

2008-09 Statement of Priorities

Agreement between Minister for Health and Northern Health

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Introduction to 2008-09 Statement of Priorities

Background

The Statement of Priorities is the key accountability agreement between Northern Health and the Minister for Health. This annual agreement ensures delivery of or substantial progress towards the key shared objectives of financial viability, improved access and quality of service provision.

The Statement of Priorities incorporates system wide priorities and statewide benchmarks set by the Government but also allows for locally generated health service/hospital specific priorities. It also identifies performance and activity targets and a number of measurable key performance indicators. The Statement of Priorities forms the basis of organisational performance assessments throughout the year that are reported on in the Integrated Performance and Activity Report. This includes regular monitoring of health service achievement of strategic priorities as well as delivery of priorities aligned to government policy directions and priorities. The Performance Monitoring Framework strengthens the overall monitoring, analysis and performance evaluation of public health services and provides transparency.

Government policy directions and priorities

The Victorian Government's policy directions are addressed in the Growing Victoria Together statement. Underpinning this vision for Victoria to 2010 and beyond is A Fairer Victoria. Central to the Fairer Victoria framework is the combined emphasis on the provision of accessible and affordable universal services for all Victorians, and a parallel focus on targeting support for those in greatest need. A Fairer Victoria 2008 focuses on giving children the best start, improving education and helping people into work, as well as improving health and wellbeing and developing liveable communities.

Key initiatives of the 2008-09 State Budget include funding to:

- meet growth in emergency demand by treating additional emergency patients and admitting those patients with more complex needs and chronic health conditions
- treat more elective surgery patients by expanding new models of care and implementing the Orthopaedic Waiting List program
- enhance critical care services by providing additional intensive care beds, neonatal intensive care and special care nursery cots
- support maternity services to meet increasing birth numbers and complexity, including home visits to new mothers and to meet the increased number of services related to screening in pregnancy
- expand access to specialist services, sub acute inpatient services, paediatric rehabilitation services and youth and community mental health services
- meet the demand for blood services, renal dialysis, radiotherapy and chemotherapy
- improve patient flow by expanding sub acute services
- expand innovative programs to better manage chronic disease and provide specialist treatment traditionally provided at hospitals to vulnerable Victorians at home or in a community rehabilitation centre
- enhance Health Information Communication Technology and HealthSMART
- implement Victoria's Cancer Action Plan 2008-2011
- upgrade road ambulance services and expand air ambulance capabilities
- support the application of redesign and lean methods to health services

For 2008-09, health services will be implementing or continuing strategies to support these key policies and directions; Health Purchasing Victoria policy, Better Faster Emergency Care policy, Elective Surgery Access policy, Integrated Cancer Service strategy, Strengthening Palliative Care policy, Improving Care For Older People policy, Outpatient Improvement and Innovation Strategy, Care in the Community policy, Victorian Infection Control Strategy 2007-11, Credentialing & Scope of Clinical Practice Policy, Strengthening Emergency Management Capability and Capacity Strategy, Medical Equipment Asset Management Framework, and Improving Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Patients (ICAP) policy.

Health Services are expected to complete the roll out of relevant HealthSMART components and support the HealthSMART Participation Policy which includes maintaining business continuity during implementation of HealthSMART applications.

Part A: Strategic overview

Mission statement

To apply our resources to work with our staff and partners, offering our diverse community excellence in health care.

Service profile and planning priorities

Northern Health is a regional health care service that provides acute and sub-acute specialist services integrated with primary and community care. Services are locally sited across the north of Melbourne, reflecting a community focus and commitment to accessible quality care. In addition, the North West Mental Health delivers services from a number of Northern Health sites. Northern Health is a leader in terms of new models of care with a person-centred, integrated service system approach and workforce flexibility. Northern Health is also a teaching and research active health service, with support from units including the Northern Clinical Research Centre. The mix of services includes inpatient programs, a strong ambulatory focus, centre-based and home-based services that are designed to meet the varied needs of the growing community.

The Northern Hospital (TNH)

Provider of acute general medical and surgical services and their sub-specialities, with appropriately aligned emergency, diagnostic and ambulatory services.

A metropolitan community-based teaching hospital with a recognised focus on general medicine and elective and emergency surgery.

Broadmeadows Health Service (BHS)

Leading institution for Northern Health catchment and beyond.

Provider day surgery, sub-acute rehabilitation and assessment services (inpatient, ambulatory and community based), Hospital Admission Risk Program Chronic Disease Management (HARP CDM) and provider of palliative care services, linked with community based services as part of the North and West Palliative Care Consortium.

Facility manager of a centre that supports local provision of primary and other specialist services through co-location.

Bundoora Extended Care Centre (BECC)

Provider of sub-acute rehabilitation, assessment and specialist clinic services (inpatient, ambulatory and community based), local residential care and home-based packages for older people and HARP-CDM

Host campus for LaTrobe University Gerontic Nursing Professorial Unit.

Panch Health Service (PHS)

Ambulatory care facility that provides access to specialist Medical, acute, sub-acute and allied health and nursing rehabilitation services, pre and post surgical support, in conjunction with BHS and TNH, sub-regional health promotion programs in partnership with Darebin Community Health, Mercy Hospital for Women, Austin Hospital, Australian Hearing Services, Darebin City Council and Moreland Hall.

Facility manager of a centre that supports local provision of primary and other specialist services through co-location and an integrated approach to service delivery.

Craigieburn Health Service (CHS)

Ambulatory care facility that provides local access to: specialist medical and surgical, renal dialysis, day medical, day oncology, chronic disease management, allied health therapy, mental health and women's and children's services as well as a minor injury and illness clinic, which will focus on category 4 and 5 patients and some category 3 patients.

