



## **Substance Abuse: two-day round-table** **Thursday 15 and Friday 16 August**

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs is to hold a two-day round-table as part of its inquiry into substance abuse in Australian communities.

The round-table, to be held at Parliament House in Canberra, will include presentations from experts in each of the subject areas being examined by the Inquiry, and involve discussions to further draw out evidence.

Session topics are:

- **Health Care** (including prevention and early intervention; current and new treatment options; adequacy of existing treatment services; consumer perspectives)
- **Families** (school and drug education; families with drug-addicted members)
- **Workplace Safety and Productivity** (prevalence and costs; current policies and programs; improving workplace safety and productivity)
- **Road trauma** (prevalence and costs; drink and drug driving)
- **Crime, Violence and Law Enforcement** (prevalence and costs; controlling the supply of illicit drugs; options for dealing with illicit drug crimes; drug abuse in prisons; law reform)

The full program is attached.

The House Family and Community Affairs Committee, Mrs Kay Hull MP, said the round-table would be a valuable way for the Committee to work toward completion of the inquiry.

"The round-table will be a significant component of this inquiry, and will be important in helping the Committee refine its thinking on substance abuse in Australia," Mrs Hull said.

"In particular, it will help us draw out conclusions, and frame the recommendations that we might make to the government on this topic."

The inquiry started in March 2000 and issued a discussion paper in September 2001. The inquiry was readopted, with the intent of publishing a final report, with recommendations, as soon as possible.

The inquiry is examining the social and economic costs of the abuse of both legal and illicit substances. The committee will also be looking at how mental illness, in combination with substance abuse, affects the matters listed above.

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**For media comment, please contact:**

Mrs Kay Hull, MP (Chair), Tel. 0428 211 591 or (02) 6921 4600 (electorate)

**For further details**, contact: House Family and Community Affairs Committee Secretariat, Tel. (02) 6277 4566, Email: [fca.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:fca.reps@aph.gov.au)

- The round-table is open to the public, as observers.
- For access before Parliament House opens to the public at 9.00am, please arrive at the front entrance by 8.15am to be escorted into the round-table by secretariat staff
- Webcast address: <http://www.aph.gov.au/live/webcast3.asp#>
- House monitor channel 9



**HOUSE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
INQUIRY INTO SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES  
Venue: Parliament House, Canberra, Committee Room 2R1  
Thursday 15 August and Friday 16 August 2002**

**ROUND-TABLE PROGRAM**

**Objective:**

To share information with committee members, and draw out options for possible recommendations for the drafting of the final report

House Family and Community Affairs Committee Members:

- Mrs Kay Hull MP (*Chair*) (NP, Riverina, NSW)
- Mrs Julia Irwin MP (*Deputy Chair*) (ALP, Fowler, NSW)
- Hon Alan Cadman MP (LP, Mitchell, NSW)
- Mrs Trish Draper MP (LP, Makin, SA)
- Mr Peter Dutton MP (LP, Dickson, Qld)
- Hon Graham Edwards MP (ALP, Cowan, WA)
- Ms Annette Ellis MP (ALP, Canberra, ACT)
- Ms Jennie George MP (ALP, Throsby, NSW)
- Mr Chris Pearce MP (LP, Aston, Vic)
- Mr H Quick MP (ALP, Franklin, Tas)
- Mr Cameron Thompson MP (LP, Blair, Qld)
- Mr B Wakelin MP (LP, Grey, SA)

**DAY 1 - THURSDAY 15 AUGUST**

8.10am *Light refreshments*

8.30am

**INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME**

- **Introductory remarks** (10 mins)  
Mrs Kay Hull MP, Chair, House Family and Community Affairs Committee
- **Overview of the role and work of the Australian National Council on Drugs**  
Major Brian Watters (10 mins)  
Chair, Australian National Council on Drugs

8.50am

**HEALTH CARE (including 10 mins for morning tea) - Session 1**

**(a) Prevention and early intervention**

- Professor David Hill (10 mins)  
Director, Cancer Control Research Institute, The Cancer Council of Victoria; Chair, National Expert Advisory Committee on Tobacco
- Professor George Patton (10 mins)  
Centre for Adolescent Health, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Royal Childrens Hospital, Melbourne

**(b) Current and new treatment options**

- Professor John Saunders (10 mins)  
Professor of Alcohol and Drug Studies, University of Queensland; Member, Australian National Council on Drugs
- Professor Richard Mattick (10 mins)  
Director, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales
- Discussions (1 hr 30 mins)

**(c) Adequacy of existing treatment services**



HOUSE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chair: Mrs Kay Hull, MP  
Deputy: Mrs Julia Irwin, MP**INQUIRY INTO SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

- Professor Ian Webster (10 mins)  
President, Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia
  - Professor Ann Roche (10 mins)  
Director, National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction, Flinders University of South Australia; Member, National Expert Advisory Committee on Illicit Drugs
- (d) Consumer perspectives**
- Ms Annie Madden (10 mins)  
Executive Officer, Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League
  - Discussions (1 hr 10 mins)

12.50 - 1.20pm Lunch

1.20pm **FAMILIES - Session 2****(a) Prevention: school drug education and support for families**

- Geoff Munro (10 mins)  
Director, Centre for Youth Drug Studies, Australian Drug Foundation
- Julie Hanbury (10 mins)  
Coordinator, HELP (Helping Empower Local Parents), Local Drug Action Groups Inc. (Western Australia-based); Member, Australian National Council on Drugs; Member, Australian National Council on Drugs
- Glenn Williams (10 mins)  
Executive Director, Focus on the Family Australia

**(b) Families with drug addicted members: supporting these families and involving them in treatment**

- Tony Trimmingham (10 mins)  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Family Drug Support
- Ann Bressington (10 mins)  
Chief Executive Officer, DrugBeat of SA; Member, Australian National Council on Drugs
- Discussions (1 hour 40 minutes)

3.50 - 4.00pm Afternoon tea

4.00pm **WORKPLACE SAFETY AND PRODUCTIVITY - Session 3****(a) Prevalence and costs**

- Dr Steve Allsop (10 mins)  
A/Director Practice Development, Drug and Alcohol Office, WA and A/Professor in International Health, Centre for International Health, Curtin University of Technology, WA

**(b) Current policies and programs**

- Dr Ian Gardner (10 mins)  
Immediate Past President and Councillor, Australasian Faculty of Occupational Medicine

**(c) Improving workplace safety and productivity**

- Trevor Sharp (10 mins)  
National Project Officer, The Building Trades Group of Unions Drug and Alcohol Committee; Chief Executive Officer, The Construction Industry Drug and Alcohol Foundation; Member, Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia's Workplace Reference Group
- Discussions (1 hour 5 mins)

5.35pm Day 1 sessions conclude



**DAY 2 - FRIDAY 16 AUGUST**

8.10am *Light refreshments*

8.30am **OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME**

- **Introductory remarks** (10 mins)  
Mrs Kay Hull MP, Chair, House Family and Community Affairs Committee

8.40am **ROAD TRAUMA - Session 4**

**(a) Prevalence and costs**

- Margaret Smythe (10 mins)  
Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services

**(b) Drink and drug driving**

- Mark King (10 mins)  
Principal Adviser (Road User Policy), Road Safety Policy and Advanced Technology, Land Transport and Safety Division, Queensland Transport
- Dr Philip Swann (10 mins)  
Manager, Drugs and Fatigue, Road Safety Department, VicRoads
- Discussions (1 hour 10 mins)

10.20-10.35am *Morning Tea*

10.35am **CRIME, VIOLENCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT - Session 5**

**(a) Prevalence and costs**

- Dr Adam Graycar (10 mins)  
Director, Australian Institute of Criminology

**(b) Controlling the supply of illicit drugs**

- Ben McDevitt (10 mins)  
General Manager, Australian Federal Police National Operations

**(c) Options for dealing with illicit drug crimes**

(including diversion schemes and drug courts)

- Dr Don Weatherburn (10 mins)  
Director, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW
- Discussions (1 hour 15 mins)

12.20 - 1.00pm *Lunch*

1.00pm **(d) Drug abuse in prisons**

- Dr Richard Matthews (10 mins)  
Chief Executive Officer, Corrections Health Service, NSW
- Discussions (25 mins)

**(e) Law reform**

- Major Brian Watters (10 mins)  
Appearing in a private capacity
- Dr Alex Wodak (10 mins)  
President, Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation
- Discussions (45 mins)

2.40pm **Day 2 sessions conclude**