

Minutes

T21/91067

**SESLHD Board Strategic Community Partnerships Committee (BSCPC)**  
**15th November 2021**  
**4.00pm – 5.00pm**  
**Skype or Board Room, Sydney/Sydney Eye Hospital**

*We would like to acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners, on whose land we have gathered today.  
We would also like to pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.*

Item	Description	Carriage
1	<b>Meeting Opening, Acknowledgement to Country</b>	Chair
1.1	Present (as per Attendance Sheet)	Chair
1.2	Apologies (as per Attendance Sheet)	Chair
1.3	Guests (as per Attendance Sheet)	Chair
1.4	Confirmation of Minutes – May Meeting Minutes confirmed	Chair
1.5	<b>Declaration of Conflict of Interest</b> Helene Orr, Chair, noted her contract with the Mental Health Coordinating Council. This is not considered a Conflict of Interest as Helene has not been involved in execution of SESLHD Mental Health partnership activities to date. However, this is noted for future reference.	Chair
2	<b>Alliance Work Plan – Update on Alliance Work Plan</b>	Chair
2.1	<b>Update on Alliance Work Plan</b>  An update on the Annual Alliance Work Plan was provided. Due to current operational priorities, there is limited capacity across SESLHD and partners to deliver the Strategic Community Partnerships Annual Working Plan. However, significant collaboration with partners has taken place to enable an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic.  The Chair noted that the purpose of the agenda for today’s meeting was to hear about partnerships that had successfully evolved between SESLHD and community partners during the COVID response and to consider the application of these learnings in the Work Plan going forward.  It was noted that the following will be deferred to the May 2022 meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review governance framework, membership and effectiveness of Community Partnerships Alliance</li> </ul>	Chair & Lisa Altman

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the SESLHD Consumer Engagement Framework (in place of the Annual Consumer and Community report)</li> </ul> <p>In the next calendar year, the Annual Alliance Work Plan will be revisited to confirm the focus areas and priorities. This will also consider any changes in funding in response to COVID-19. A summary of the SESLHD Partner Forum was also provided – there was positive engagement and valuable challenge provided by partners at the forum, which has informed the SESLHD 2025 strategy. The key opportunities for partnership that arose from the forum have been circulated via email for the BSCPC members to review.</p>	
3		<b>Working in partnership through COVID-19</b>	
	3.1	<p><b>Working in partnership through COVID-19 overview</b></p> <p>A brief overview of upcoming presentations was provided. Partnerships, particularly existing relationships, have significantly strengthened the response to COVID-19 across South Eastern Sydney Local Health District.</p>	Lisa Altman
	3.2	<p><b>Partnerships through COVID-19 – Vulnerable Populations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tony Jackson, Acting General Manager of Population and Community Health, presented how the service worked in partnership to support vulnerable populations through the pandemic.</li> <li>• Partnerships have included Department of Communities and Justice, Community Housing providers, local councils, CESPAN and NGOs.</li> <li>• Testing and outbreak management support has been provided across a broad range of locations including specialist homelessness services, social housing blocks and disability group homes.</li> <li>• A Vaccination Access Program was run focussed on delivering vaccine equity and increasing vaccination rates across priority populations. Target populations include people experiencing homelessness, people residing in social housing, people with disability and culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Partnerships significantly enhanced data and information to guide the design and locations of the program.</li> </ul>	Tony Jackson
	3.3	<b>Partnerships through COVID-19 – Mental Health</b>	Angela Karooz

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Angela Karooz, General Manager Mental Health Service, presented how SESLHD Mental Health Service has partnered with others through COVID-19. The impact of the pandemic on mental health has been significant with one in five Australians reporting high or very high levels of psychological distress. Young people, women and those living with disability are among the most impacted.</li> <li>• Lockdowns appear to be associated with greater use of mental health and related support services. In particular, there has been greater usage of telephone support services. There have also been increased volumes of self-harm presentations.</li> <li>• Mental Health Service has partnered to: keep consumers well in the community, encourage vulnerable population to get vaccinated, support and promote wellbeing during lock down and assistance with infection control and the public health response.</li> <li>• Following a question raised by CESP HN, Angela Karooz stated that there are increasing rates of consumers presenting with mental health conditions since coming out of lockdown, and the severity of cases has also increased. Further impacts may be seen in the coming months.</li> </ul>	
	3.4	<p><b>Partnerships through COVID-19 – Residential Aged Care / Rapid Aged Care Engagement &amp; Preparedness (RACER)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A/Prof Peter Gonski, Aged Care Clinical Stream Director, presented how SESLHD has worked in partnership to support residential aged care facilities through the pandemic.</li> <li>• SESLHD’s team, including the four Geriatric Flying Squads, have supported the management of 30 outbreaks since the start of July. They have also supported Residential Aged Care Facilities with training and providing information to facilitate preparedness.</li> <li>• Daily meetings with a Multi-agency Outbreak Management team supported an effective response. Organisations involved include: CESP HN, Aged Care Quality &amp; Safety Commission, Older Person’s Advocacy Network and the State Health Emergency Operations Centre Aged Care.</li> </ul>	Peter Gonski
4		<p><b>Business without Notice, Closing Comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helene Orr, Chair, noted the innovative responses and solutions that had evolved across the three presentation areas in partnership between SESLHD and community partners and requested that key learnings from working in partnership during COVID-19 be presented as part of the</li> </ul>	Chair

	<p>Committee’s report to the Board and be considered in the revised Work Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next steps include holding a Social Isolation workshop for partners (December 2021), holding the Community Partnerships Alliance (February 2022) and continuing progression of other initiatives on the Annual Work Plan.</li> <li>• SESLHD will be completing Business Planning forums in February – the outputs of these forums will support discussions in the Community Partnerships Alliance meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Chloe Robinson / Lisa Altman to prepare summary of presentations, including key learnings, for Board meeting (based on content shared in presentations).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tobi Wilson, Chief Executive, provided a brief summary of the Aboriginal Health Forum that had recently taken place, with Liam Harte, Board Member, also in attendance. This was a very valuable session. Tobi Wilson suggested that this forum could be repeated on a regular basis, and report into the BSCPC.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Chloe Robinson to work with Timothy Croft, SESLHD Aboriginal Health Manager, to plan approach for establishing these forums as regular events, and incorporating into BSCPC governance.</b></p>	
5	<b>Meeting Close – 05.00pm</b>	Chair
	<p>Date of Next Meeting: 30 May 2022          Time: 3:00PM          Venue: SSEH Boardroom / Skype or Microsoft Teams</p>	