

## Northern Queensland First 1,000 Days Framework Implementation Plan

Year one: Financial year 01 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

Endorsed 07 September 2023

The Northern Queensland First 1,000 Day Framework focuses on the services and supports required from pre-conception until a child reaches their second birthday, as a commitment for improving maternal and child health outcomes. The Implementation plan describes the actions that members and priority stakeholders of Better Health NQ have committed to deliver over the next twelve months that will contribute to the overall delivery of the Northern Queensland First 1,000 Days Framework. The plan has been informed by the information provided by committee members to identify areas of focus for the current financial year, potential measures to monitor progress, and the lead individuals or teams.

The First 1,000 Days Framework Implementation Steering Committee, will drive the implementation of the Framework through a phased approach, providing leadership and oversight at a North Queensland level and championing the Framework ensuring the plan addresses any emerging priorities and that any risks to successful implementation are managed.

If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact:

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Horizon 1: July 2023 – June 2024

**A Services and supports to promote good health in the pre-conception period**

Key focus area	Actions	Description	Measure	Lead	Timeframe
A3 Health promoting activities and settings for women and families	✓ 3.1 Promote the rollout and adaption of existing statewide prevention programs and initiatives relating to the first 1,000 days of life across NQ	Work through local governance mechanisms to raise awareness and increase uptake of statewide initiatives being led by HWQ and relevant to the First 1,000 Days of Life.	Identification of existing statewide prevention programs and initiatives that could be adapted and trialled for NQ.	HWQ	June 24
A4 Influencing the wider determinants of health	✓ 4.1 Create connections between the health and social services systems to support families to establish and maintain healthy and safe environments.	Develop and/or participate in local partnership through governance mechanisms, inter-agency networks and other collaborative ways of working between health and non-health services	Formal engagement with QH agencies established. Comms and engagement report. Joint initiatives evidenced.	BHNQ	June 24

**B Services and supports during pregnancy, birthing and the perinatal period**

Key focus area	Actions	Description	Measure	Lead	Timeframe
B1 Maternal health screening and support	✓ B1.1 Monitor access to maternal screening and support across the region.	Engage with health consumers, clinicians and other stakeholders to continually monitor and access to maternal screening and support across the region.	Capture in monitoring and evaluation reports. Incorporation into stakeholder engagement and communication plan activities.	M&E WG	June 24
	✓ B1.2 Increase workforce capability and capacity to deliver best practice maternal health screening and support	Support-inter-professional education and case-based learning to increase workforce capability and capacity to deliver best practice maternity care across NQ.	Scope and develop plan	BHNQ	June 24
	✓ B1.3 Continue to deliver health promotion initiatives that focus on prevention and early intervention in the antenatal period	Scope and report back on opportunities to leverage and expand existing health promotion initiatives, particularly cessation support programs relating to alcohol and other drug use and smoking	Local delivery mapped based on A3	HWQ BHNQ	June 24
B2 Continuity of quality antenatal, perinatal and postnatal care	✓ B2.2 Improve hospital discharge processes to support continuity of care for mothers and their newborn babies. (Health Care Standard requirement).	Ensure the consistent provision of timely and complete discharge summaries for all patients receiving maternal health services at HHS facilities back to their primary care provider(s) of choice. This should be supported by increasing access to Queensland's Health's 'The Viewer' amongst primary and community care services, particularly ACCHOs.	Status established	HHS	June 24
	✓ B2.3 Develop links between maternity and child health services	Develop arrangements and linkages between maternity services and child health services to support seamless transfer of care following discharge from hospital after birth to ensure timely follow up in the community for both maternal and child health needs during the 'fourth' trimester.	Status clarified including HHS operational/clinical service plan deliverable	HHS	June 24
B3 Social and emotional wellbeing support	✓ B3.1 Commission service models that integrate antenatal care and social and emotional wellbeing support	Commission community-based services that deliver models of care that improves the social and emotional wellbeing	Services commissioned. Overarching monitoring/evaluation report.	NQPHN	July 23

Key focus area	Actions	Description	Measure	Lead	Timeframe
B4 Information and education to expectant parents	✓ B4.2 Map available pregnancy services and supports	Undertake a service mapping process of the various local clinical services and non-clinical supports related to the antenatal, perinatal or postnatal periods at a local level across the NQ region to gain a comprehensive understanding what is available and how women and families can access it.	Service mapping report completed	BHNQ	June 24
B5 Provision of safe, locally available birthing options	✓ B5.1 Explore funding opportunities to expand existing health infrastructure to increase the availability of birthing facilities, particularly in regional areas.	Ensure appropriate planning and consideration for women and their support person who are required to travel long distances to a hospital or health facility to birth	Map current supports available and identify best practice models	HHS	June 24
	✓ B5.2 Support women and their families to access safe and quality health care services as close to home as possible.	Ensure processes and advocacy is available within health services that supports women to be informed of and aware of their rights when accessing maternal and child health services.	Map available information and scope improvement plan is required.	HHS	June 24
B7 Newborn screening	✓ B7.1 Support the implementation of the Queensland Newborn Bloodspot Screening Strategic Framework.	Collaborate with the Queensland NBS Steering Committee and NBS Program Team to support and inform the implementation recommendations across north Queensland.	Monitor through the First 1,000 Days Framework Implementation Steering Committee and Program Managers report. Agree deliverables for FY25.	HHS BHNQ	June 2024

## C Services and supports to provide the best start to life for children up to two years

Key focus area	Actions	Descriptor	Measure	Lead	Timeframe
C1 Child health and development services	✓ C1.1 Enhance access to child development checks for North Queensland children aged 0 – 2 years	Consult with families, primary care, and community health early education providers to develop a comprehensive strategy focused on enhancing access to routine child health and development checks.	Assessment of status	BHNQ	June 24
	✓ C1.2 Increase workforce capability to support child health and development	Deliver awareness, education and training to improve the capability of the health workforce to undertake child development checks using consistent and evidence based methods.	ECHO project – implementation plan and uptake reports	BHNQ CHQ	June 24
C2 Integrated models of paediatric care	✓ C2.1 Develop integrated models of care that deliver holistic, wrap around care to children	Develop agreed pathways and models of care that are localised for communities and respond to common health conditions/vulnerabilities experienced in early childhood.	Scope completed including existing models	NQPHN HHS	June 24
C3 Education and support to empower families	✓ C3.2 Support the delivery of consistent and evidence-based health information and education to families	Consult with families and service providers to understand their information and communication needs in relation to information about child health development.	Scope available resources	BHNQ	June 24
C4 Promoting healthy infant nutrition	✓ C4.1 Increase uptake of evidence based informational and educational resources on breastfeeding and infant nutrition.	Promote information and education resources about breastfeeding and human nutrition.	Scope information and educational resources available and assess if meets current NQ needs.	BHNQ	June 24
C5 Supporting immunisation	✓ C5.1 Understand opportunities for supporting immunisation	Consult with families and local service providers to understand barriers, gaps and opportunities to increasing the uptake of early childhood immunisations across the region. Explore opportunities to leverage existing touch points with parents/children (e.g. GP consultations. Child health nurse visits) to promote immunisation.	Map and scope	NQPHN	June 24
C6 Quality early childhood education	✓ C6.1 Engage with the Far North Early Childhood Network to collaborate and advocate for the health and education needs of children.	Ensure Better Health NQ representation to the Far North Early Childhood Network to advocate for and progress key priorities.	Develop and contribute to agenda and shared work plan	BHNQ	Dec 24

## D System enablers for effective maternal and child health services

Key focus area	Actions	Descriptor	Measure	Lead	Timeframes
D1 Co-designing services with communities	✓ D1.1 Codesign improvements to maternal and child health service delivery with parents and families as an underlying design principle for all service review and design activities.	Apply codesign principles and processes to identify and progress improvements in service delivery models informed by the experience of parents, families and the health workforce.	F1000 Service Design principles developed Implementation evidenced through FISC minutes	All	June 24 ongoing
D2 Integrated, community-based delivery	✓ D2.1 Strengthen local partnerships between Hospital services and ACCHOs to meet the holistic care needs of First Nations women	Through partnerships between HHSs and ACCHOs, explore opportunities to deliver more maternal and child health services to First Nations women and families in their own community.	All HHSs have MOUs in place incorporating Maternal and Child Health.	HHS	June 24 FY25 evaluate
D3 Agreed pathways and models of care	✓ D3.1 Continue to improve the availability of agreed pathways and models of care through HealthPathways platform	Review the comprehensiveness of clinical pathways and models of care outlined in the HealthPathways platform across the NQ region through consultation with relevant services and clinical experts.	Map and gap current pathways. Monitor impact/use	NQPHN	June 24
	✓ D3.3 Undertake a review of the current maternal and child health service system in NQ to identify gaps and opportunities to improve models of care	Review the availability of services and supports across the First 1,000 Days Framework.	HHS incorporate activity into operational and clinical service plans.	BHNQ	June 24
D4 Skilled and diverse workforce	✓ D4.1 Prioritise focus on first 1,000 days in existing workforce activities.	Continue to partner across the service system to deliver programs that aim to build Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce.	Develop a plan for the primary care workforce Assess potential to partnership with ECHO	NQPHN	June 24
D5 Regional Leadership	✓ D5.1 Establish a NQ First 1,000 Days Framework Implementation Steering Committee	Establish a steering committee that has accountability for overseeing the implementation of the Framework.	ToR approved and meeting minutes	BHNQ	June 23
	✓ D5.2 Establish mechanisms to ensure alignment of the NQ First 1,000 Days Framework with related strategies and initiatives	Ensure alignment with related strategies and initiatives through direct engagement with key agencies leading on strategy implementation or representation on statewide groups.	Quarterly review of relevant new strategies by FISC	BHNQ	June 24
D6 Local partnerships	✓ D6.1 Establish and/or strengthen local working groups with a focus on the first 1,000 days	Establish working groups with local membership that meet purposefully based on shared objectives.	Existing partnerships identified. Formal engagement with QH agencies established.	BHNQ	June 24
D9 Data, evidence and learning	✓ D9.1 Develop a monitoring and evaluation approach for the NQ First 1,000 Days of Life Framework	Leverage internal evaluation capability of BHNQ Alliance members.	Framework approved, inclusive of reporting schedule.	NQPHN	Sept 23
D10 Child safe organisations	✓ D10.1 Promote uptake of child safeguarding principles across all maternal and child health services	Raise awareness and promote the uptake amongst all BHNQ agencies of the <i>National Principles for Child Safe Organisations</i> to ensure systems and processes that prevent harm to any child.	Map current child safe organisations and clarify requirements.	FISC	June 24