

**Queensland
Government****WEST MORETON HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICE****The Park – Centre for Mental Health
*Treatment, Research and Education***

Queensland Health

Enquiries: S Daniel

BARRETT ADOLESCENT CENTRE

9 August 2013

Hello

The recent uncertainty around the future of the Barrett Adolescent Centre has been a challenging and concerning one, and in the face of your own adversities I sincerely thank you for your support and patience during this time. After an extensive review process a decision has been made to continue the extended care mental health services for adolescents. However we will not continue at the current site and it is hoped that by the beginning of 2014, the process of transitioning to the new site will commence. Attached you find a message from the District Executive Director for Mental Health and Specialised Services for our District (West Moreton), as well as fact sheet, media statement and the recommendations from the review process.

I wanted to reassure you that no restrictions have been issued on current adolescents who are on the waiting list and that they will be transferred over to the wait list for the service at the new site. The new site has not yet been determined but it is proposed that it will continue within the South East Queensland area.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me in the first instance, then Dr Trevor Sadler or the Nurse Unit Manager.

Kind regards


Sue Daniel
Community Liaison

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West Moreton Hospital and Health Service

Enquiries to: Ms Sharon Kelly
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Our Ref: 130808

Dear Carer

I understand that your family member is currently on the waitlist to receive assessment or care from the Barrett Adolescent Centre at The Park Centre for Mental Health. With this in mind, I would like to provide you with an update on the Barrett Adolescent Centre Strategy, on behalf of West Moreton Hospital and Health Service.

State-wide governance for adolescent mental health extended treatment and rehabilitation will be moving to Children's Health Queensland.

As identified in an announcement earlier this week by West Moreton Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Lesley Dwyer and Children's Health Queensland Chief Executive Dr Peter Steer, adolescents requiring extended mental health treatment and rehabilitation will receive services through a new range of contemporary service options from early 2014. Young people receiving care from Barrett Adolescent Centre at that time will be supported to transition to other contemporary care options that best meet their individual needs.

Importantly, our goal in West Moreton Hospital and Health Service continues to be to ensure that adolescents requiring mental health extended treatment and rehabilitation will receive the most appropriate care for their individual needs. We will work with your adolescent and your family, in addition to your local mental health service to enable your adolescent to access the most appropriate care, whether that be through Barrett Adolescent Centre or an alternative option that best meets their needs.

Our clinicians will be contacting you over the next week to discuss the information provided today and to reconsider your specific needs in this context. We will also be contacting the service provider who referred you to Barrett Adolescent Centre to inform them of the announcements made.

For further information about Barrett Adolescent Centre and the planning for new state-wide service options in adolescent mental health extended treatment and rehabilitation, please find attached a media statement, a copy of the seven expert clinical reference group recommendations submitted to the West Moreton Hospital and Health Board, and a FAQs sheet.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Sharon Kelly
Executive Director
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West Moreton Hospital and Health Service

8 August 2013

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West Moreton Hospital and Health Service
Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service

Media Statement



**Queensland
Government**

6 August 2013

Statewide focus on adolescent mental health

Statewide governance around mental health extended treatment and rehabilitation for adolescents will be moving to Children's Health Queensland.

West Moreton Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Lesley Dwyer and Children's Health Queensland Chief Executive Dr Peter Steer today said adolescents requiring extended mental health treatment and rehabilitation will receive services through a new range of contemporary service options from early 2014.

Ms Dwyer said the young people who were receiving care from Barrett Adolescent Centre at that time, would be supported to transition to other contemporary care options that best meet their individual needs.

She said West Moreton Hospital and Health Service had heard the voices of staff, consumers and their families, and engaged an expert clinical reference group over the past eight months.

"After taking into consideration the recommendations of the expert clinical reference group and a range of other key issues in national and state mental health service delivery, the West Moreton Hospital and Health Board determined that the Barrett Adolescent Centre is no longer an appropriate model of care for these young people," Ms Dwyer said.

"The board also determined that a number of alternative models will be explored over the coming months under the leadership of Children's Health Queensland.

"It is important to put the safety and individual mental health needs of these adolescents first by providing the most contemporary care options available to us in the most suitable environment.

"It is time for a new statewide model of care. We are also striving to provide services closer to home for these young people, so they can be nearer to their families and social networks," Ms Dwyer said.

Dr Steer said as part of its statewide role to provide healthcare for Queensland's children, Children's Health Queensland would provide the governance for any new model of care.

"This means that we will work closely with West Moreton HHS as well as other hospital and health services and non-government agencies to ensure there are new service options in place by early 2014," Dr Steer said.

"This model of care may include both inpatient and community care components.

"Understanding what options are needed has already begun with the work of the expert clinical reference group, and now we can progress this further and implement the best options for these young people," he said.

"This is a positive step forward for adolescent mental health care in this state," Dr Steer said.

To view the expert clinical reference group recommendations visit
<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/westmoreton/html/bac/>

ENDS

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West Moreton Hospital and Health Service
Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health
Service



**Queensland
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What is the Barrett Adolescent Centre (BAC)?

Barrett Adolescent Centre is a 15-bed inpatient service for adolescents requiring longer term mental health treatment. It is currently located within The Park – Centre for Mental Health campus. The Park will be a secure forensic adult mental health facility that provides acute and rehabilitation services by December 2013.

This ongoing redevelopment at The Park means this is no longer a suitable place for adolescents with complex mental health needs.

What is happening to BAC?

Barrett Adolescent Centre will continue to provide care to young people until suitable service options have been determined. We anticipate adolescents requiring extended mental health treatment and rehabilitation will receive services through a new range of contemporary service options from early 2014.

An expert clinical reference group has determined that adolescents require specialised and appropriate care options where they can be as close as possible to their community, families and support systems. West Moreton Hospital and Health Service will work closely with hospital and health services across the state, as well as other mental health care providers to ensure appropriate care plans are in place for all adolescents who require care.

We will also work together with the community and mental health consumers to ensure their needs are met.

Who was in the expert clinical reference group?

Members of the expert clinical reference group comprised adolescent mental health experts from Queensland and interstate, a former BAC consumer and the parent of a current BAC consumer.

What will happen to the consumers currently being treated at BAC?

West Moreton Hospital and Health Service is committed to ensuring no adolescent goes without the expert mental health care they require. The goal is to ensure our youth are cared for in an environment that is best suited for them. It is in the best interests of young people that they are not cared for in the same environment as adult mental health consumers who require high secure care.

Care coordinators and clinicians will work closely with the consumers, families and services to ensure that the appropriate care and support is provided for them.

What happens if there are not enough spaces for young people in other services?

The implementation group will consider all the available services and any extra services that might be required to support this particular group of adolescents.

What will happen to the young people currently waiting for a place in BAC?

Each individual adolescent that has been referred to the BAC and is currently on the waiting list for care will be considered on an individual basis. Clinicians will work with local and statewide services to determine how their needs can be best met in a timely manner.

How can the Queensland Government know this is the best option for the young people of the state?

This decision has been carefully considered and the recommendations made by an expert clinical reference group. The expert clinical reference group considered a range of options and recommended a number of strategies to better support the adolescent needs. These strategies will include both inpatient and community based services.

What is the process, and how long will it take, to transfer the existing consumers to other services or facilities?

The governance of the adolescent mental health service has been handed to the Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service and an implementation group will progress the next step. This group will use the expert clinical reference group recommendations, and broader consultation, to identify and develop the service options.

We anticipate that some of those options will be available by early 2014.

Is this a cost cutting exercise?

No, this is about the safety and wellbeing of young Queenslanders in need of mental health support services and treatment. The Queensland Government has committed a further \$2 million dollars to support the new models of care and services.

What happens to the funding previously allocated to BAC?

Funding that would have been allocated to BAC will be dispersed appropriately to the organisations providing the new services or treatment as part of the implementation group decision making.

Will jobs be lost?

West Moreton Hospital and Health Service will work closely with each individual staff member who is affected to identify options available to them. The hospital and health service is committed to following appropriate human resource processes.

What about the education services?

The Department of Education, Training and Employment is committed to continuing education plans for all BAC consumers.

How can I contribute to the implementation process?

The implementation group will include on their membership a range of stakeholders inclusive of families, carers and consumers. As the strategies are developed ongoing consultation will occur to ensure the best possible care for our adolescents in the most appropriate setting.

West Moreton Hospital and Health Service

Expert Clinical Reference Group Recommendations Barrett Adolescent Strategy July 2013



Adolescent Extended Treatment and Rehabilitation Services (AETRS) Recommendations Submitted to the West Moreton Hospital and Health Board

1. Broader consultation and formal planning processes are essential in guiding the next steps required for service development, acknowledging that services need to align with the National Mental Health Service Planning Framework

ECRG Recommendations	Planning Group Recommendations
a) Further work will be required at a statewide level to translate these concepts into a model of service and to develop implementation and funding plans.	Accept with the following considerations. The responsibility for this task at a statewide level sits with the Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch and the Children's Health Services. A collaborative partnership is proposed.
b) Formal planning including consultation with stakeholder groups will be required.	Accept with the following considerations. This body of work should be incorporated into the statewide planning and implementation process (as above).

2. Inpatient extended treatment and rehabilitation care (Tier 3) is an essential service component

ECRG Recommendation	Planning Group Recommendation
a) A Tier 3 service should be prioritised to provide extended treatment and rehabilitation for adolescents with severe and persistent mental illness.	Accept with the following considerations. Further work is needed to detail the service model for a Tier 3. Models involving a statewide, clinical bed-based service (such as the Barrett Adolescent Centre) are not considered contemporary within the National Mental Health Service Planning Framework (<i>in draft</i>). However, there are alternative bed-based models involving clinical and non-clinical service components (e.g., Y-PARC in Victoria) that can be developed in

ECRG Recommendation	Planning Group Recommendation
	Queensland to meet the requirement of this recommendation. Contestability reforms in Queensland may allow for this service component to be provider agnostic.

3. Interim service provision if BAC closes and Tier 3 is not available is associated with risk

ECRG Recommendations	Planning Group Recommendations
a) Safe, high quality service provision for adolescents requiring extended treatment and rehabilitation requires a Tier 3 service alternative to be available in a timely manner if BAC is closed.	Accept.
b) Interim service provision for current and 'wait list' consumers of BAC while Tier 3 service options are established must prioritise the needs of each of these individuals and their families/carers. 'Wrap-around care' for each individual will be essential.	Accept with the following considerations. While this may be a complex process for some consumers and their individual needs, it was noted that this course of action could start immediately, and that it was feasible. The potential to utilise current BAC operational funds (temporarily) to 'wrap-around' each consumer's return to their local community was noted as a significant benefit. The relevant local community should play a lead role in the discharge of the consumer from BAC and their return to home. The local services need to be consulted around their ability to provide 'wrap-around' care.
c) BAC staff (clinical and educational) must receive individual care and case management if BAC closes, and their specialist skill and knowledge must be recognised and maintained.	Accept. The ECRG and the Planning Group strongly supported this recommendation.

4. Duration of treatment

ECRG Recommendation	Planning Group Recommendation
a) 'Up to 12 months' has been identified by the ECRG as a reasonable duration of treatment, but it was noted that this depends on the availability of effective step-down services and a suitable community residence for the young person. It is important to note that like all mental health service provision, there will be a range in the duration of admission.	<p>Accept with the following considerations.</p> <p>This issue requires further deliberation within the statewide planning process.</p> <p>The duration of treatment needs some parameters to be set, however, this is primarily a clinical issue that is considered on a case-by-case basis by the treating team and the consumer.</p>

5. Education resource essential: on-site school for Tiers 2 and 3

ECRG Recommendations	Planning Group Recommendations
a) Access to on-site schooling (including suitably qualified educators), is considered essential for Tiers 2 (day programs) and 3. It is the position of the ECRG that a Band 7 Specific Purpose School (provided by Department of Education, Training and Employment) is required for a Tier 3 service.	<p>Accept with the following considerations.</p> <p>The Planning Group recommends removing "Band 7" from the ECRG recommendation. All educational services need to be evaluated by Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE) on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration service model, location, student numbers and complexity.</p> <p>The Planning Group supports the statement that educational resources are essential to adolescent extended treatment and rehabilitation services.</p> <p>The Planning Group recommends consultation with DETE once a statewide model is finalised.</p>

ECRG Recommendations	Planning Group Recommendations
b) As an aside, consideration should also be given to the establishment of a multi-site, statewide education service for children/adolescents in acute units (hub and spoke model).	<p>Accept with the following consideration.</p> <p>The Planning Group recommends this statement should be changed to read as:</p> <p>Strong consideration should be given to the establishment of a multi-site, statewide education service for children/adolescents in acute units (hub and spoke model).</p>

6. Residential Service: Important for governance to be with CYMHS, capacity and capability requires further consideration

ECRG Recommendations	Planning Group Recommendations
a) It is considered vital that further consultation and planning is conducted on the best service model for adolescent non-government/private residential and therapeutic services in community mental health. A pilot site is essential.	<p>Accept with the following consideration.</p> <p>Note that this service could be provider agnostic.</p>
b) Governance should remain with the local CYMHS or treating mental health team.	Accept.
c) It is essential that residential services are staffed adequately and that they have clear service and consumer outcome targets.	Accept.

7. Equitable access to AETRS for all adolescents and families is high priority: need to enhance service provision in North Queensland (and regional areas)

ECRG Recommendations	Planning Group Recommendations
a) Local service provision to North Queensland should be addressed immediately by ensuring a full range of CYMHS services are available in Townsville, including a residential community-based service.	Accept.
b) If a decision is made to close BAC, this should not be finalised before the range of service options in Townsville are opened and available to consumers and their families/carers.	Accept.