



THE HON CHRISTOPHER PYNE MP

Minister for Ageing

MEDIA RELEASE

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Government's new cannabis committee

A new management committee has been created to support the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre in setting its directions and progress, the Minister for Ageing, Christopher Pyne, announced today.

“The committee will help develop innovative approaches to delivering treatment for people with cannabis problems, including dependency, as well as providing education about the dangers of cannabis use,” said Mr Pyne, who also has ministerial responsibility for illicit drugs policy.

“It is a high-calibre committee and will bring a wealth of expertise to the centre, assisting it in its important work.

“I am particularly pleased that a former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, Trish Worth, has agreed to head the committee,” he said.

The committee includes members from Victoria Police, the Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs and the Australian National Council on Drugs as well as representatives of the centre's governing consortium member organisations and Government representatives.

The Australian Government is providing more than \$12 million over four years for the centre, which is part of the Government's *Tough on Drugs* initiative.

A list of committee members is attached.

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National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre Management Committee

The NCPIC Management Committee will include the following individuals and stakeholders (an annual membership review will be undertaken to ensure appropriate coverage).

Ms Trish Worth (Chair)
Professor Richard P Mattick (NDARC)
Professor Steve Allsop (National Drug Research Institute)
Dr Toni Makkai (Australian Institute of Criminology)
Dr Dan Lubman (ORYGEN Research Centre)
Professor Ann Roche (National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction)
Mr Wesley Noffs (The Ted Noffs Foundation)
Ms Margaret Morton (Lifeline)
Ms Virginia Hart (Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing)
Dr Rachel David
Professor Ross Fitzgerald
Ms Anne Healy (Department of Education, Science and Training representative)
Deputy Superintendent Wendy Steendam (Victoria Police)
Superintendent Frank Hansen (Inter-governmental Committee on Drugs – law enforcement representative)
Paul Smith (Inter-governmental Committee on Drugs – health representative)
Associate Professor Robert Ali (Australian National Council on Drugs)
Professor Wayne Hall (University of Queensland)
Professor Ted Wilkes (Curtin University).