

From: Nicky Bath [NickyB@aivl.org.au]
Sent: Monday, 15 August 2005 11:18 AM
Subject: Required additional information

Please find below the additional information that I said I would get for the committee:

- Regional data - sadly I have been unable to get specifics on this. Access to services varies in relation to access to specialist services and distance to travel depending on where people live
- Data on self medication - I tried to gain this information from various specialists and was unsuccessful. The information that I did gain is as stated in our written submission
- Comorbidity Taskforce - Officially the taskforce has not been disbanded. However the MCDS decided some months back to rethink the way in which their committees and those of the IGCD were structured. The Taskforce was incorrectly caught up in this - even though it wasn't actually either an IGCD or MCDS committee. The taskforce wrote to the chair of the IGCD pointing this out - and noting that we were in fact initially set up by the NMHWG, and that the IGCD had supported the establishment - but that we were essentially a sub-cttee of the NMHWG - and therefore under Mental Health rather than Illicit Drugs. However, we have been pushed back and forth between our parent bodies for a year, with no-one wanting to officially disband us, but at the same time, no-one wanting to take complete ownership. The Health website, under Co-morbidity still has a whole entry on the Taskforce - which would imply we still exist but, we are no longer an active committee. I have attached the work plan of the Comorbidity Taskforce as requested.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Best wishes

Nicky

Nicky Bath
Treatment Program and Policy Manager
AIVL (Sydney Office)
PO Box 278
Darlinghurst
NSW 1300

Tel: +61 2 9360 5065

Fax: +61 2 9360 8677

nickyb@aivl.org.au

www.aivl.org.au