



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Developing quality relationships and effective, inclusive collaboration.
Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Respecting diverse perspectives, and being respected as a trusted and accountable peak.
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Influencing evidenced and sector-informed policy and decision making.
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Enabling effective needs-based responses as a priority.

KEY RESULT AREAS

Advocacy and Influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ WANADA's leadership is effective, influencing policy and sector development decisions.
Sector Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ WANADA leads quality and evidence-informed sector-wide development.
Aboriginal Self-Determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ WANADA leads a values-based systemic approach to reducing stigma and discrimination and enhancing empowerment.
Strong Peak	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ WANADA is a sustainable peak body, both leading and responding to its members.