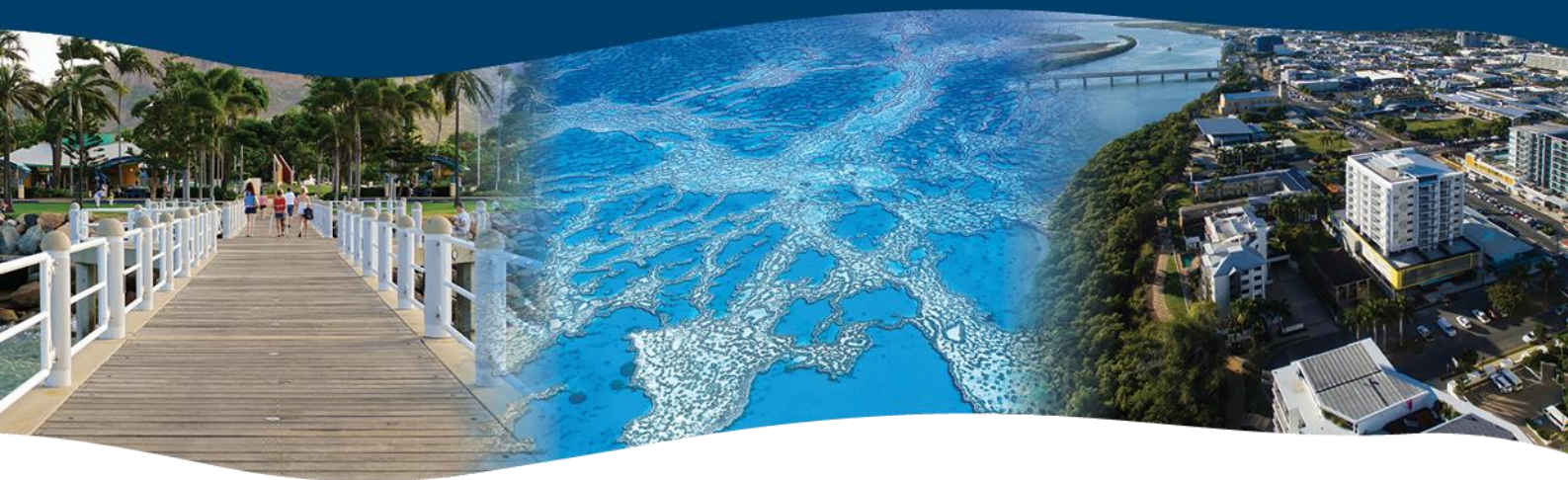




Northern Queensland Primary Health Network

Activity Work Plan

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

2025/26 – 2027/28

Updated October 2026



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 Joint Regional Needs Assessment conducted by Northern Queensland Primary Health Network and have been approved by the Department of Health, Disability, and Ageing.

AOD - 1 - NIAS Operational and Mainstream Funding

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Aim of activity

The purpose of this activity is to improve access to community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions by commissioning a range of treatment services. This includes reducing harm associated with drugs and alcohol use, with a focus on methamphetamine use.

Description of activity

NQPHN commissions a number of Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) treatment services across the NQPHN footprint, spanning a range of specialist treatment interventions including counselling, case management, withdrawal management and rehabilitation services.

NQPHN works with service providers to improve the coordination and integration of AOD treatment in the broader service system to ensure people have timely access to support, particularly people transitioning from mental health services such as the Medicare Mental Health Phone Service or stepped care services. Commissioned providers operate within a harm reduction framework, and support people with co-occurring mental health needs, with activity and outreach targeted based on local need.

NQPHN commissioned alcohol and other drugs treatment activities will continue to align with recommendations in the National Drug Strategy 2017-2026.

This activity is aligned with other AOD Activity Workplans to ensure efficient and effective commissioning of services.



AOD - 2 - NIAS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Aim of activity

The purpose of this activity is to improve access in community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders by commissioning a range of treatment services.

Description of activity

The NQPHN commissions a number of service providers to deliver culturally appropriate AOD treatment services across the NQPHN footprint to ensure timely and equitable access to support NQPHN also commissions place based AOD services to address the needs of remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the Cape and Torres and build the local capacity of these communities.

Commissioned services align supports to social and emotional wellbeing approaches to ensure the breadth of a person's needs can be responded to.

NQPHN commissioned alcohol and other drugs treatment activities will continue to align with recommendations in the National Drug Strategy 2017-2026.

AOD - 3 - Core AOD and Operational

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Aim of activity

The purpose of this activity is to address identified service gaps and challenges to access in community-based alcohol and other drug treatment interventions by commissioning a range of treatment services across the North Queensland footprint.

Description of activity

The NQPHN commissions a number of service providers to deliver Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) treatment services including brief intervention, counselling and care coordination options. A focus of the activity is improving timely access for young people, particularly those living in regional, rural and remote areas.

NQPHN's focus areas

- Ongoing stakeholder engagement to increase access and reduce stigma related impacts on access.
- Integration of referral pathways and programs with a range of localised service options, including mental health services commissioned by NQPHN.
- Improving AOD service delivery capacity within primary health care services.
- Education to enhance capacity within primary health care.
- Participation and implementation of the NQ Joint Regional Wellbeing Plan as it articulates AOD as a key priority.
- Promotion of ADIS to ensure access to supports for individuals with limited or no access to face-to-face options.

AOD - 4 - Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Maintenance (DATSM)

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs

Aim of activity

This activity provides eligible commissioned services with supplementary payments to replace SACS payments as a transition phase.

Description of activity

NQPHN commission services to deliver AOD services who require DATSM supplementary payments following the cessation of SACs.

This funding is used in the delivery of the services against staff cost line items in contract budgets.

