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From: Helen Taylor <Helen.Taylor@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 10:38
To: Hayes.FionaK[ORGCC] <Hayes.FionaK@police.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Chantelle Miller <Chantelle.Miller@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: s.73 pill testing

Hi Fiona



And we'll provide some feedback following Chantelle's attendance at the pill testing demonstration in Canberra this Saturday.

FYI the attendees (only Mr Harper and a QH official have been made public I believe) are:

1. Mr Aaron Harper MP, Member for Thuringowa and Chair, Health, Communities, Disability and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Parliamentary Committee.
2. Mr Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar and Member, Health, Communities, Disability and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Parliamentary Committee.
3. Mr Ivan Frkovic, Queensland Mental Health Commissioner.

4. Ms Chantelle Miller, Manager Alcohol and Other Drugs, Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch, Queensland Health.

Best
Helen

Helen Taylor

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Clinical Excellence Queensland

Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch



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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land, and pay respect to Elders past, present and future.

File Note: Groovin the Moo site visit – Pill Testing

Date: Saturday 27th April

Hosts: Gino Vambuca, President, Harm Reduction Australia and Dr David Caldicott, Pill Testing Australia, Groovin the Moo Event Organisers

Attendees from QLD:

- Mr Aaron Harper MP, Member for Thuringowa and Chair, Health, Communities, Disability and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Parliamentary Committee;
- Mr Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar and Member, Health, Communities, Disability and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Parliamentary Committee;
- Mr Ivan Frkovic, Queensland Mental Health Commissioner: and
- Ms Chantelle Miller, Manager, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch, Queensland Health.

Other attendees

- NSW Commissioner and staff from the Special Commission into Methylamphetamine
- Victorian MP, Fiona Patton
- Victorian and WA cross benchers (names not captured)
- Representative from the NSW State Coroner's office
- Medical Advisor – NSW Health
- NSW Shadow Minister for Health
- Australian National University – College of Medicine
- ACT Health representatives

No media. Separate media event was planned after the walkthrough.

No photos or videos to be taken without approval of Groovin the Moo.

Site: Located off the main area of the event space in the medical area. Crowd and queue management was included to manage flow of participants. Signage/information for the pill testing service would be placed in the queueing area.

Dr Caldicott described the space and that the site had been revised from previous years to account for greater numbers, as well as poor weather. Pill Testing Australia (PTA) was expecting to see more participants this year than the previous year. No major publicity about the service but did expect that word of mouth would create more interest.

Congregation was taken through the stages of the pill testing process as a young person would expect to experience the service. Introduction provided by Dr Caldicott that reiterated that the primary focus is on the health intervention through the use of peer educators and that the focus was on dissuading young people who are anxious about taking drugs (but have them) from doing so.

Induction

Participant hands over phone and is placed in bag with their name on it. This prevents people taking photos or the drugs or the outcomes, or media involvement. A person provides their details and consent to participate. Anyone who appears to be intoxicated will be assessed by the medical practitioners onsite to determine whether they are sober enough to participate. If not, they are supported to go to the medical tent. Participants sign a waiver/disclaimer and reminded that it is a health facility and that information regarding dose/purity and whether a drug is safe to use if not provided.

Testing

Person then moves to the pill testing area. Person conducts their own scraping or hands over a sample for the chemist to analyse. Is asked at this point what they think they have purchased. Testing takes approx. 2 – 3 minutes. For samples that show particularly high or unrecognisable doses of substances they are then re-tested with the gas chromatography – mass spectrometer. This takes about 5 minutes. One had been provided by an organisation in the states (with analyst). Allows further and greater analysis of substances, particularly if not in the infrared library. At this stage if the substance tested is of particularly high dose or dangerous, the medical professional will talk to the participant about the substance and the risk to consumption. Amnesty bins are provided.

Peer Educators

Last stage is the harm reduction/education area where Peer Educators (Dancewise) talk to the participant about substance use. A number of free resources are also available about substances as well as water, lollies, condoms and other materials. The PEs will use a large poster that demonstrates the risks associated with mixing certain substances as the workers identified that many participants don't consider the risks of combining alcohol with prescribed or illicit substances.

Participants are provided with a business card that provides details of the service and that they attended. That way if the participant does find themselves in need of medical attention the medical officers can link the individual (through an identifier) with the substance/s that may have been tested.

Evaluation: ANU is conducting an evaluation which is entirely voluntary. Participants are invited to participate after the induction. The purpose will be to establish their drug purchasing and drug use patterns with the objectives of also following up participants that use the service post the event.

Police and ambulance can also bring in discarded or found substances for testing.

Thursday 18 April 2019 14:31 - Brisbane, QLD

There are 3 terminals in Sydney

T1 - Sydney International Terminal: Qantas flights QF1-QF399 and oneworld flights operate from this terminal.

T2 - Sydney Domestic Airport: JetStar flights operate from this terminal.

T3 - Qantas Sydney Domestic Airport: Qantas Domestic flights QF400-QF1599 and QantasLink flights 1600 and above operate from this terminal.

Michael notes from
walk through
28/4

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HRE Disbaha: encrypt
WA shadow ML NSW
Western VIC MPO
MA NSW Health
medical Advisor
Flora Palfern
ANU slalo corners
Pct ANU college of
Medicine

Leanne McQ MPOG ACT
BAM forward
Commissioner
NTA IO
Max Kemp Comm
in NZ
Tiracy + Lee ICE
Chus Kulkunon
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Chus Kulkunon
ACT Health

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