

# Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System - Letter 2021

Sent March 2021 - Dietitians Australia wrote to the Hon James Merlino MP, Deputy Premier of Victoria, following the release of the final report from the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.

## *Letter excerpt*

I am encouraged to see that mental health is recognised as inextricably linked to physical health and that dietitians were identified in the report as supporting people living with mental illness. When these points are properly addressed in system reforms, they will improve equity of access to the right health services for all people living with mental illness.

Accredited Practising Dietitians (APDs) play a critical role in improving the symptoms of some mental illnesses and in preventing, treating and managing commonly associated chronic physical illnesses like heart disease, diabetes and osteoporosis. Our [Briefing Paper on Mental Health](#) includes more detail on the role of dietitians in mental health services.

For more [read the full letter](#).

## **Get in touch**

If you have any questions about this letter, contact us at [policy@dietitiansaustralia.org.au](mailto:policy@dietitiansaustralia.org.au)