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| Position description - member of the Terms of Reference Group for the *Independent review into compulsory treatment and alignment of decision-making laws* |
| OFFICIAL |

* Be part of a new Terms of Reference group to develop the Terms of Reference for the Independent Review of Victoria’s compulsory treatment criteria and alignment of decision-making laws
* Contribute to better mental health and wellbeing across the state
* Help establish a new Independent Review with commitment to lived experience at its core

## About the group

In March 2021 the Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System handed down its final report. A key recommendation was that the Mental Health Act 2014 should be repealed and replaced with a new Mental Health and Wellbeing Act. The Royal Commission also recommended that compulsory treatment criteria be simplified and clarified within the new Act, and that Victoria’s mental health laws be aligned over time with other decision-making laws, with a view to promoting supported decision-making principles and practices.

From June-August 2021 a public engagement process was conducted which tested some key policy proposals for the new Act. There were a range of diverse opinions about the proposals with no consensus on how to clarify and simplify the criteria for compulsory treatment. There was also strong support to bring forward the review of decision-making laws.

In light of this, in December 2021 the government announced an Independent Review of Victoria’s compulsory treatment criteria and the alignment of the new Mental Health and Wellbeing Act with other decision-making laws. This group will develop the Terms of Reference for the Independent Review using co-design principles. The group will be made up of consumers, families, carers, supporters, workers in the sector and service providers.

## About the role

Members of the Terms of Reference group will play an important role in shaping the direction of the Independent Review of compulsory treatment criteria and alignment of decision-making laws, by working collaboratively using co-design principles to develop the Terms of Reference for the Independent Review. The Terms of Reference will be a document which articulates the scope of work for the Independent Review, and how the Independent Review Panel will work together to undertake the Review.

The Terms of Reference Group may want to consider including in the Terms of Reference:

* Any frameworks, objectives or principles theIndependent Review Panel should apply in undertaking their review
* How the Independent Review Panel should engage with stakeholders
* Specific issueswithin the Review’s subject matter that should be addressed by the Review
* Whether the Review should consider any particular modelsfrom other jurisdictions

Group members will be required to attend five half-day workshops between June and August, and must be available to attend workshops during this time. Workshops will be facilitated using co-design mindsets and approaches. Group members will also be required to undertake some pre-reading before each workshop.

Group members will be remunerated in accordance with the Victorian Government’s *Appointment and Remuneration Guidelines,* which for eligible group members will include remuneration for workshop attendance and pre-reading*.* Group members will need to declare any private interests, sign a Deed of Confidentiality, and undergo a reference checking process before commencing in this role.

## About you

Group members will be able to work collaboratively with a diverse group to develop a Terms of Reference focussed on compulsory treatment criteria and decision-making laws, and will either have relevant expertise in lived experience of compulsory treatment or professional expertise as specified in the group composition.

Group composition:

* Five lived experience members, being:
  + Three consumers with lived experience of compulsory treatment, including of compulsory treatment after the introduction of the *Mental Health Act 2014.*
  + Two people with lived experience as a carer of someone who has experienced compulsory treatment, including of compulsory treatment after the introduction of the *Mental Health Act 2014.*
* Four professional members, being:
  + One mental health lived experience peer worker/consumer consultant
  + One clinician with experience providing compulsory treatment (mental health worker)
  + One representative of a designated mental health service (Authorised Psychiatrist)
  + One mental health legal expert/advocate

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards and committees reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. We strongly encourage applications from Aboriginal people, people with disability, people from the LGBTQI+ community, and people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

## Vaccination Policy

The department is committed to providing and maintaining a working environment which is safe and without risk to the health of its workers and clients. As it is an essential element of any role within the department that employees be able to attend work onsite and to do so safely, group members are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This requirement applies unless they have a medical condition which means they cannot be vaccinated against COVID-19. Therefore, the department will ask group members to provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination status prior to commencing a role within the Terms of Reference Group.

## How to apply

Interested applicants should fill in the accompanying application form and return to [mhwa@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:mhwa@health.vic.gov.au) by 3 June 2022.

If you have any questions about this role, please contact [mhwa@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:mhwa@health.vic.gov.au).

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