

## A message from the Chair...

*Welcome to the sixth addition of the AJJA Update. It was great to meet face to face in November. AJJA Meetings always present a good opportunity to progress our major pieces of work, discuss information of combined interest and share what is happening across the jurisdictions. I am pleased with the progress that has been made towards the AJJA work plan in 2013 and I look forward to working with you all in 2014. I hope you all have a safe and Merry Christmas.*

*Dr Mark Collis*

## AJJA Principles of Youth Justice in Australia.

The AJJA Chair spoke with the Children, Youth and Community Services Policy and Research Working Group (CYCSPRWG) Chair, Mr Terry Murphy on 13 December. Mr Murphy has agreed that it would be best to progress the Principles through AJJA and bring to CYCSPRWG for noting.

Members are reminded to provide the AJJA Secretariat with comments regarding the draft Principles Preamble by 17 December 2014. Once comments are provided Queensland will redraft the Preamble for

discussion and approval at the February 2014 AJJA teleconference.

The National Youth Justice Framework contract has been finalized with the AIC. The AIC has agreed to redraft the Principles supporting document, for an additional fee. This document will be provided to AJJA members for approval prior to the April 2014 meeting in Darwin. Once endorsed by AJJA the document will be released on the AIC and AJJA websites.

## Briefly

- ❖ A PCG for AIHW, SCCSDSAC funded youth justice development projects will be held on 13 February 2014.
- ❖ The next AJJA Teleconference is scheduled for Wednesday, 12 February 14. If you are unable to participate please advise the AJJA Secretariat.
- ❖ The representative supervision guidelines have been updated and are now available on the AJJA website [www.ajja.org.au](http://www.ajja.org.au). If you need to update the details of your representative supervision contact officer please notify the AJJA Secretariat.



## National Reports

A number of reports containing youth justice data and information have recently been released or are due for release shortly. These include:

- \* *Bail and remand for young people in Australia: A national research project* – released by the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) on 18 November 2013.
- \* *Diverting Indigenous offenders from the criminal justice system* – released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) on 25 November 2013.
- \* *Using the Juvenile Justice National Minimum Data Set to measure juvenile recidivism* – released by the AIHW on 2 December 2013.
- \* *Juvenile detention population in Australia 2012* – released by the AIHW on 10 December 2013.
- \* *2014 Report on Government Services (Chapter 16, Youth Justice Services)* – scheduled for release by the Productivity Commission on 10 January 2014.

# AJJA UPDATE

December 2014

Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators

## Feedback...

\* The AIHW has requested JJ RIG members provide feedback regarding data availability for the following projects:

1. Youth recidivism stage 2 – feedback by 20 December 2013.
2. Child protection and youth justice data linkage development project – Feedback by 24 January 2013.

\* The Juvenile Justice National Minimum Data Set (JJ NMDS) 2011 data standards have been revised in METeOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry for national metadata standards) to reflect the current collection, and are based on the JJ NMDS Data Collection Manual 2011-12 approved by jurisdictions. JJ RIG members have approved the JJ NMDS data standards. Approval by AJJA of the JJ NMDS data standards is required, prior to endorsement by the Research, Evaluation and Data Working Group. An out-of-session paper will be sent to members shortly.

\* The AIHW is seeking AJJA's approval for the use of JJ NMDS data in a national linkage study on mortality in young people involved in the youth justice system. This possibility was raised by the AIHW at the November AJJA meeting. An out-of-session paper will be sent to members shortly.

## Important Dates to Remember...

- AJJA Teleconference – 12 February 2014
- SCCDSAC Meeting – 20 March 2014
- JJ RIG Meeting (Canberra) – 3 & 4 April 2014
- AJJA Meeting (Darwin) – 10 & 11 April 2014

## Significant Leave...

- 23/12/2013 – 5/12/2014 – AJJA Secretariat

If you are taking leave in the next few months please inform the AJJA Secretariat and provide an alternative contact for AJJA business.

## Communication & the AJJA Website

The AJJA Secretariat is investigating moving the AJJA website from a hosted website to a managed SharePoint site.

A SharePoint site will allow AJJA Members to not only access documents online but also edit and comment on documents online, in a secure environment. The SharePoint site has the ability to hold larger documents and has functions including contact lists, meeting calendars and discussion space. There are also multiple access levels that will allow JJ RIG and policy staff within your jurisdictions to access certain areas of the site.

The AJJA Secretariat is currently undertaking a 30 day trial to ensure a SharePoint site will benefit AJJA's needs. Any comments on member's experience with SharePoint are welcome and appreciated.

## Australasian Youth Justice Conference

The second Australasian Youth Justice Conference will be held in early 2015. The Australia Institute of Criminology is investigating venue options and is narrowed down the options to Brisbane or Canberra. Darwin has been considered unviable due to the weather and accommodation shortages. Sydney has been considered unviable due to heightened venue prices following the closure of the Convention Centre.

A conference PCG teleconference will be scheduled for early 2014 to commence preparations for the 2015 conference. The PCG consists of AJJA representatives from NT, VIC, QLD and ACT and the AIC.

Please forward any theme ideas to the AJJA Secretariat.



To contribute to the AJJA Update contact Alison Grace, AJJA Secretariat – [AJJASecretariat@act.gov.au](mailto:AJJASecretariat@act.gov.au)

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