

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION — DRAFT ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

**620. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Mental Health:**

I refer to the individual and family living panel mentioned in the draft accountability framework released in May 2013.

- (1) Has this draft document been finalised?
- (2) If no to (1), what consultations have been held on the draft and when will it be finalised?
- (3) Who are the members of the panel and how were they selected?
- (4) What knowledge do panel members have of clients and providers?
- (5) Who sets the predetermined criteria referred to in the draft document?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) I am advised that the draft accountability policy for individualised support and funding is very close to being finalised. I have seen the draft report. The Mental Health Commission is currently taking into consideration all of the feedback received and is incorporating relevant information into the draft.
- (2) The draft policy was sent to a wide range of stakeholders for comment in May 2013 and a consultation workshop was held in June 2013. The stakeholders included non-government organisations; peak bodies for carers, consumers and mental health service providers; the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist; all area mental health services, including the WA Country Health Service and child and adolescent health services; the Office of the Public Advocate; and the Health and Disability Services Complaints Office. There was also a dedicated email address through which people could provide comment on the draft policy and which remained open for some time.
- (3) At the department's request and to respect the confidentiality of panel members, I will not provide the names of individual panel members. The members are drawn from a pool of identified individuals, with each panel consisting of at least four members, with the principal project manager of the individualised support and funding team, or representative, at the Mental Health Commission being a non-voting member. The identification of suitable pool members was aided through the commission's consumer adviser and the Western Australian Association for Mental Health. I think the member can understand why it would not be appropriate to provide the individual names of those people, so long as she is satisfied that the range is appropriate. Current representation in the pool consists of individuals with experience, knowledge and expertise in one or more areas of mental health consumer support and advocacy; mental health policy research and clinical practice; lived experience or family member of someone with a mental illness; knowledge and understanding of contemporary models of individualised support; and the application of individualised funding used as a strategy to support people.
- (4) Panel members are not required to have specific knowledge of individuals or service providers. The panel's objective is to review each plan to ensure the key elements of quality assurance and personal safeguards are adequately addressed and to ensure that the organisation's proposed strategies will meet the individual outcomes identified in the plan.
- (5) The criteria for assessing the individualised community living plans were developed by the Mental Health Commission and are available to service providers as part of the process of developing the individualised plans. These criteria are consistently used by the individualised community living panel to assess each individualised plan that is submitted.