

QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT

MENTAL HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

INQUIRY INTO THE OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR QUEENSLANDERS

Submission to the Mental Health Select Committee

Mr Michael Wright – Credentialed Registered Mental Nurse Professional

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Introduction

I am a practicing dual diagnosis mental health clinician with many years of experience and I thank the Mental Health Select Committee for the opportunity to provide this submission on the inquiry into the opportunities to improve mental health outcomes for Queenslanders. I am pleased to see that so many of the terms of reference for the inquiry aim to review current and past issues impacting mental health outcomes for Queenslanders as provided by the public health system. I am hopeful that recommendations from the review will effect changes that will assist mental health services to successfully apply constructive, cost effective and appropriate change to mental health services across the State in order to improve service provision to community members with mental health issues.

About this Submission

This submission addresses my personal lived experience of being targeted by senior management of the [REDACTED] Hospital and Health Service and subsequently being forced to resign from my position which resulted in the destruction of my personal and professional reputation because I performed my service with absolute professionalism and in accordance with Queensland Health Standards. At the time I was employed as the Team Leader for the [REDACTED] Community Mental Health Service if I had known that I was to be Team Leader number fourteen (14) in sixteen (16) months at the time I would never have accepted the role. I was forced to resign from the Service in November, 2016 and it should be noted that little has changed in the Mental Health Service in the [REDACTED] District since that time or since the Ward 10B Carter Commission of Inquiry. Attached documents speak for themselves and I would suggest that Document named "Complaints against [REDACTED] et al – 23 Dec 2016" be read first as it contains an overall view of what occurred.

Summary

The Committee should be aware that the [REDACTED] Hospital and Health Board Chairman, [REDACTED] was also advised of the issues that I raised and yet chose to do nothing except enabling the

transfer at level of [REDACTED], Director of the [REDACTED] Mental Health Service Group to a similar position in [REDACTED]. This is a classic smoke and mirrors strategy to “hose down the issues” and appear to be proactive in dealing with the issues that had significant impact on service delivery to the community. It also should be noted that workplace bullying is still very much endemic within the [REDACTED] Mental Health Services and the Service still has a bad reputation with Clinicians who choose to leave and not stay within such a toxic environment. It is my assertion that without fully investigating past and present poor clinical and management service standards and removing bad management, there will be little hope of ever improving mental health services to the local community. As a direct result of the actions on the part of the individuals mentioned in the attached supporting documentation I have been placed on the Queensland Health “Blacklist” of “not to be employed” which has resulted in me having to accept agency work with long periods of absence from home.

Yours Sincerely,



Michael Wright

Credentialed Registered Mental Health Nurse

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]