

PCP FUTURE DIRECTIONS UPDATE

14 December 2017



Background

In early 2017 Victorian Primary Care Partnerships/PCPs submitted a Future Directions paper outlining a proposal for DHHS to consider for the development of the PCP strategic directions for 2017-21. On 23rd of November, at the final Victorian Primary Care Partnership Chairs and EOs Forum for 2017, DHHS A/Assistant Director of Primary and Community Health, Elise Davies provided an update to the group regarding PCP future directions. A summary of this information is listed below.

Key points

- There is a strong focus and interest from government and DHHS on partnership/place based models which support the delivery of population health and wellbeing initiatives and how to bring existing and new/emerging structures together to maximise effort and resources more efficiently and effectively. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Support and Safety Hubs
 - Regional and Metro Partnerships
 - Primary Health Networks
 - Child and Youth Area Partnerships
 - Primary Care Partnerships
- There will definitely be change for PCPs, they will not remain the same in the future. This is an incredibly dynamic environment and it is uncertain at this stage what this change will look like.
- Therefore, due to the shifting reform environment, next year's state election and the internal DHHS restructure, DHHS have advised PCPs to plan for 2 years instead of the proposed 3 years, 1 July 2018 – June 30 2020.
- Priority areas for PCP work include:
 - Prevention
 - System Integration, in particular integration between the health and social service sectors
 - Family Violence
- PCPs have been advised not to take on or plan new larger pieces of work but to continue to work in areas that their partnerships are successful in and transition out of any areas which are not working well. It should be business as usual with some consideration of the recommended priority areas.
- In this change process DHHS feel it is important to work with the PCPs, their members and partners to capture the learnings, preserve the intellectual capital and capability of the PCP platform to ensure that the government's investment in PCPs is maximised in the longer term.

This is a very challenging but also exciting time for PCPs. It is encouraging that the Department wishes to collaborate with Vic PCPs and the sector in shaping the future landscape.

Vic PCPs will continue working with consultant Jason Rostant and DHHS over the next few months to plan and host stakeholder consultations to continue developing PCP Future Directions. These consultations will occur early in the New Year. DHHS will also provide formal correspondence which will be circulated as soon as it is received.

If you have any questions please contact me on tracey.blythe@iepcp.org.au 0400 525 792

Yours Sincerely

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