



Representatives sought for Youth Advisory Council

West Moreton Health (WMH) is looking to recruit four new members to the Youth Advisory Council (YAC), who provide strategic advice to WMH's Board, executive and staff.

A total of four representatives aged 15 to 25 years, from a broad cross-section of health, cultural, social and geographical (e.g. from Esk, Boonah etc) representative areas, are being sought for the YAC.

What is the Advisory Council?

Council representatives will help provide consumer/patient and community advice on our health services with the West Moreton Board and Executive. Council would also advise on West Moreton Health's strategic priorities, as set in our *Strategic Plan 2021-2025* (attached), our *Children and Young Persons Framework 2021* (attached) and work in partnership to deliver on strategic plan priorities.

This partnership between young people and the West Moreton Health leadership team is key to ensuring the health services we provide meet the needs of our community. The Council will also have the opportunity to actively collaborate with WMH on initiatives and provide a link between the health service and other young people in the community.

What is the structure of the Advisory Council?

The Youth Advisory Council consists of 10 members, an Executive Sponsor and an engagement support person (WMH Senior Engagement Officer).

Membership on the Council will be refreshed on an as-needs basis and will look to keep experienced members to mentor new members.

How often will council meet?

The Council meets every two months (bi-monthly) with meeting dates set one year in advance. It is expected that Council members will attend each meeting. West Moreton Health will provide administrative support, including the management of the agenda and a Council member will be asked to nominate to help write reports.

Council meetings will allow for an opportunity to work on key priorities and actions set by the group, with guests attending on an as-needs basis.

From time to time, an Executive or Board member may attend part of the meeting to provide an update to the Council. This session will also be an opportunity for members to give feedback to leaders on priorities, opportunities, and challenges faced by young people in the community.

How are Council members engaged as part of the Council?

Members will have the opportunity to engage at various levels of the engagement spectrum. This may include the most basic form of engagement (to be provided with information) through to the most empowering form of engagement (co-design and patient/community led).

What is the commitment required by the members?

Members are expected to participate in each bi-monthly meeting. Meetings will be held face-to-face, providing it is safe to do so. Meeting locations will be decided at the first council meeting.

Between meetings, they will connect with other Council members via a Microsoft Teams portal, which will be the main platform for discussion and information sharing.

West Moreton Health has many channels of engagement with staff and the community. Council members may be required to participate in media opportunities, promotional activities, virtual staff forums and newsletters.

How will Council members be remunerated for their time and contribution?

Council members will be paid \$80 per meeting (\$40 per hour), in accordance with the West Moreton Health Remuneration Procedure. It is expected that this remuneration would cover collaboration outside designated bi-monthly meetings as well as additional expenses, such as transport to meetings.

What is in it for me?

As a member of the Council, you will have the opportunity to collaborate with other like-minded young people and help drive real change for young people in our community. Benefits of being part of the Council include:

- Helping to make a real difference to the health of young people in the region.
- Connect with other like-minded young people in the West Moreton community.
- Help others in your networks have a voice in planning for future healthcare services.
- Receive mentoring and networking opportunities with some of the State's finest professionals in areas such as medicine, project management and planning, information technology and other areas.

What kind of Council members are we looking for?

We strongly encourage people aged 15 to 25 years from a broad range of health interests and cultural, social and geographic backgrounds to express interest.

The Council includes members from a broad range of backgrounds and may include members who currently reside in, or have previously resided in, youth detention centres where West Moreton Health provides healthcare services.

Applicants younger than 18 years of age will require parental/carer/guardian consent to join the Youth Advisory Council and will be asked to provide this consent via email to WM.CommunityEngagement@health.qld.gov.au.

Council members will be selected through an open expression of interest process. Expressions of interest will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Experience of health services (at West Moreton or other hospital services) as a patient/consumer, a carer, or a support person (of for example a family member accessing services), **is preferred**.
- Representatives must live in the West Moreton Health region **or** have a strong connection to the region.
- Representatives must be interested in public health.
- Representatives should be able to show their awareness of health priorities and health issues in the community.
- Connection with other patients/consumers and community networks would be beneficial but is not a requirement.
- Representatives under 18 years of age will need parental/carer/guardian consent to join.

How do I apply?

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Youth Advisory Council, you can:

- complete the online form at <https://forms.office.com/r/wbJ1HpWP1q>, or
- complete the online form by scanning the QR code.



Applications close **5pm on Sunday, 26 November 2023.**

If you would like further information or assistance with the expression of interest form, contact West Moreton Health Senior Engagement Officer Trisha Hansen at wm.communityengagement@health.qld.gov.au or by phone on 0429 595 304.