



Lived Experience Leadership Roundtable Communiqué

October 2019

The Lived Experience Leadership Roundtable is a network of Lived Experience workforce leaders from across Queensland, who are collectively seeking to establish the Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Network as an independent peak body, led by, with and for the Lived Experience workforce.

In October 2019 the Roundtable resolved to circulate a communiqué after each meeting to facilitate ongoing communication between the Lived Experience Leadership Roundtable and the Lived Experience workforce, allies and stakeholders.

Background

In October 2017, Brook RED and Brisbane North PHN invited Lived Experience leaders from across Queensland to a roundtable discussion about Lived Experience workforce development needs and how to progress recommendations from the Queensland Mental Health Commission (QMHC) funded research [*Identifying barriers to change: The lived experience worker as a valued member of the mental health team report*](#).

This group formalised as the Lived Experience Leadership Roundtable. The Roundtable determined that a state-wide Lived Experience Workforce peak body (driven by Lived Experience workers) was needed. On behalf of the Roundtable, Brook RED and PHN Brisbane North funded and organised a series of consultation processes in 2018 to engage with the broader workforce. These consultations confirmed workforce development needs and identified strong sector support for establishing the Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Network (Q-LEWN) as an independent peak body led by, with and for the Lived Experience workforce.

The administration and costs associated with facilitating Roundtable meetings; sector consultations; and the ongoing body of work to establish Q-LEWN has been undertaken by Brook RED and PHN Brisbane North without additional funding. This has limited capacity to progress necessary action, including ensuring consistent communication with the broader workforce. Consequently, in August 2019 Brook RED undertook to fund a part-time project officer position for 12 months to fast track establishing Q-LEWN.

Progress to date

2018 – 2019

April 2018: Delegates from the Roundtable met with the Queensland Mental Health Commission (QMHC) and Queensland Health to discuss the QMHC funded [Identifying barriers to change: The lived experience worker as a valued member of the mental health team report](#). Roundtable delegates subsequently participated in a QMHC funded process for guiding the development of the *Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Framework*.

May 2018: The Building Foundations forum engaged over 70 Lived Experience workers from across Queensland in discussion about workforce development. The Building Foundations report identifies strong sector support to establish a Lived Experience workforce peak body

November 2018: The Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Network Survey - 2018 was circulated. 151 responses were received.

November 2019: Over 60 workers from across the state attended The Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Network (Q-LEWN) strategic planning day.

August – September 2019

Brook RED's appointment of a Q-LEWN project officer (part time) was supported by the Roundtable and the ongoing role of the Roundtable in providing strategic direction was confirmed.

The Roundtable resolved to meet bi-monthly until Q-LEWN is established as a legal entity with an independent governance structure.

Brook RED was supported by the Roundtable to apply to NDIS (on behalf of Q-LEWN) to fund a project to address unmet need for professional development expressed by the Lived Experience workforce.

- An application for funding was submitted to NDIS under the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building grant round. The application sought funds to establish a Community of Practice lead in each Hospital and Health Services (HHS) district across Queensland; partner with TAFE Queensland to provide scholarships for accredited training; and deliver unaccredited training in each HHS district.
- An application for funding was submitted to NDIS under the Economic Participation grant rounds to establish a Lived Experience trainer in each health HHS district across Queensland to deliver unaccredited, Lived Experience specific training.

October 2019

Deb Pratt and Kylie Barnes represented the Queensland Mental Health Commission (QMHC) in attending the October Roundtable meeting to discuss the launch of the *Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Framework* (planned for the 14th November, 2019). On behalf of QMHC, Deb and Kylie expressed keen interest in collaborating with Q-LEWN to progress the implementation of the *Framework*.

QMHC invited Q-LEWN to participate in a panel discussion at the upcoming Leading Reform Summit on the 21st November. Eschleigh Balzamo (Brook RED) will attend.

Terms of Reference for the Roundtable were drafted and membership was confirmed

It was agreed to publish a Q-LEWN website and establish a membership base/ mailing list for communicating with the workforce.

Drafting the Q-LEWN 2018 Survey Report is in progress.

Drafting the Q-LEWN Strategic Planning forum report is in progress.