

DRAFT TEMPLATE EMAIL TO STATE MPS

Dear [INSERT name of the State MP]

I am writing to you with a request relating to the State responsibility to ensure that mental health services funded by the State Government are evidence-based and appropriate for the needs of people impacted by BPD and those who care for and support them.

As your constituent, I am writing to you about the '[National Consensus Statement: by, with and for people impacted by borderline personality disorder \(BPD\)](#)'. I am asking you to please show your support for this Statement by putting your name to it and then forwarding it to our State Minister for Mental Health on my behalf asking the Minister to contribute to the development of a national approach as the Statement requests.

The Statement has won the support of many prestigious mental health organisations as you can see from the logos which include Lived Experience Australia, MIND, Sane Australia, Headspace, the Royal Australian College of Psychiatrists and the Australian Psychological Society and the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses.

Unlike other mental illnesses, no drug has been approved to date for the treatment of BPD. The NHMRC Clinical Guidelines for the Management of Borderline Personality Disorder (2012) suggest that BPD-appropriate structured therapy and support is the most efficacious treatment for BPD. However, although there would be huge savings in terms of economics and human suffering (including loss of life by suicide), these services are only rarely available.

The National Consensus Statement is attracting hundreds of stories of people who have suffered from being unable or even denied care due to a lack of sector-wide capacity and capability. Their negative experiences of the mental health system too often lead to iatrogenic harm to themselves and others, disenchantment, distress, lack of trust and hostility, rather than the positive outcomes deserved.

The devastating system wide impacts of this ongoing neglect of people living with BPD have been amply described in the recent Quarterly Essay by Sarah Krasnostein: [Sarah Krasnostein | Quarterly Essay](#). It is available for free on Audible [here](#).

I look forward to hearing back from you about the government's response to you.

Regards

[INSERT YOUR NAME]

[INSERT YOUR ADDRESS]

PS: If you have a personal or professional interest in supporting advocacy to ensure Australians living with BPD receive effective treatment and the best chance of recovery, please consider liking [the Australian BPD Foundation Facebook page](#) and joining as a member [here via this link](#).