



Northern Queensland Primary Health Network

Activity Work Plan

After Hours Primary Health Care Program Funding

2022/23 – 2025/26



NQPHN acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First Nation Peoples and the Traditional Custodians of this land. We respect their continued connection to land and sea, country, kin, and community. We also pay our respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging as the custodians of knowledge and lore.



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Disclaimer

All activities captured in this Activity Work Plan are identified in the Health Needs Assessment conducted by Northern Queensland Primary Health Network and have been approved by the Department of Health and Aged Care.





AH-2 – After hours primary health care funding

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Population Health.

Aim of activity

Improving access to after-hours primary care services across the whole Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) region has been identified as a priority need to prevent necessary and costly primary health care being sought from emergency departments.

The aim of this activity is to build upon the work undertaken in 2022-23 to do a North Queensland After Hours (NQAHA) Operational Guidelines, and to continue regional after-hours planning, commissioning, and implementation of new models of care that addresses gaps in primary care after-hours services.

Description of activity

This activity will focus on refinement and implementation of the North Queensland After Hours Primary Care Commissioning Strategy, developed in 2022-23.

Activities will include use of the after-hours service data and service mapping to build service integration and collaboration between commissioned providers and enhance after-hours service delivery that meets local service needs.

NQPHN commissioned services in 2022-2023 informed by the After Hours strategy. Ongoing support for high quality implementation of these commissioning activities is required.

NQPHN will also support a placed-based, integrated care approach by working with service providers and other stakeholders to explore innovative ways to address regional, rural, and remote primary care workforce shortage issues and associated workforce barriers impacting on accessibility to primary care service to priority population groups and area of needs across North Queensland in order to address the after hours burden on the hospital system where they might be better managed in primary care.

