

Community of Practice

- Working Together Plan



Building on the genuine partnership approach that has underpinned how Home Stretch has been developed in WA, the Community of Practice (CoP) will form around the needs of the people who deliver and use Home Stretch WA services.

The following working groups have emerged as important forums for specific areas of practice and process. Over time, other groups will emerge to meet the needs of the community. Each of the group's function and membership are outlined below. It is anticipated that the structure and focus of these groups will adapt over time, and some may achieve their primary purpose, eventually be absorbed into other groups.

Guiding Panel

The Guiding Panel will support and guide the work of the CoP, bringing together leaders from each of the providers, representatives from the Department of Communities (DoC) and the broader Out-Of-Home-Care sector.

Lived Experience (LE) Young Consultants will co-chair this group on a rotating basis and represent the voice and views of young people from the Home Stretch WA Youth Advisory Group.

Other working groups will feed into this group to help make decisions about the model and how Home Stretch WA works in practice.

The panel will initially be led by the CoP as the focus will be on growing the capacity of providers to deliver the Home Stretch WA model.

This group will hold responsibility for the Home Stretch WA Model Integrity Framework, ensuring each service is working towards high quality services and remains consistent with the model as it evolves.



Youth Advisory Group

The Youth Advisory Group will:

- Enable a forum for the ongoing design and development of the Home Stretch WA model
- Provide a mechanism for young people to bring new ideas and share feedback on their experiences in a safe and supported environment that is independent from their provider.
- Be supported by staff from the CoP, including the Lived Experience Young Consultants.

While Home Stretch WA providers are encouraged to support young people to attend, staff representation will be limited to one staff member per provider.

Initially forming in the metro area, the group will develop ways of supporting regional and remote young people to have their voice heard and responded to over time.

Led by the Lived Experience Young Consultants and supported by Create WA, the Home Stretch WA Youth Advisory Group, will be open to all young people who are being supported by a Home Stretch WA provider across the state.

Young people who are not eligible for Home Stretch WA or are too young to be supported by a provider, will still have opportunities to attend special sessions that will be more broadly focused.

Staying On Working Group

Staying On facilitators or the Home Stretch WA Coordinator, will attend this working group along with the Home Stretch WA services team and policy representatives from the Department of Communities.

This group will work on the continuous improvement of the backend process and practice that support the roll out of Staying On agreements across WA.

It has been meeting for the past month and uses an Action/Issues Register to track its work and decision-making.

Coordinator's Meeting

Functioning as a safe and supportive space for Coordinators to share their challenges and solutions to implementing Home Stretch WA in their teams.

The Coordinator's Group will:

- Set their own agenda that will range from workforce development, program management, and data monitoring and evaluation.

- Play a key role in ensuring the ongoing training and development needs of Transition Coaches are mapped and understood by the CoP.
- Guide the decisions of the Guiding Panel that relate to running a Home Stretch WA program.

District Champion Working Group

Each child protection District Office has nominated a District Champion, usually the Team Leader of the leaving care team or a worker who holds responsibility for post care or leaving care supports.

This group has been meeting every 6 weeks and is jointly chaired by the Community of Practice and one of the District Champions.

Transition Coach Practice Forums (Hours)

Likely to build on a regular cycle of training and practice development workshops, the CoP will work with providers and their teams to create a range of digital and in-person forums for Transition Coaches from across the state to support each other and improve their practice.

The Transition Coaches from the Home Stretch WA Trial will play a key role as practice development officers who will offer some individualised, but mostly group support to new Transition Coaches and Home Stretch WA teams.

