



## Minister for Water; Mental Health

Our Ref: 37-04273

Mr Julian Roche  
Western Australia Policy Forum  
Julian.Roche@wapolicyforum.org.au

Dear Mr Roche

Thank you for your e-mail of 2 August 2009 in relation to the paper released by the Western Australia Policy Forum (WAPF) by Mr Martin Whitely MLA regarding Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) policy and service development, and for forwarding the policy statement to this office and to the Minister for Health.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that this Government is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people with a mental illness, their carers and their families, and have initiated planned improvements in the mental health outcomes for all Western Australians.

I would also like to assure you that this Government remains committed to implementing the recommendations of the Education and Health Standing Committee on ADHD in 2004 with the keys aims of:

1. Promoting safe prescription rates and dosage levels of stimulant medications for children in WA; and
2. Developing multidisciplinary assessment and diagnostic services for children presenting with symptoms of ADHD or related disorders.

The new mental health services currently under development will provide specialist clinical assessment and multidisciplinary consultation for complex presentations of attentional disorders for children including ADHD. The services will also focus on enhancing diagnostic consistency and undertaking research regarding the safety of stimulant treatments.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you and I would like to thank you for writing to me on this important matter.

Yours sincerely

**DR GRAHAM JACOBS MLA**  
**MINISTER FOR WATER; MENTAL HEALTH**

15 SEP 2009