



THE HON JUSTINE ELLIOT MP

Minister for Ageing

MEDIA RELEASE

Statement on Edgarley Hostel/Edgarley Home in rural Victoria

Minister for Ageing, Mrs Justine Elliot said:

“This is a totally unacceptable situation. It is sheer stupidity.

“That is why I have ordered the Aged Care and Standards Accreditation Agency to conduct a full audit of Edgarley Hostel/Edgarley Home.

“I am advised that on the evening of 4 June 2008, four residents at a nursing home in rural Victoria were taken to hospital after ingesting caustic soda.

“I am advised that a saucepan containing a caustic soda paste was left on the stove and another kitchen staff member allegedly served it to residents.

“The Victorian Police were notified and investigated and will not be pursuing criminal charges in relation to this matter.

“I can advise that the two kitchen staff members involved in the incident have been stood down.

“All affected residents have now returned to the home.

“Again, this can only be described as a stupid and unacceptable incident.”

For more information, contact Mrs Elliot's office on (02) 6277 7280