estimates towards the Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensic Taskforce project.
<b>Description</b>	A business case for first stage works is under development for future Government consideration, with options to include at least 53 additional forensic beds (of which five beds are for a children and adolescent unit).
<b>Implications</b>	<p>After three decades of no increases to forensic mental health bed capacity, this investment will ensure better access to secure inpatient mental health care for individuals with mental illness. More information is needed to understand the breakdown of these beds for patients with different levels of need.</p> <p>This is a critical system capacity needed to support the implementation of the Criminal Law Mental Impaired Act – more information is needed to understand how this investment will support the implementation of the reforms.</p>

<b>Initiative</b>	Response to the Infant, Child and Adolescent (ICA) Taskforce Report (BP 2, V1, P322)
<b>Investment</b>	\$35.5 million to improve mental health outcomes for children and adolescents, and expand the Government's response to the Infant, Child and Adolescent (ICA) Taskforce report.
<b>Description</b>	<p>The Ministerial Taskforce into Public Mental Health Services for Infants, Children and Adolescents aged 0-18 years in Western Australia (ICA Taskforce) proposed eight key actions and 32 recommendations to transform the public infant, child and adolescent mental health system. The Commission is continuing to deliver the immediate actions funded as part of the 2022-23 Budget, including uplifts to metropolitan and regional service.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$7.1 million for a pilot of the Bunbury ICA Mental Health Service Hub</li> </ul>

## 2023 - 2024 Budget

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$6.4 million for continuation/extension of uplifted mental health workers at the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (9.5 FTE)</li> <li>○ \$7.7 million to reconfigure Perth Children's Hospital Mental Health Inpatient Unit (Ward 5A)</li> <li>○ \$3.6 million to pilot the East Metropolitan Acute Care Response Team</li> <li>○ \$4.8 million Expansion of Touchstone service - a specialised intensive treatment service for children aged 12-17 years with complex personality disorders</li> <li>○ \$5.8 million for an additional 10 Aboriginal Mental Health Workers (FTE) to support Aboriginal children and families to access and engage with mental health services</li> </ul>
<b>Implications</b>	Uplift in community treatment services are welcome however more investment should be targeted at preventative measures and those delivered by the community sector.

<b>Initiative</b>	Emergency Telehealth Service for regional WA (BP2, V1, P323)
<b>Investment</b>	\$24.4 million to continue funding for the WACHS Mental Health Emergency Telehealth service across the forward estimates.
<b>Description</b>	We support the continuation of telehealth mental health services, however hope to see further resourcing support for mental health services to be delivered locally across the regions.

<b>Initiative</b>	National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement (BP2, V1, P323)
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.8 million towards suicide prevention.
<b>Description</b>	The State Government will spend an additional \$9.8 million contributions to support the continuation of the National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement.
<b>Implications</b>	A welcome investment from State Government to fund early intervention and prevention measures in partnership with Federal Government under the Agreement however, this appears to be the only new measure for early intervention and prevention in this budget.

<b>Initiative</b>	Additional funding for the Active Recovery Teams (BP2, V1, P322)
<b>Investment</b>	\$9.9 million for a one-year extension to the Active Recovery Teams.
<b>Description</b>	ART is a partnership between community mental health teams and non-government organisations that provides recovery planning and crisis response for individuals with complex needs recovering from an acute or crisis episode. These teams aim to minimise future presentations to emergency departments (ED) and prolonged inpatient stays.
<b>Implications</b>	Whilst the extension is welcomed, this program continues to be funded on yearly cycles. More longer-term investment is needed to support

## 2023 - 2024 Budget

	specialist community based mental health services to have the greatest impact.
--	--

<b>Initiative</b>	Community Mental Health Treatment Services (BP2, V1, P322)
<b>Investment</b>	\$8.8 million additional funding, this includes the delivery of hospital in the Home Services which along with other programs aims to alleviate pressures on hospitals.
<b>Description</b>	Led by the Commission, the Community Mental Health Treatment and Emergency Response Services Project will provide the framework and future service configuration to transform public specialist community mental health and emergency response services to better meet the needs of youth, adults and older adults.
<b>Implications</b>	Extension of this measure is welcome as it will enable more people to access treatment within their home whilst also reducing stress on hospitals.

<b>Initiative</b>	Supporting the wellbeing of Aboriginal young people (BP2, V1, P322)
<b>Investment</b>	\$5.4 million across 4 years to continue Psychiatric Services in the East Kimberley to support Aboriginal youth wellbeing.
<b>Description</b>	Refer to fact sheet on Aboriginal Wellbeing.

<b>Initiative</b>	Specialised non-emergency transport services (BP2, V1, P300)
<b>Investment</b>	\$7.3 million will be provided to extend the delivery of specialised non-emergency transport services.
<b>Description</b>	Services for involuntary mental health patients travelling between health facilities and the community.
<b>Implications</b>	It is not clear if this investment relates to an existing package reported in the 2022-23 budget.

<b>Initiative</b>	Works on the North Metropolitan Health Service - Adult Mental Health Unit (BP2, V1, P314)
<b>Investment</b>	\$48,000 for the year 2023-24.
<b>Description</b>	Towards the Adult Mental Health Unit North Metropolitan Health Service.
<b>Implications</b>	More detail is needed to confirm if the investment will include improvements to safety for mental health patients. There have been no future investments in mental health works at regional hospitals and health facilities.