

Productivity Commission Inquiry report a crucial next step for mental health reform in Australia

Mental Health Australia has today welcomed the release of the Final Report from the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health, and the interim report from the National Suicide Prevention Adviser, and sees the government response to these reports as a crucial next step in the future of mental health reform and service delivery in Australia.

Mental Health Australia CEO Dr Leanne Beagley said the Final Report from the Productivity Commission is a culmination of nearly two years of extensive consultation and consideration, and could not come at a more important and critical time.

“Today’s release of the Final Report from the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health is a moment many of us have been waiting for. This is not just a vital report for our mental health sector, but for every Australian,” said Dr Beagley.

“Two years ago many of us talked about how the Productivity Commission Inquiry was a once in a generation opportunity for the mental health of our nation, and now, in a COVID-19 world, that opportunity is even more important than any of us would have ever imagined.”

“Not only has the Productivity Commission paid particular attention to people with lived experience in the development of this report, but the breadth and level of consultation, deep thinking, and planning with the sector at large has been unprecedented.”

“We know our mental health ecosystem has experienced decades of plans and reviews, but this Report is a culmination of all of those, backed with consultation and co-design, and delivered through the lens of how mental health reform and service delivery can support economic participation and enhance productivity and economic growth.”

“We look forward to working with our members and partners to review and respond to the Report in detail. The timing could not be better, and while not everyone will agree with everything that’s in it, I’m sure we can all agree that the need for improved mental health reform and service delivery is now.”

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