



COMMUNIQUE SBO / ADGP Coalition Meeting 2 November 2005

The Coalition held a productive one day meeting in Western Australia prior to the National Divisions Forum.

The initial focus of the meeting was on the Primary Health Care Position Statement that was to be launched at the Forum along with the scoping document and the second edition of Dynamic Divisions. Discussion focused on the next steps to progress this work, with a particular focus on providing a basis for budget submissions at both state (via SBOs) and Commonwealth levels. The Coalition endorsed the establishment of a Coalition Policy Group comprising a network of all those working in the SBOs and ADGP in the policy area in order to provide focus, support and the defining of processes for developing policy for the Network. The first task of this group could be to develop an action plan to be forwarded to the Coalition and the Divisions' Network more broadly for consultation. The group will also provide a mechanism for an effective response to reports and reviews.

The Coalition also endorsed a consistent approach to general practice consultation at with State health and supported SBOs being resourced to convene and provide the secretariat to meet regularly with state health.

The Coalition provided feedback to the budget submission being developed by ADGP on behalf of the Network and discussed a number of other key issues for the Network including IM/IT, a national leadership program for Divisions, Aged Care, branding the Network, bowel cancer screening, mental health, pandemic planning and nurse practitioners.

The Coalition also received an update from ADGP on major pieces of work including the Central Bayside appeal, ERM and the Collaboratives.

The Coalition also met formally via teleconference with Ms Lisa McGlynn, Assistant Secretary, Primary Care Division, Department of Health and Ageing focusing primarily on the National performance and development pool. The Coalition were asked to provide input into the first year's planning for this funding pool.

The Coalition agreed they will meet with the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Committee early next year. This will provide an opportunity to focus on the interface between national and state policy as it relates to primary health care.

For information on any of the items discussed above, please contact your SBO representative in your state or territory.