

COMMUNIQUE

A summary of the
Mental Health Strategies Working Group (MHSWG) 27 July 2017

1. Code of Practice

Members discussed the scope of the proposed Code of Practice in detail and supported a submission to the Mining Industry Advisory Committee (MIAC) containing that:

- the proposed Code should not be limited to fly in fly out but also cover residential other long distance commuting arrangements;
- could be limited in the first instance to resources and resources related constructions industries (as primary audience) (The CME registered a dissenting view); and
- the MHSWG seek MIAC's endorsement to develop a Code of Practice for mental health in the resources industry workplace, including resources related construction / project construction.

2. Mental health training program – assessment criteria

Members approved for the draft document: *Choosing the right mental health training for your organisation: a Guide* to proceed through the Department's publication process.

3. Communications strategy, tools and case studies

Members noted the Departmental document: *Mental health and well-being in Western Australia's resources industry: Communications Strategy* which was revised to remove the training focus and include the Department's *Towards2020* commitments.

4. Presentation from Mental Health Commission (MHC)

Members noted an initiative from the MHC regarding workplace mental health standards. The standards have been developed to support workplaces who want to improve mental health and wellbeing.

5. Mental health evacuations

MHSWG noted emergency mental health evacuations could potentially be incorporated within the proposed Code of Practice where appropriate rather than developing separate guidance. However, members agreed further information was required in relation to this issue.

6. Mental Health Research Steering Committee – update

The Chair of the MHSWG explained that the first phase of the Mental Health Commission's research is underway. The first phase involves a literature review that will inform current research gaps and aid in project design.

7. Next meeting: Scheduled for 28 September 2017

For further information on the Mental Health Strategies Working Group please email:
RSDCommittees@dmirs.wa.gov.au

Adrienne LaBombard

Chair