



Tarnanthi Post Occupancy Review

Recommendations & SA Health Response

Office of the Chief Psychiatrist
SA Health
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Background

The Forensic Hospital is located at Oakden and the infrastructure is made up of James Nash House, Kenneth O'Brien Rehabilitation Centre and Ashton House. The environmental and structural restrictions of James Nash House (built in 1988) impact on the treatment decisions and rehabilitation options for consumers. The Tarnanthi and Sub-Acute (TSA) ward is an outlier ward located at Glenside Campus at Fullarton.

The Northern Adelaide Local Health Network (NALHN) is responsible for providing forensic inpatient services (James Nash House) together with forensic step down rehabilitation services (Ashton House).

James Nash House is a state-wide facility providing forensic services for patients who are found by the courts as unfit to plead, or not guilty, due to mental impairment. Acute mental health care and community services are also provided for prisoners.

The Tarnanthi Unit is a 10 bed closed unit opened in July 2019 and operated by the Forensic Mental Health Service, which is governed by NALHN. The Tarnanthi unit added capacity to the Forensic Mental Health Services (FMHS).

Previously FMHS operated 50 hospital beds, and 10 step down beds. The hospital beds were all located at James Nash House – 30 in an original built in 1988, and 20 in the Kenneth O'Brien Centre which is now five years old. The commissioning of 10 beds for the Kenneth O'Brien Rehabilitation Unit was completed in April 2016.

At the time of commissioning this unit, there was significant forensic mental health client demand on general and intensive care beds in the wider mental health system. Increasing forensic capacity, was intended to have benefits to consumers, and to the system.

Consumers could receive care in a purpose build unit, as opposed to being admitted to acute wards. In addition, the expansion would reduce demand on general mental health beds, and emergency departments, freeing up open acute beds, and intensive care unit beds that would have otherwise been occupied by forensic mental health patients, to be used by community patients.

The Tarnanthi Unit was accommodated within an existing Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU). This became available at the Glenside site when patients and staff of this unit moved to the new royal Adelaide hospital.

Terms of Reference

The Office of the Chief Psychiatrist, SA Health engaged Mr David McGrath from David McGrath Consulting to undertake an independent post-occupancy review of the Tarnanthi Sub-acute Unit (TSU) with the following terms of reference.

This purpose was to consider how the creation of the Tarnanthi Unit at Glenside has delivered on the project and strategic expectations for the service. This includes delivery of care for people with forensic disability or dual diagnosis in the unit, and also how the increased bed

capacity has assisted with managing demand for forensic mental health beds across the service.

The review was to consider:

1. The model of care at Tarnanthi, and the suitability of the modified Glenside ward for delivery of this model of care.
2. Consideration of the use of acute and rehabilitation beds 'freed up on the James Nash site' and the extent to which the anticipated strategic benefits in responding to forensic mental health demand has been delivered.
3. The performance of the new service for people who require the Tarnanthi model (considering accessibility, continuity, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and safety).
4. The performance of the 'freed up' James Nash capacity for people who require an acute or rehabilitation mental health service (considering accessibility, continuity, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and safety with consideration of the building design and model of care)
5. Suggestions for further improvements in the delivery of care to Tarnanthi clients and to the overall use of forensic mental health beds.

For full Terms of Reference please refer Pages 6 of the report¹.

Response and Recommendations

The recommendations of this review about the Tarnanthi Unit have been accepted and are being actioned (refer Table 1 – List of Recommendations and Response

During the period of Mr McGrath's review planning commenced on a relocation of the Tarnanthi Unit to accommodation that will address the shortcomings of the current arrangements at Glenside. Funding for this capital project has been allocated in the 2021 State Budget.

A table of actions follows. Tasks are being led by either the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network – who have statewide responsibility for forensic mental health, Department of Health and Wellbeing Performance and Commissioning, Office of the Chief Psychiatrist and DHW Asset Services.

¹ David McGrath Consulting - Tarnanthi Forensic Inpatient Rehabilitation Service. A post occupancy review on behalf of the South Australian Government – Final report June 2021

Table 1 List of Recommendations and Response

No	Recommendations	SA Health Response
1.	SA Health should undertake service and capital planning to identify an alternative facility in the medium term for the management of this TSU cohort. While the facility can be used in the interim it is not ideal for the care needed for this group	SA Health supports the Recommendation Work is already underway to determine an alternative or build of a new facility
2.	If SA Health determines to repurpose this facility, capital works should be undertaken to ensure it is fit for purpose and meets the Australian Health facility Guidelines for the intended service type	SA Health plans to return the facility to its original intended purpose – to operate as a PICU
3.	Policies and procedures for the TSU must be constantly updated consistent with changes to the NDIS planning process, and planning for community supports on discharge is built into assessment and treatment planning	SA Health supports the Recommendation, and this will be implemented
4.	The South Australian government exercise the market failure clause in the bilateral agreement with the Commonwealth Government on the NDIS to pursue arrangements for a provider of last resort for forensic patients	SA Health supports the Recommendation

5.	The Chief Psychiatrist undertake a review of the current practices at the TSU for dealing with patients whose limiting term expires and whose community supports are not in place	The Chief Psychiatrist supports the Recommendation, and will undertake this review
6.	SA Health develop specialised forensic packages of HASP supports to assist to build community support capacity in the system	SA Health supports the Recommendation and it will be incorporated into a Redesign of Non-Government Services. Further modelling will be undertaken. In the interim SA Health and NALHN will explore a pilot residential program for discharged forensic patients and continue to provide access for forensic patient to existing NGO programs.
7.	SA Health commission the development of a forensic service dashboard and associated data collections that monitor forensic patients and prisoners in the SA Health system, their locations, resource utilisation and the legal status associated with their presentation	SA Health supports the Recommendation. Work will commence based on existing general health dashboards.
8.	The CE of SA Health build quantifiable performance targets into the NALHN service agreement for the performance of the forensic service that reflects the desired impact of this service on the remainder of the SA Health system	SA Health supports the Recommendation which will be implemented through the Performance and Commissioning Unit.
9.	SA Health develop a forensic mental health services plan that identifies long term bed need, service mix, workforce need and patient flow models. This plan should form the basis of new service commissioning in future	SA Health supports the Recommendation and a plan will be developed.
10.	SA Health develop a twenty-year capital plan to develop fit for purpose forensic facilities ideally co-located on a single campus that provides effective models of care to get the best patient outcomes	SA Health supports the Recommendation in principal; however, this recommendation will need be considered as part of an overall forensic mental health services plan as per Recommendation 9 and the future development of the prison system. This would build upon existing Infrastructure SA work.

11.	SA Health revisit the legislative change recommendations of the 2015 FMHS review and reconsider the creation of a Mental Health review Tribunal (MHRT) and the preclusion of the placement of forensic patients in prison settings.	SA Health supports the Recommendation to revisit legislative changes. This will be considered by the OCP Legislative and Policy Unit. The placement of forensic patients in prison settings will also be reviewed
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