

Mental Health Tribunal Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Our Strategic Priorities

Our Vision

That the principles and objectives of Victoria's mental health legislation are reflected in the experience of consumers and carers.

Our Mission

The Mental Health Tribunal decides whether a person receives compulsory treatment under Victoria's mental health legislation. Our hearings focus on human rights, recovery, least restrictive treatment and the participation of consumers, carers and clinicians.

Our Values

We value lived experience and are:

- Fair
- Respectful
- Collaborative

1 Contribute to implementing the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.

We will implement the system reforms and embrace the cultural change in the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

Over the life of this plan the Tribunal will:

- ▶ Contribute to the development of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Act and the progress of other reforms where input is needed.
- ▶ Work collaboratively with all stakeholders to implement the Mental Health and Wellbeing Act.
- ▶ Continue to strengthen the involvement of consumers and carers with lived experience in all aspects of our operations.

2 Continue to refine our hearing processes with a focus on operating flexibly and sustainably.

We will work with stakeholders to design and implement process reforms that support hearing participants and provide high-quality hearings that are responsive to individual needs.

Over the life of this plan the Tribunal will:

- ▶ Engage with stakeholders to design flexible hearing models that enable the delivery of high-quality hearings that are responsive to the needs of hearing participants.
- ▶ Expand our case management capacity to deliver innovative and responsive hearing schedules.
- ▶ Collaborate with health services and advocates to improve pre-hearing preparation procedures.
- ▶ Survey consumers, carers, treating teams and legal representatives about their experience of hearings to identify opportunities for improvement.
- ▶ Continue to explore and implement information technology enhancements to achieve efficiencies and improve our environmental sustainability.

3 Ensure fair, consistent, and solution-focused hearings.

We continually strive to improve our skills and systems to deliver fair and solution-focussed hearings.

Over the life of this plan the Tribunal will:

- ▶ Enhance our competency-based education strategy for members.
- ▶ Increase opportunities for dialogue between members about the performance of our functions.
- ▶ Continue to improve report templates for hearings.
- ▶ Develop a Reconciliation Action Plan.
- ▶ Continue to collaborate with Victoria Legal Aid and the Mental Health Legal Centre on a framework to guide advocacy in hearings.

Mental Health
Tribunal

