



MINISTER FOR ALCOHOL POLICY

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Mr Russell Goldflam
Acting Deputy Chairperson
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Dear Mr Goldflam

Thank you for your correspondence of 27 October 2020, seeking information on the 2018 proposal to allocate additional Government resources to the Barkly Region to assist in reducing the region's high levels of alcohol related harm. The proposal included additional Police, Health, Licensing NT, Territory Families and Public Housing resources for Tennant Creek.

I have been provided with the following information relevant to your request:

- Northern Territory Police advise that they have allocated eleven additional Police Officers to the area, which includes Substance Abuse Intelligence staff. In addition, mobile CCTV cameras have been reinstalled and Operation Haven extended to include Tennant Creek.
- The Department of Health advises that, as of November 2020, the following staff have been allocated to the Barkly Region:
 - One Clinical Nurse consultant responsible for Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) program, Volatile Substance Abuse and Adolescent AOD assessment and treatment
 - One Clinical Nurse Specialist responsible for assessment and treatment of adult AOD referrals, including Band Drinker Register (BDR) assessments and interventions
 - One Clinical Nurse Specialist responsible for working across adolescent and adult AOD programs
 - One Social Worker working across all AOD programs
 - One Aboriginal Case Support Worker.

- The AOD Community Services and Capacity Team, based in Alice Springs, regularly visits the region providing AOD community education and health promotion services.
- The region receives monthly visits from AOD Addiction Specialists.
- Mental Health Services include a psychiatrist and psychologist service for the region, three Mental Health nurses and a regular Outreach program is provided to the local communities by visiting specialists.
- Central Australian Health Services have recruited to the following positions:
 - an AOD worker
 - an Aboriginal Community Worker to work with the Urban Child Health team to engage with local families
 - an Aboriginal Health Promotion officer
 - an Aboriginal trainee to work within the Tennant Creek urban environment, focusing on health promotion and community engagement.
- The Licensing NT Senior Compliance Officer permanently based in Tennant Creek took extended leave and subsequently resigned during this period. Initially this position was covered by Alice Springs staff on a fulltime rotational basis. In January 2020, a Senior Compliance Officer was permanently appointed for Tennant Creek and the surrounding region. Additional staff are available to attend Tennant Creek at short notice from the Alice Springs Office should additional resources be required.
- Territory Families Tennant Creek office has all additional staff on-board and this includes the provision of Youth Outreach night patrols.
- Public Housing have allocated three new Public Safety Officer positions for Tennant Creek, initially two of these position were filled, however the occupants have since left and the three positions currently remain vacant.

Again, thank you for your correspondence and I appreciate the work you and your Liquor Commission colleagues are doing in an effort to reduce the unacceptable levels of alcohol related harm experienced in the Barkly Region.

Yours sincerely



NATASHA FYLES

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