

FOREWORD

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is a Joint Committee of the NBMLHD and Wentworth Healthcare.

Formal CAC meetings were held on 6 July 2020, 7 September 2021, 26 October 2021, 14 December 2021, 15 February 2021, 26 March 2021 and 7 June 2021. The CACs reviewed the terms of reference during the year, which were approved by the Board. The next review is for late 2021. Meetings are 2 hours in duration and have been held via Zoom during the COVID period.

The CAC is supported by two LGA based working groups in Penrith and Hawkesbury, with Blue Mountains and Lithgow in abeyance.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

- Blue Mountains Members (2)
- Hawkesbury Members (5)
- Lithgow members (0)
- Penrith members (2)

Name	Eligible	Attended
Caroline Allen	7	7
Peter Gooley	7	7
Stacy Kempton (Jenkinson)	7	3
Belinda Leonard (Chair)	7	7
Lachlan Morris	7	1
Bronwyn Reed	5	5
Mari Rosney	2	1

Natalie Rosten	7	4
Joe Rzepecki	7	4
Patti Shanks	7	7

Of note, two Lithgow and two Blue Mountains consumers are currently being considered for the Community Advisory Committee. A new Penrith member (Anita Griffiths) has been appointed, this will ensure that the committee is able to more fully represent the health needs of our diverse region.

KEY MATTERS CONSIDERED 2020/21

The Board noted in February 2021 the CAC's achievements in the 2020 calendar year. In future, these will be reported to align to the Financial Year as part of this Annual report.

Items considered in the first six months of 2021 include,

- WHL Domestic Violence Program – Consumer Engagement Plan presentation for feedback
- LHD Advanced care plans – consumer contribution
- LHD New Adolescent Mental Health Service
- Collaborative Commissioning Obesity Service (health of the community) consumer contribution.

CONTINUING AREAS OF FOCUS IN 2022

Steps are in train for the Community Advisory Committee in 2021/22 to:

- Continue supporting and working towards the WHL Health Literacy Strategy
- Having representation from throughout the region (especially Lithgow and the Blue Mountains)
- Overview of Joint priorities for Integrated Care

- LHD Stage 1 Nepean Hospital Redevelopment
- Program Specific Consumer Engagement
- Improving Committee Governance focussing on,
 - Alignment of NBMLHD and WHL processes
 - Committee Evaluation
 - 2022 Plan

CHAIR'S QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Challenges, Highlights and Outcomes

- Covid-19 has certainly presented challenges as we have all adapted to Zoom to conduct meetings and has consumed the agenda of the CAC as we all come to terms with the unique challenges presented to consumers and our healthcare workforce.
- The CAC formally wrote to the Chief Executive Officers of the PHN and LHD to pass on our gratitude for the amazing job that our healthcare professionals and support staff have done to navigate us through the pandemic.
- It has been pleasing to establish the Health Literacy working group. I look forward to realising the impact that this important initiative will have.
- As we move forward into the next period, I look forward to welcoming new members to the CAC so that we are positioned to continue to be the peak consumer committee for the region, championing needs and contributing to the shape of the health system in Nepean Blue Mountains.
- May I take this opportunity to thank the members of the CAC and the LHD and PHN staff that support us.