

# Statewide PCP Chairs' Working Group

17<sup>th</sup> November, 2004.

Dr Jacqueline Goodall  
Legislation and Policy Officer  
Legislation Review  
Public Health  
Department of Human Services  
GPO box 1670N  
Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Dr Goodall

**RE: Review of Health Act**

I write on behalf of the Statewide PCP Chairs Working Group, a nominated group of representatives of the 31 Primary Care Partnerships around Victoria who in turn represent some 800 health and community service agencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important review. While not being placed to undertake an extensive exercise in relation to the review, our group was able to read the recent Discussion Paper and wished to respond to some of the higher order issues.

Firstly, we are keen to endorse the proposed overarching framework and objects of the new act and applaud the incorporation of specific work to assist in reducing health inequalities.

Secondly we are keen to see the incorporation of a principle that recognises the promotion and protection of public health is a collaborative and intersectoral effort.

We would also welcome guiding principles for integrated planning approaches that encourage the sharing of data and other resources and identify clear roles and responsibilities to minimise duplication of effort.

We are also keen to see the concept of partnership between state and local government and between government and non - Government addressed in the new Act as this would reflect the approach undertaken in modern public health methodologies.

In relation to the Municipal Public Health Plan links, we believe the plans should be raised to the same status as the Municipal Strategic Statement as this would help ensure their effectiveness.

Thank you again, for the opportunity to contribute to the review.



Clare Amies  
Chairperson  
Statewide PCP Chairs Working Group