Australian Capital Territory - Primary Mental Health Care 2025/26 - 2028/29
Activity Summary View

MH-MDS - 1 - Mental Health Multidisciplinary Services

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH-MDS

Activity Number *

1

Activity Title *

Mental Health Multidisciplinary Services

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

New Activity

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 4: Mental health services for people with severe and complex mental illness including care packages

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

The aim of this activity is to facilitate access to holistic and person centred multisdisciplinary care in primary care settings to improve health outcomes for people with complex mental health needs.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN will commission GP practices, ACCHOs or primary care services across the ACT to provide coordinated multidisciplinary care for people with complex mental health needs including GP and allied health care, case conferencing, and case management of clinical and non clinical supports. ACT PHN will fund centralised data collection and reporting, and program evaluation.
ACT PHN will undertake mental health multidisciplinary care capacity building with ACT primary care health care professionals.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53
First Nations health	95



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

14/02/2026

Activity End Date

29/06/2028

Service Delivery Start Date

Oct 2026

Service Delivery End Date

30 June 2028

Other Relevant Milestones

Procurement approach commenced in May 2026
Preferred providers selected and contracts executed August 2026



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): Yes

Is this activity being co-designed?

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

Decommissioning

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH-H2H - 1 - Medicare Mental Health Assessment and Referral Phone Service

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH-H2H

Activity Number *

1

Activity Title *

Medicare Mental Health Assessment and Referral Phone Service

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 7: Stepped care approach

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

The aim of this activity is to support an integrated approach to intake and assessment in the ACT through a dedicated phone service. This includes enabling intake into Medicare Mental Health Centres, and supporting warm referrals and service navigation across all forms of support in the ACT.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN will maintain the ACT Medicare Mental Health Phone Service, which will provide a local approach to a national phone service that provides initial intake and assessment. This service will use the IAR Decision Support Tool to support its clinicians to refer people to the most appropriate services to meet their unique needs. This service will be integrated with existing Medicare Mental Health Centres to enable a smooth intake pathway, and will support callers with advice, information, service navigation, intake, assessment and warm referral. In 2025 the Medicare Mental Health Phone Service, which is delivered by the same provider as the Medicare Mental Health Centre and Satellite services, was relocated into a purpose built space within the new Tuggeranong Satellite site to allow improved service delivery and integration.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

30/06/2022

Activity End Date

29/06/2027

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

6 monthly performance and financial reports



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Submitted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 1 - Low Intensity mental health services

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

1

Activity Title *

Low Intensity mental health services

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 1: Low intensity mental health services

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

The aim of this activity is to increase access to low intensity mental health services to achieve:
- Increased access to services early in illness and episode
- Improved clinical outcomes early in illness and episode
- Reduced wait times for high intensity services/services for moderate to severe presentations

Description of Activity *

As part of the NextStep program, an evidence based low intensity service model is in place, delivered by a service provider commissioned in 2017. The model is targeted at providing services to people with mild to moderate symptoms of depression and anxiety.

Low intensity interventions are cognitive behavioural therapy based, with a strong focus on guided self-help. Structured interventions are delivered through telehealth and face to face by a trained non-clinical workforce, who receive intensive ongoing clinical supervision. The workforce is trained to ensure that services that are delivered are appropriate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse groups.

Additionally, ACT PHN, through the implementation of the Joint Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Regional Plan, will support system integration and community-based activities to improve access to low intensity mental health services. This includes

integration with Medicare Mental Health and the National Early Intervention Service, prioritising health promotion and prevention of distress at a community level, and upskilling general practitioners and primary care to enable them to facilitate coordinated care for people with low intensity needs.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

People experiencing mild to moderate mental health symptoms

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

29/06/2021

Activity End Date

29/06/2027

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

6 monthly performance and financial reports
CHN is undertaking a review Next Step and local needs in preparation for changes to low intensity funding.



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 2 - Child and youth mental health

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

2

Activity Title *

Child and youth mental health

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 2: Child and youth mental health services

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

Provision of services for children under the age of 12 at risk of, or who are experiencing mental illness, to:
-Provide early intervention
-Improve mental health outcomes for children under the age of 12

Building system capacity in child and youth mental health service provision, support, and prevention of ill-health

Prioritising early intervention to improve mental health outcomes for children

Description of Activity *

As part of the NextStep program, ACT PHN commissioned a service provider to deliver evidence based mental health services for children under 12 and their families in a stepped care approach with Interventions provided in the form of:

- structured group programs, including Cool Kids (7-12 years) and Cool Little Kids (3-6 years) to address anxiety
- individual psychological interventions provide by experienced psychologists.
- focused psychological strategies to individuals between the ages of 0-12 years with a priority on children aged 8-12 years, inclusion of family members or carers as required, comprehensive assessments and structured treatment plans.

In addition, ACT PHN will continue to deliver the ACT Child and Youth Mental Health Alliance, in partnership with the ACT Health and Community Services Directorate and the Youth Coalition of the ACT. The Alliance provides an opportunity for sector and workforce coordination and capacity building and enables system and service improvement and integration. The Alliance will support system integration and community-based activities to strengthen health system responses for children under the age of 12, including prevention of mental ill-health and distress, improving service accessibility and responsiveness, building workforce capacity to recognise the needs of children and provide approrpiate care, supporting parents and carers, and delivering early intervention support.

Additionally, given the upcoming changes to Low Intensity funding, CHN is taking this as an opportunity to review the Next Step program as well as local needs in preparation to make appropriate and effective adjustments.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

Children (0-12)

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes

Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

29/06/2021

Activity End Date

30/12/2028

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Is this activity in scope for data collection under the Mental Health National Minimum Dataset?

Yes



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 3 - Psychological services for under-serviced populations (Inclusive Pathways)

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

3

Activity Title *

Psychological services for under-serviced populations (Inclusive Pathways)

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 3: Psychological therapies for rural and remote, under-serviced and / or hard to reach groups

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

To ensure underserviced and hard to reach groups are receiving timely and appropriate care to mental health services and to address specific identified gaps in services.
To ensure the mental health and primary care workforce are capable, informed, and able to identify mental health concerns.
To build a coordinated and integrated community and sector that enables early intervention, prevention, and health promotion for people at risk of poor health outcomes.

Description of Activity *

Under this activity, ACT PHN commissions services tailored for identified groups that experience:
- Barriers to access
- Limited community-based treatment options

ACT PHN continues to support our commissioned provider with a model of care targeting ACT's vulnerable populations. This model of care focuses on LGBTQIA+ people aged 16 and over and provides both low intensity and high intensity interventions. Psychological interventions include comprehensive assessments and structured treatment plans, and offer a range of evidence based culturally sensitive interventions not just for those who identify themselves as LGBTIQA+ but also for those questioning their identity. In addition, ACT PHN will ensure that these services are well integrated with tertiary and secondary services to ensure that duplication is avoided, and that individuals or groups of people are not missed.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

The LGBTIQA+ community

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

30/06/2020

Activity End Date

30/12/2027

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 4 - Mental health services for people with severe and complex mental illness including care packages

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

4

Activity Title *

Mental health services for people with severe and complex mental illness including care packages

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 4: Mental health services for people with severe and complex mental illness including care packages

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

To commission high intensity intervention-based services, including psychological interventions.

To ensure that primary mental health care services for people with severe and complex mental illness are well integrated with secondary and tertiary services and avoid duplication.

To coordinate services for people with moderate to severe and complex mental illness, to reduce fragementations and reduce the impacts of the 'missing middle'.

To build capacity of the ACT mental health workforce and primary care workforce in recognising and responding to the needs of people with severe and complex mental illness.

Description of Activity *

As part of the NextStep program, ACT PHN will continue to commission the Next Step High Intensity service to provide high-intensity CBT services to people with severe mental illness. ACT PHN will continue to work with the existing provider to deliver this service. A portion of this service, specifically for youth, has been expanded.

Clients with severe and complex mental illness may at times receive treatment services through the hospital system or through

Adult Community Mental Health, thus strong integration with primary mental health services needs to occur to avoid duplication of service delivery and ensure the best outcomes for shared clients. As part of the primary mental health stepped care model, clients will be supported to step up to tertiary services or back down to primary care services.

The ACT PHN, through implementation of the Joint Regional Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan, also continues to support system integration and community-based activities to strengthen health system responses to people with severe and complex mental illness, including reducing fragmentation between services and building capacity of the workforce.

Additionally, given the upcoming changes to mental health flexible funding, CHN is taking this as an opportunity to review the Next Step program as well as local needs in preparation to make appropriate and effective adjustments.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

People with severe and/or complex mental health needs

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes

Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

29/06/2021

Activity End Date

30/12/2028

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Is this activity in scope for data collection under the Mental Health National Minimum Dataset?

Yes



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 5 - headspace Canberra

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

5

Activity Title *

headspace Canberra

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 2: Child and youth mental health services

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

The aim of this activity is for CHN to commission headspace services that provide:
-Early intervention support to young people ages 12-25
-Provide integrated mental health services alongside AOD, physical health, and educational and vocational support.
-Integration of headspace Canberra, headspace Tuggeranong, and other youth mental health services to ensure young people across the ACT are able to access services easily.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN commissions headspace centres in Canberra to offer the following services to young people between 12 to 25years of age:
• Mental Health Counselling- delivered by qualified mental health practitioners offering time-limited, evidence-based counseling services
• Online and phone support - headspace has a range of ways to support young people both online or by phone. Young people can get support for their mental health by simply creating a headspace account.
• GP- support to address physical and sexual health issues as well as mental health consultations by a GP skilled in working with young people
• AOD supports- support to address issues with Alcohol and other drugs delivered on-site by our partner (Directions Health)
• Individual placement and support program (IPS) - provides in-person, one-on-one support for work and study goals. IPS

Vocational Specialists will collaborate with a young person's mental health worker to ensure the support they receive helps them achieve their goals.
• Peer support – access to a trained peer worker, who uses their own experiences of a mental health issue to provide support and role modeling as well as linking with services and supports both within headspace and the community
• Care Coordination- support to link with the services and supports in the community that can support recovery
• Family Supports- individual and group interventions that can support families and friends to more effectively support their young person's recovery
• Volunteering- an opportunity for young people to join the Youth Reference Groups and work with other young people to inform service delivery in the centres and deliver community activities
• Community Engagement- a range of community development and education programs delivered in partnership with other agencies across the Canberra region

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

Young people (12-25)

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes

Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

14/05/2015

Activity End Date

29/06/2028

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 6 - headspace Tuggeranong

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

6

Activity Title *

headspace Tuggeranong

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 2: Child and youth mental health services

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

The aim of this activity is for CHN to commission headspace services that provide:
-Early intervention support to young people ages 12-25
-Integrated mental health services alongside AOD, physical health, and educational and vocational support.
-Integration of headspace Canberra, headspace Tuggeranong, and other youth mental health services to ensure young people across the ACT are able to access services easily.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN commissions headspace centres in Canberra to offer the following services to young people between 12 to 25years of age:
• Mental Health Counselling- delivered by qualified mental health practitioners offering time-limited, evidence-based counseling services
• Online and phone support - headspace has a range of ways to support young people both online or by phone. Young people can get support for their mental health by simply creating a headspace account.
• GP- support to address physical and sexual health issues as well as mental health consultations by a GP skilled in working with young people
• AOD supports- support to address issues with Alcohol and other drugs delivered on-site by our partner (Directions Health)
• Individual placement and support program (IPS) - provides in-person, one-on-one support for work and study goals. IPS

Vocational Specialists will collaborate with a young person's mental health worker to ensure the support they receive helps them achieve their goals.
• Peer support – access to a trained peer worker, who uses their own experiences of a mental health issue to provide support and role modeling as well as linking with services and supports both within headspace and the community
• Care Coordination- support to link with the services and supports in the community that can support recovery
• Family Supports- individual and group interventions that can support families and friends to more effectively support their young person's recovery
• Volunteering- an opportunity for young people to join the Youth Reference Groups and work with other young people to inform service delivery in the centres and deliver community activities
• Community Engagement- a range of community development and education programs delivered in partnership with other agencies across the Canberra region

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

Young people (12-25)

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes

Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

14/05/2025

Activity End Date

29/06/2028

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Yes

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 7 - Early Psychosis Youth Services (EPYS) Program

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

7

Activity Title *

Early Psychosis Youth Services (EPYS) Program

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 2: Child and youth mental health services

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

ACT PHN commissioned an Early Psychosis Youth Service (EPYS) in the ACT, leveraging off local headspace services. The aim of this activity is to reduce the incidence and severity of psychosis within the community through prevention, early detection, reduced risk of transition to full-threshold psychosis, restoration of normal development and functional trajectory, coordinated care delivery, and minimisation of the impact of psychosis.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN commissioned EPYS (headspace Early Psychosis) in the ACT, to be integrated with the existing headspace Canberra service and delivered in line with Orygen's EPPIC model.

This activity provides services to young people aged 12-25 who are actively experiencing, or are at ultra-high risk of, a first episode of psychosis. The key overarching feature of EPYS is that it will provide easy access to care, an integrated biopsychosocial approach, and a high level of partnerships with service providers.

The headspace Early Psychosis program supports young people in every aspect of their recovery, including best practice treatment, education and employment support and managing relationships. The service will deliver mobile assessment and treatment, continuing care and functional recovery and will be integrated with existing services in the ACT.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

Young people (12-25) actively experiencing or at ultra-high risk of a first episode of psychosis

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

30/06/2022

Activity End Date

29/06/2026

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 8 - Culturally appropriate mental health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

8

Activity Title *

Culturally appropriate mental health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 6: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health services

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

Enhance and better integrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health services at a local level by facilitating a joined-up approach with other closely connected services including social and emotional wellbeing, suicide prevention and alcohol and other drug services.

Description of Activity *

Commission local ACCHO to deliver culturally sensitive mental health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged between 0-25 years and their families.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53
First Nations health	95



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

Yes

Indigenous Specific Comments

Commission local ACCHO to deliver culturally sensitive mental health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged between 0-25 years and their families.

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

04/08/2021

Activity End Date

29/06/2026

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

6 monthly performance and financial reports



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 9 - Targeted Regional Initiatives for Suicide Prevention

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

9

Activity Title *

Targeted Regional Initiatives for Suicide Prevention

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 5: Community based suicide prevention activities

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

To commission or adapt programs and services to support people at risk of suicide and meet community need, to improve care coordination and service pathways, and to build workforce capability to respond to suicide and distress.

To build a community collaborative to support and inform suicide prevention initiatives, activities, and priorities in the ACT region, including suicide postvention/response.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN will aim to maintain a Program Officer - Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, to support the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Manager with the Regional Response Coordination, engagement and integration of suicide prevention activities across regional stakeholders.

ACT PHN will continue to implement the ACT & Region Suicide Response Protocol in partnership with StandBy ACT, that informs coordinated action and community support and response following a death by suicide in the region.

ACT PHN will continue to coordinate the ACT & Region Suicide Prevention Community Collaborative, a multi-sector network of individuals and organisations who are committed to supporting community-led and systems-based suicide prevention in the ACT. The Collaborative will be responsible for informing community-based suicide prevention, intervention, and response activities and

initiatives for the region, including supporting grants to ensure a community-led approach to TRISP initiatives. The Collaborative will also undertake capacity and capability building projects to strengthen enabling factors across the sector.

ACT PHN will provide grants to deliver small initiatives in the ACT region to take a targeted, systems based approach to enhancing suicide prevention within the community through training and capacity building initiatives, including for at-risk communities.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

ACT PHN region

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes

Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

20/12/2022

Activity End Date

30/10/2026

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

Funding for activity has ceased. Due to approved carry forwards, suicide prevention activities to end 31 October 2026.

Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): Yes

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 10 - Improved Access to Psychological Services in Residential Aged Care Homes (Think WISE)

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

10

Activity Title *

Improved Access to Psychological Services in Residential Aged Care Homes (Think WISE)

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 3: Psychological therapies for rural and remote, under-serviced and / or hard to reach groups

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

To improve the psychological wellbeing of residents with mental health concerns in Residential Aged Care Homes (RACHs) by increasing access to appropriate psychological therapies through an on-site in-reach service and strengthening RACH staff capacity to identify, refer, and support residents with mental health needs.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN has commissioned a service provider to provide in-reach psychological treatment services for residents with mild to moderate mental health needs in Residential Aged Care Homes (RACHs) using a stepped care approach. This activity engages and promotes the in-service to all ACT RACHs and relevant health professionals, and builds RACH staff capability through education and support focused on early identification of mental health concerns and appropriate referral pathways.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Capital Health Network (ACT PHN) 2021 to 2024 Needs Assessment

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	50
Aged Care	66



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

People living in Residential Aged Care Homes

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

30/06/2025

Activity End Date

29/06/2027

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: Yes
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

Decommissioning

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 10 - Data Capacity and Capability enhancement project

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

10

Activity Title *

Data Capacity and Capability enhancement project

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

New Activity

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

To strengthen data capacity and capability across CHN Mental Health commissioned service providers to improve data quality, support robust reporting and enable evidence-based commissioning decisions that demonstrate value for money

Description of Activity *

Funding will be provided across current mental heatlh commissioned service providers to enable providers to be equiped to respond to data needs and build the skills, systems and resources needed to meet evolving data requirements. The project aims to improve data quality and ensure it can effectively inform population insights and ongoing commissioning decisions. By strengthening in-service data expertise, providers will be better placed to demonstrate impact and value for money of their services working collaboratively with CHN.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53
Workforce	191



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

31/03/2026

Activity End Date

29/06/2027

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: Yes
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

Decommissioning

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Is this activity in scope for data collection under the Mental Health National Minimum Dataset?

No



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 11 - Initial Assessment and Referral Training and Support Officer

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

11

Activity Title *

Initial Assessment and Referral Training and Support Officer

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 7: Stepped care approach

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

The aim of this activity is to support the training and uptake of the Initial Assessment and Referral tool among GPs and other primary care providers in order to support a stepped care approach to the intake and assessment of people presenting with mental health concerns to ensure they can receive appropriate care, when and where they need it.

Description of Activity *

The Initial Assessment and Referral Training and Support Officer position has concluded in the ACT. This activity supports the conclusion of local training provision and the transition to national training, including promotion of national training to GPs, clinicians, and service providers.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53
Workforce	191



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

PHN region

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

27/02/2022

Activity End Date

29/06/2025

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

Decommissioning

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH - 4106 - Regional Commissioning and Governance

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH

Activity Number *

4106

Activity Title *

Regional Commissioning and Governance

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 8: Regional mental health and suicide prevention plan

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

"In partnership with ACT Health Directorate, develop and implement a Joint Regional Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan to maintain and build momentum in joint regional planning and commissioning activities.

Provide a vital resource to ACT government and Commonwealth funded services in the region to support integrated planning and delivery of mental health and suicide prevention services.

Identify needs and gaps, reduce duplication, remove inefficiencies and encourage innovation, and support a single, connected mental health and suicide prevention system through joint planning and commissioning.

Inform ACT PHN's Mental Health and Suicide Prevention activities. "

Description of Activity *

"The Joint Regional Plan has been updated for 2025-2030 in partnership between ACT PHN and ACT Government. This updated plan builds on the learnings of the ACT Regional Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan 2019-2024, and outlines shared priorities, values and key focus areas. The Joint Regional plan informs whole-of-region and whole-of-government approaches to mental health and suicide prevention, including health promotion and prevention of distress, system improvement and integration, and enabling activities to support joint/collaborative planning and commissioning in the ACT.

Implementation of the Regional Plan will occur via an Action, Implementation, and Monitoring Plan which is being developed in 2026 by ACT PHN, and the ACT Government's Mental Health Services Plan which is also due to be delivered in 2026. This will be supported by targeted community feedback including prioritisation of the key focus areas of the Regional Plan into tangible actions that can be monitored and evaluated throughout the life of the plan. In addition to this work, ACT PHN developed a outcomes framework aligning to the Regional Plan.

Development and implementation of the Joint Regional Plan for ACT PHN will be led by ACT PHN's Mental Health and Suicide Prevention team sitting under (Health System Improvement)"

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53
Care Across the Continuum	16



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

PHN region

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes

Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

29/06/2019

Activity End Date

30/12/2026

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

Decommissioning

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments

Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH-Op - 1 - MHSP - Operational

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH-Op

Activity Number *

1

Activity Title *

MHSP - Operational

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Existing

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

Description of Activity *

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Priorities



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region



Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

Activity End Date

Service Delivery Start Date

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones



Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

Decommissioning

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Submitted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created

MH-AMHCT - 2 - Medicare Mental Health Centres (formerly Head to Health Satellite)

Activity Metadata

Applicable Schedule *

Primary Mental Health Care

Activity Prefix *

MH-AMHCT

Activity Number *

2

Activity Title *

Medicare Mental Health Centres (formerly Head to Health Satellite)

Existing, Modified or New Activity *

Modified

Activity Priorities and Description

Program Key Priority Area *

Mental Health Priority Area 7: Stepped care approach

Other Program Key Priority Area Description

Aim of Activity *

ACT PHN supported the establishment and ongoing operation of a Medicare Mental Health adult mental health centre in Tuggeranong, which opened in July 2025. The aim of this activitiy was to:
- Respond to people experiencing crisis or in significant distress
- Provide a central point to connect people to other services in the region
- Provide in-house assessment using the Initial Assessment and Referral (IAR) decision support tool, to match people to the services they need; and
- Provide evidence-based and evidence-informed immediate, and short to medium episodes of care in line with a best practice stepped care approach.

Description of Activity *

ACT PHN commissioned a second Medicare Mental Health Centre in Tuggeranong. The Tuggeranong Medicare Mental Health Centre integrates with the Canberra Medicare Mental Health Centre, the Medicare Mental Health Phone Service, other key primary care services, hospitals, general practices, residential aged care homes, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and non-Government and community organisations.

The Tuggeranong Medicare Mental Health Centre offers a welcoming, low-stigma entry point to accessing advice, consultation, information, initial assessment, and service navigation. The centre is staffed by a multidisciplinary team including psychologists,

mental health assistants, and social workers.

The Tuggeranong Medicare Mental Health Centre engages with the community and stakeholders to increase awareness of supports, promote help-seeking, improve understanding of mental health and social & emotional wellbeing, reduce stigma, and enable referral pathways and system integration.

Needs Assessment Priorities *

Needs Assessment

Australian Capital Territory-Needs Assessment 2024/25 - 2026/27_V1

Priorities

Priority	Page reference
Mental health	53



Activity Demographics

Target Population Cohort

In Scope AOD Treatment Type *

Indigenous Specific *

No

Indigenous Specific Comments

Coverage

Whole Region

Yes

Activity Milestone Details/Duration

Activity Start Date

26/03/2023

Activity End Date

29/06/2028

Service Delivery Start Date

June 2025

Service Delivery End Date

Other Relevant Milestones

6 monthly performance and financial reports.

Activity Commissioning

Please identify your intended procurement approach for commissioning services under this activity:

Not Yet Known: No
Continuing Service Provider / Contract Extension: No
Direct Engagement: No
Open Tender: No
Expression Of Interest (EOI): No
Other Approach (please provide details): No

Is this activity being co-designed?

No

Is this activity the result of a previous co-design process?

No

Do you plan to implement this Activity using co-commissioning or joint-commissioning arrangements?

No

Has this activity previously been co-commissioned or joint-commissioned?

No

Decommissioning

No

Decommissioning details?

Co-design or co-commissioning comments



Summary of activity changes for Department

Activity Status

Accepted

Subject	Description	Commented By	Date Created