

Actions so far

The Department of Health wants inclusive, respectful health services for LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians. The following actions were taken in 2022 to support this:



CONSULTATION

The Department of Health LGBTIQ+ reference group meets three times a year to discuss and work on issues and actions.

This group includes:

- people from the Department of Health, including the Secretary
- people from key LGBTIQ+ organisations
- community members.

The group supports and oversees the work plan for the year. The current plan includes actions on training, sex and gender reform and addressing mental health.



TRAINING

New resources were made with community members, and a learning module was launched. These are being promoted to everyone working in the Department.

By the end of 2022 around 1,500 people had completed the module.

The aim is that all staff do the training. We will continue to promote the resources. We are also looking at what else is needed to support awareness.



DATA COLLECTION

A working group is looking at what data is collected in the Department of Health around sex and gender. They are working with other departments and the community.

The Department of Health has adopted the ABS Standard for Sex, Gender, Variations of Sex Characteristics and Sexual Orientation Variables.

There are many complex systems across Health, so full adoption will take time and effort.



MENTAL HEALTH

The Department of Health Mental Health Plan is called *Rethink 2020*. Research shows the concerns facing LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians.

We are talking with the community about highlighted issues and solutions.

Funding has been allocated to:

- look at a specific mental health service for LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians
- support health workers to be trained in LGBTIQ+ inclusion, and
- Working It Out (WIO) for peer navigators to provide information and support to LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians.



SERVICES

The Department of Health has statewide sexual health services as well as the Tasmania Gender Service (TGS).

We fund community-based organisations to deliver services for the LGBTIQ+ community, such as:

- Working It Out (WIO) – Tasmania's sexuality, gender and intersex status support and education service
- The Tasmanian Council on AIDS, Hepatitis, and Related Diseases (TasCAHRD)
- Women's Health Tasmania, and others.

WIO has a Healthy Tasmania grant for the Working It Out Together peer support program.

For more information contact:
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