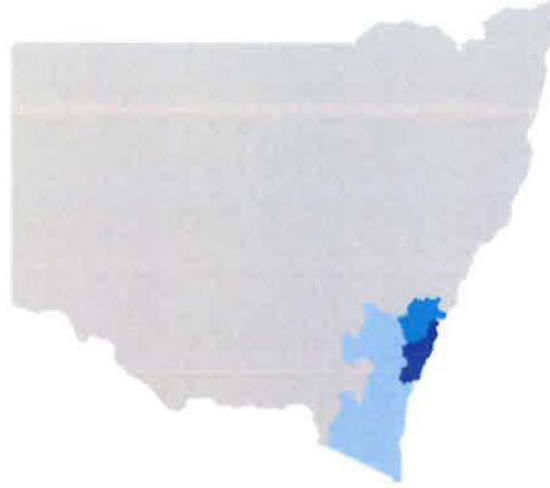


Southern NSW, South Western Sydney and Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health Districts (LHDs)



Memorandum of Understanding

Background

The Southern NSW (SNSW), South Western Sydney (SWS), and Illawarra Shoalhaven (IS) Local Health Districts service the south eastern corner of New South Wales, covering a combined total area of over 56,000 square kilometers, and home to over 1.6 million people.

The SNSW LHD is comprised of 12 public inpatient facilities including 9 hospitals and 3 multipurpose services, providing a range of health and age care services. SNSW LHD is characterised by one of Australia's most geographically diverse natural environments, with healthcare facilities divided into 3 networks to enable people in each region to receive the right care at the right time in the right place. SNSWLHD strategically partners its hospitals both internally, and with ACT Health and Major Sydney Hospitals to provide high-level specialist care when needed.

SWSLHD manages 6 acute public hospitals and operates 14 major community health centres, providing prevention, early intervention, community-based treatment, palliative care and rehabilitation. SWSLHD provides healthcare to one of the most culturally diverse and fastest growing populations in Australia. NSW's largest urban Aboriginal population also resides in the District, with more than 20,000 residents identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. The NSW government has committed significant health infrastructure funding to the South West as a result of forecast growth and increased demand on health services, providing opportunity to consolidate and establish partnerships which improve the quality of care and health outcomes of the community.

ISLHD operates 8 hospital sites and provides community health services from approximately 58 locations across the region. The District is one of the region's largest employers, with a workforce of more than 8,500 staff. The LHD aims to provide best practice health care and programs to improve the health and wellbeing of the Illawarra Shoalhaven population, achieving this through innovative models of care, strengthening partnerships both internally and externally, and increasing consumer involvement in the planning and design of health services.

The partnership between SNSWLHD, SWSLHD and ISLHD aims to leverage the unique and individual strengths of each LHD, providing opportunity to collaborate to improve health outcomes across all districts.

Purpose

This document outlines the aim, objectives, principals and priority areas, governance and monitoring/evaluation processes which form the basis of the collaborative partnership between SNSW, SWS and ISH LHDs.

Aim

The aim of the partnership is to build a healthier future for the communities of our region through innovation, collaboration and commitment to our shared goals and objectives.

Objectives

1. Lead the partnership between LHDs to drive positive change for our respective communities and wider healthcare system.
2. Deliver strategic projects, facilitate knowledge sharing and advocate for initiatives which improve health outcomes and experiences across the region.
3. Facilitate collaboration between diverse stakeholders to leverage expertise, resources and collective impact.

Principles

The underlying principles that underpin the partnership include:

- Establishment of common priorities and interests
- Recognition of the interests, rights and responsibilities of each individual LHD
- Communication between LHDs aligns with the CORE NSW Health values
- Commitment to the actions and decisions arising from the collaborative partnership
- Flexibility to adapt to changing needs

Collaborative Projects

A maximum of 3 strategic projects will be undertaken at one time, with each LHD leading one project. These projects must meet the following criteria:

1. Aligned with the agreed strategic interests and priorities of the collaborative partnership
2. Have a well-defined scope and goal
3. Be measurable and realistic to deliver within a 12-month timeframe
4. Not be duplicative of any existing collaborative work

Governance

The partnership will be governed by a two-tiered structure made up of a Steering Committee and a Working Party

Steering Committee

Membership of the Steering Committee will include the Chief Executives and executive lead representative from each LHD. Project leads shall attend steering committee meetings as relevant.

The Steering Committee will:

- Provide clear and comprehensive strategic direction to achieve the vision, goals and objectives of the collaborative partnership.
- Lead collaboration on innovative health care projects to drive positive change for the communities of each local health district and wider healthcare system
- Support the delivery of strategic information sharing between partners, facilitating transparent and inclusive decision making and communication
- Actively engage with key stakeholders to influence and advocate for improved community health outcomes and experiences
- Monitor the delivery of the objectives of the partnerships
- Approve or deny the scope of identified collaborative projects
- Respond to any issues arising requiring escalation

The steering committee will meet 3 times per year. Other meetings will be held as needed or requested by an executive of the partnership. The meeting will be chaired by one representative of each LHD on a rotational basis.

Secretariat will rotate on an annual basis, commencing with SWSLHD in 2023, followed by ISLHD in 2024 and SNSWLHD in 2025.

Working Party

Membership of the Working Party will include executive lead representatives from each LHDs. Project leads shall attend steering committee meetings as relevant.

The Working Party will facilitate collaborative opportunities to work on projects and/or strategic issues which are relevant to the aim and objectives of the partnership. The working party will report on activity and outcomes to the Steering Committee.

The Working Party will meet monthly. The meeting will be chaired by one representative from each LHD on a rotational basis.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Deliverable	Timeframe	Responsibility
Project scope approval	June 2023	Steering Committee
Project Update #1	September 2023	Working Party
Project Update #2	December 2023	Working Party
Project Update #3	March 2024	Working Party
Project completion	June 2024	Working Party

Proposed project domain/scope presented to steering committee	July 2024	Working Party
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Duration

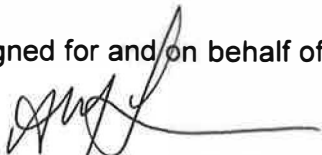
This agreement may be modified by mutual consent of all representatives of the partnership. This agreement will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the partners by mutual consent. In the absence of early termination, this MOU shall end on December 2025.

Status of Document

This document is a statement of intent only and is not a binding legal document on the parties or designed to create a legal relationship between them.

Executed as an agreement:

Signed for and on behalf of South Western Sydney Local Health District



Signature

Amanda Larkin
Signatory Name

Chief Executive
Signatory Title

13/7/23
Date of Execution

Signed for and on behalf of Southern NSW Local Health District




Signature

Fiona Renshaw
Signatory Name

Acting Chief Executive
Signatory Title

18/07/2023
Date of Execution

Signed for and on behalf of Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District



Signature

Margot Mains
Signatory Name

Chief Executive
Signatory Title

26.07.2023
Date of Execution