

# Oakden Response Plan Oversight Committee

The SA Health Oakden Response Plan Oversight Committee was established in June 2017 to provide oversight and guidance to SA Health in implementing the six recommendations outlined in [The Oakden Report](#), which was undertaken by the Chief Psychiatrist as an independent statutory officer under s90 of the *Mental Health Act 2009*.

The recommendations, which can be read in full in the [Response to the Review](#) document, cover the following:

- > Development of a specialised contemporary model of care for people over 65 years of age who live with the most severe forms of disabling mental illness and/or extreme behavioural and psychological manifestations of Dementia (Recommendation 1)
- > The provision of appropriate infrastructure to implement the model of care (Recommendation 2)
- > Development of a staffing model that utilises the full range of members of a multi-disciplinary service (Recommendation 3)
- > Development of a new and appropriate clinical governance system (Recommendation 4)
- > Ensuring there are people in senior leadership positions that can create a culture that values dignity, respect, care and kindness for both consumers and staff (Recommendation 5)
- > Development of an action plan based on Trauma Informed Principles and the six core strategies developed by the National Centre for Trauma Informed Care (NCTIC) (Recommendation 6).

Communiqués will be used to share information covered in the SA Health Oakden Response Plan Oversight Committee meetings with key stakeholders.

## Governance Framework

Since its establishment, the committee has met three times to develop a governance framework for the implementation of the recommendations.

## Six Expert Working Groups

At the last meeting (July 2017) it was agreed that six expert working groups would be established to implement each of the recommendations. Each group will focus on achieving contemporary services which are customer centric, developmental and best practice and will be responsible for recommending to the Oversight Committee an implementation and project plan addressing the relevant recommendation. The membership of each working group will include people who share the vision and the expertise required to deliver new services of a very high standard.

The Statewide Specialised Contemporary Model of Care Expert Working Group has already been established with the first meeting being held on Friday 7 July 2017. Dr Duncan McKellar, Head of Unit, Older Persons Mental Health Service, Northern Adelaide Local Health Network is leading this Expert Working Group.



## Resident Transition

The Oversight Committee heard that on 14 June 2017, 14 Makk and McLeay residents were transitioned to Northgate House, which comprises two eight-bed 'houses' – Woodland and Beachside.

Staff who were part of the seamless and successful transition of these residents have been commended for their exceptional work.

The move was achieved in a calm, highly organised manner. Minimising disruption to routine and ensuring ongoing attentive care before, during and after the move meant settling into a new environment was less stressful for residents.

Residents have settled into their new home with families and carers providing positive feedback that they are happy with the accommodation and care being provided.

The transition team was also successful in transitioning 15 residents to a number of mainstream residential aged care facilities. A comprehensive multidisciplinary process was undertaken to determine the suitability of residents for an aged care facility and then each was matched with a facility that met their needs, preferences and requirements. This involved extensive consultation with families and carers to ensure their loved ones were transferred with the least possible disruption. Residents and representatives were invited to attend weekly family forums prior to their transfer and regular contact was maintained by the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network Executive and Older Persons Mental Health Service Leadership Team.

The Oakden Transition Team was led by Medical Head of Unit Dr Duncan McKellar and included senior social workers seconded from Central and Southern Adelaide Local Health Networks. The team was supported by Northern Adelaide Local Health Network continuing care team, which was tasked with engaging with residents, their representatives and aged care providers to safely transition residents from acute services to mainstream residential aged care facilities.

The Oakden Transition Team was responsible for ensuring receiving facilities had the most clinically suitable 'wrap-around' service, which is vital in order for residents to settle into their new environment.

As an additional measure, the Australian Aged Care Agency is making regular visits to the facilities to check on residents as they get familiar with their new surroundings.

## Clements House

The transition to Northgate House marked the closure of Makk and McLeay Nursing Home. Clements House is now the only service providing care for older people at the Oakden site.

The Oversight Committee was advised that the Oakden Transition Team is now considering suitable options for the ongoing care of a number of residents at Clements House.

A process of scoping is also underway to identify an alternative interim location for an older persons' transitional service to replace Clements House while the new Model of Care is developed and implemented. This will enable the complete decommissioning of the Oakden campus by the end of 2017.

---

For more information

**Jenny Boehm, Principal Officer – Oakden**  
Northern Adelaide Local Health Network  
[jenny.boehm@sa.gov.au](mailto:jenny.boehm@sa.gov.au)  
Telephone: (08) 7425 6238  
[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)



[www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons](http://www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons)



Government  
of South Australia

SA Health