



VMIAC Consumer Register Opportunity.

We would like to share a new opportunity for you to use your lived and living experience at the leadership level via VMIAC's Consumer Register.

Trigger warning: This email contains references to suicide. If you or anyone you know needs help, contact Lifeline at 13 11 14.

OPP2022-014: Suicide Prevention and Response Expert Advisory Committee

The Department is seeking consumers with relevant living and lived experience (LLE) of mental illness and mental distress, **including people with experience of suicidal thoughts and behavior and suicide attempt survivors.**

The opportunity: As a Member of the Expert Advisory Committee, you will meet and provide advice on evidence-informed approaches to suicide prevention and responses. This includes on how the Victorian Government can best adopt a whole-of-government, community-wide, systems-based approach.

This is a unique opportunity to use your expertise at a high level within the mental health system and to do so at a unique moment in time following the Royal Commission recommendations.

Time commitment: A 12-month commitment to attend, at minimum, 1.5-hour long meetings every two months. Additional meetings may be required. Meeting dates have not yet been confirmed.

Payment: \$218 per meeting.

Background

The Royal Commission (RC) into Victoria's Mental Health System recommended the Victorian Government facilitate a coordinated, evidence-informed, community-wide and whole-of-government approach to suicide prevention and response efforts.



As recommended the Department of Health is establishing a Suicide Prevention and Response Office. It is being led by a State Suicide Prevention and Response Adviser, within the Department of Health.

The RC also recommended the establishment of new suicide prevention and response advisory structures. These included an Expert Advisory Committee and a Lived Experience Advisory Committee which would provide expert advice to the State Suicide Prevention and Response Adviser and Suicide Prevention and Response Secretaries' Board Subcommittee.

In recognition that lived experience expertise must be valued equally and integrated into all suicide prevention and response conversations, these two committees are combined.

With this work undertaken the Department is now seeking to recruit members of the Suicide Prevention and Response Expert Advisory Committee.

Engagement Activity

As a member of the Expert Advisory Committee, you will provide advice on evidence-informed approaches to suicide prevention and response. This includes how the Victorian Government best adopts a whole-of-government, community-wide, systems-based approach.

The Expert Advisory Committee will ensure lived experience knowledge and insights are integrated into government decision-making, that diverse and intersectional perspectives of suicide prevention and response are valued and inform government policies and programs, and that lived experience is central to the oversight, monitoring and evaluation of suicide prevention and response efforts.

More information can be found in the [Position Description for the Expert Advisory Committee](#).

The key roles and responsibilities of this opportunity include providing:

- Advice and recommended actions to key Victorian Government committees and departments/agencies, in relation to suicide prevention and response reforms
- Advice on systems-based approaches and evidence-informed suicide prevention and response initiatives
- Advice on how to implement intersectional, targeted and community-wide suicide prevention and response initiatives



- Advice in relation to the integration of lived experience perspectives and opportunities for collaboration and partnership
- Advice on required workplace, workforce and community capabilities to support long-term change.

Role Requirements

- Experience in applying your lived experience and/or sector and professional expertise to influence and shape better suicide prevention and response interventions and outcomes.
- An ability to represent a diverse range of views and experiences and advocate for system-wide change and evidence-informed practice.
- An understanding of current systems, services and strategies relating to suicide prevention and response.
- An ability to communicate safely and meaningfully with people with lived experience and diverse sector and professional backgrounds.

Time required

Committee members are required to attend meetings every two months for a period of 1.5 hours over 12 months. The meetings are likely to be online, however, this is open for discussion and agreement by members.

The meeting dates are not confirmed for this opportunity.

Additional meetings may be called, or items circulated out-of-session, when there is a need for timely advice on suicide prevention and response matters.

Please note that meetings may be held outside normal business hours (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm) to accommodate Expert Advisory Committee members' diverse requirements and other obligations.

There may also be communication outside of meetings to ensure members understand the issues, opportunities and achievements of the reforms.

Selection process

VMIAC will select **four** participants to be nominated for this opportunity.

How to apply



Submit an EOI by clicking on the button below. EOIs will be accepted until **5pm on Friday 12 August.**

[Click here to fill out the EOI form](https://form.jotform.com/vmiac/opp2022-014)
<https://form.jotform.com/vmiac/opp2022-014>

If you have any questions about this role, please contact Vanessa Peters on Vanessa.Peters@health.vic.gov.au or consumerregister@vmiac.org.au.