



Western Australian Network of  
Alcohol & other Drug Agencies

# STRATEGIC PLAN

2024-2027 (2026 Review)

ENGAGEMENT

RESPECT

LEADERSHIP

EQUITY

## STATEMENT AND CONTEXT

The Western Australian alcohol and other drug service sector delivers evidence-informed and quality services to meet the needs of individuals, families and communities impacted by alcohol and other drugs. The diversity of services in Western Australia falls within a service system, which includes community awareness and development, prevention, harm reduction, withdrawal, support, case management and counselling, residential treatment, forensic pathways and community re-entry.

The Mental Health Commission is the primary responsible State government body for commissioning treatment and support services. Alcohol and other drugs impact all human service sectors, requiring a coordinated cross-government response. The impact of alcohol and other drugs is rarely in isolation of other health and social concerns.

Intersecting concerns may include, for example, family and domestic violence; engagement in the law-enforcement and justice system; engagement in the child safety system; homelessness; financial distress and employment barriers; disconnection with family and the community; chronic and preventable health; and mental health and wellbeing generally. The biggest challenges identified by the alcohol and other drug sector, that inform WANADA's priorities, include:

- Not having nearly enough services to meet demand – resulting in increased acuity of harms for individuals, families and communities.
- Structural stigma and discrimination contributing to system pressures and increased complexity of people accessing alcohol and other drug services.
- Workforce recruitment and retention, particularly in regional rural and remote areas that are feeling a more significant impact from the housing crisis.

WANADA's priority includes maintaining a monitoring watch over, and advocating for:

- Sector-informed State and National AOD policies and governance.
- Implementation of relevant inquiry recommendations.
- Enhanced sector consultation in policy and planning.
- System balance – including increased sector expansion to meet demand and transparent commissioning.
- Effective and practical approaches to overall government agendas, including self-determination and community-led solutions for a sustainable health system.
- Reduced systemic stigma and discrimination.

WANADA is respected at the State level, as an independent representative voice for the sector. Our capacity to maintain and strengthen this requires dedicated focus.

## PURPOSE

To lead a shared voice within the specialist alcohol and other drug service sector that drives and influences systemic change needed to achieve best community outcomes.

## VISION

Reduced harms associated with alcohol and other drugs for all Western Australians through a sector-led approach

## VALUES

### Engagement

- Developing quality relationships and effective, inclusive collaboration.
- Respecting diverse perspectives, and being respected as a trusted and accountable peak.
- Influencing evidenced and sector-informed policy and decision making.
- Enabling effective needs-based responses as a priority.

### Equity

## KEY RESULT AREAS

### Advocacy and Influence

- WANADA's leadership is effective, influencing policy and sector development decisions.

### Sector Developments

- WANADA leads quality and evidence-informed sector-wide development.

### Aboriginal Self-Determination

- WANADA advocates for and enables the implementation of Aboriginal self-determination within the alcohol and other drug sector.

### Alcohol and Other Drug Stigma and Discrimination

- WANADA leads a values-based systemic approach to reducing stigma and discrimination and enhancing empowerment.

### Strong Peak

- WANADA is a sustainable peak body, both leading and responding to its members.