

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

Annual Report

2000/2001



WA Drug Abuse
Strategy Office

Web Document

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Letter to the Premier and Responsible Minister

The Hon Dr G I Gallop BEd MA MPhil DPhil MLA
Premier, Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs; Science;
Citizenship and Multicultural Interests
24th Floor, 197 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Hon R C (Bob) Kucera APM MLA
Minister for Health
10th Fl, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
PERTH WA 6005

In accordance with section 62 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*, I hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report for the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office, for the year ended 30 June 2000.

The Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Murphy', written in a cursive style.

Terry Murphy
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

31 August 2001

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Foreword from the Executive Director

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office was established in mid 1997 to co-ordinate whole of government and whole of community drug strategy. As such, it has worked with a range of government agencies including Health and Police which are traditionally considered to be the main partners in tackling drug abuse in the community, but also Education, Justice, Aboriginal Affairs, Family and Children's Services and other agencies relevant to specific issues.

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office has been part of the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet (1997), Family and Children's Services (1998-2000) and in 2000/2001 has been a separate agency under the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985. In the coming year, 2001/2002, it has been anticipated that the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office will become part of the health portfolio and department and will not be maintained as a separate agency. Consequently, this is the only annual report to be produced by the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office has had the privilege of playing a leadership role in co-ordinating the Government's and the community's efforts to tackle the major social issue of drug abuse. It has been the fulsome participation by all the partners in drug strategy, across the community and government, all of whom are essential to success, that has enabled me, and the staff of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office, to remain enthusiastic about the formidable challenges this work presents.

Terry Murphy
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Agency Structure and Management

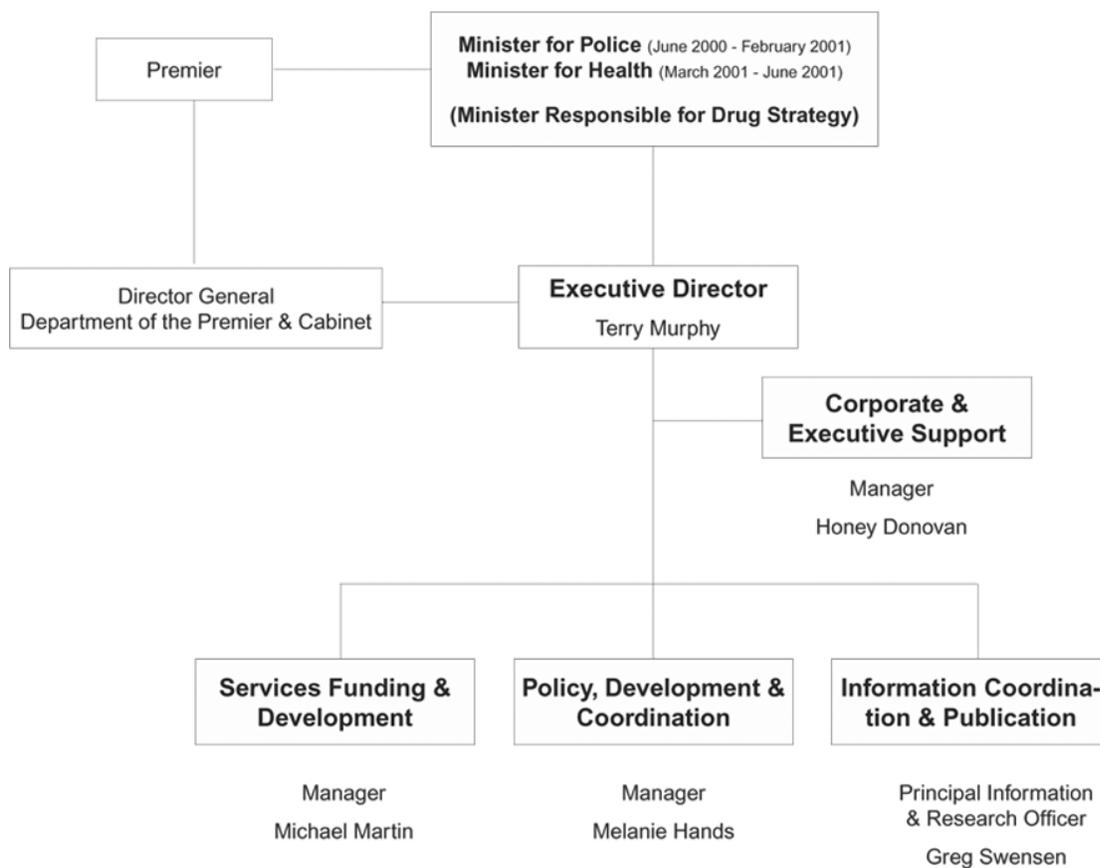
Overview

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office (WADASO) was established in June 1997 within the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet and subsequently became part of the Family and Children's Services portfolio in June 1998. On 1 July 2000 WADASO was created as a stand alone agency, being a separate division in the budget statements under the Premier (part 2, division 9) and an agency under the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

WADASO has coordinated the development and implementation of Western Australia's strategy against drug abuse.

Its core functions have been to develop and coordinate a whole of government and whole of community response to drug problems; provide advice to government; and develop and purchase services to assist individuals, families and communities prevent and reduce the abuse of alcohol and other drugs, and its associated harms.

Organisational Structure



Ministerial Responsibilities

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office has been responsible to the Premier. The Premier delegated responsibility for WADASO to a Minister designated as the Minister responsible for drug strategy. The Executive Director of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office has reported to the Minister responsible for drug strategy.

Term of Appointment of Chief Executive Officer

The Executive Director, Mr Terry Murphy, is the Accountable Officer for the agency, as prescribed in section 52 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

The Executive Director has full delegated authority under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* from the Director General of the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet.

Mr Murphy's contract ceased on 30 October 2000 and he was reappointed on a five year contract to 30 June 2005.

Senior Staff

Terry Murphy Executive Director

Terry Murphy (BEc BAppSc GradDipPsych MBA) was appointed to the position of Executive Director in 1997 after being manager of the Task Force on Drug Abuse since 1995.

Prior to this Mr Murphy held senior management positions in government and non-government organisations in health and welfare areas including disability services, community development and juvenile justice as well as alcohol and drugs.

In the alcohol and drug field Mr Murphy was a counsellor at Cyrenian House, the first director of Palmerston and founding manager of the Central Drug Unit at the WA Alcohol and Drug Authority.

Iain Cameron Manager - Policy Coordination and Development

Iain Cameron (BEd GradDipHlthSc MA) was Manager – Policy, Coordination & Development at WADASO from 1998 until November 2000 when he took up the role of Executive Director at the Office of Road Safety.

Originally a teacher, Mr Cameron taught health and physical education in metropolitan and country schools before working for the Health Department and later the Education Department on school health projects, professional development programs for teachers and parents, curriculum writing, and policy work on various health education issues in schools. Mr Cameron had leadership roles in the development and implementation of the WA School Health Project and later the WA School Drug Education Project.

Mr Cameron has a particular interest in education for young people to help prevent lifestyle diseases and injuries and he has significant experience in coordinating multi-agency responses to health issues confronting young people and their families in our community.

Ms Melanie Hands Acting Manager – Policy, Coordination and Development

Melanie Hands (GradDipHlthSc) was appointed as Acting Manager - Policy, Coordination and Development in November 2000 having previously held the positions of Principal Policy Officer at the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office from 1997 and Senior Policy Officer from 1996. Ms Hands has over

ten years experience in the alcohol and drug field and has held a variety of academic, research and management positions at Curtin University of Technology, University of Melbourne, Drug Services Victoria, Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre and the WA Task Force on Drug Abuse.

Emmanuel Stamatou
Manager - Services Funding and Development

Emmanuel Stamatou (BSocSci BSW) joined the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office in October 1997. He was transferred into this position from the Health Department of Western Australia where he was employed in a similar capacity as the manager responsible for the alcohol and drug services funding program.

Mr Stamatou first joined the alcohol and drug field in 1983 when he was appointed Principal Social Worker for the then WA Alcohol and Drug Authority and later promoted to the position of Director of Community Services in the same organisation where he was responsible for the non-government funding program and the metropolitan and country regional community services.

Prior to joining the alcohol and drug field, Mr Stamatou was employed by the Commonwealth Government with the Department of Social Security in rehabilitation services and the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs as the manager of community funding for ethnic based welfare services, migrant resource centres and the welfare services unit. He also worked at Royal Perth Hospital as a Senior Social Work Supervisor between 1982-83.

Michael Martin
Acting Manager - Services Funding and Development

Michael Martin (BA BSW) was seconded from the Domestic Violence Prevention Unit, Women's Policy Office in November 2000. In his substantive position he was a Senior Program Development Officer, with particular responsibility for Aboriginal projects and counselling programs for men. Previous to that position, Mr Martin was Manager of the Relationships Australia (WA) Family Violence Intervention Program. He has seventeen years experience in a range of human service roles in the public and private sector, with an emphasis in the last five years on services funding and development.

Greg Swensen
Principal Information and Research Officer

Greg Swensen (BAppSc MA LLB), has worked in this position from the inception of the office. He has had more than twenty years of involvement in the alcohol and other drug field, as a social worker in the statutory sector from 1978 until 1995 and then as Coordinator of the WA Drug Data Collection Unit for a three year period.

Honey Donovan
Manager Corporate Services

Honey Donovan (BBus) joined the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office in July 2000, being appointed to the position of Manager Corporate Services in December 2000. She was previously with the Public Sector Management Division of the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet in Strategic Employment and the Executive Management branches.

Prior to this time Ms Donovan held the positions of Human Resource Manager, Arts Development Manager and Manager – Subiaco Theatre Centre and Quarry Amphitheatre with the Perth Theatre Trust over a ten year period. The establishment of the Ministry of Culture and the Arts, and participation in the cross agency working group to develop a sustainable structure for the Corporate Services Division provided experience in the change management processes of public sector agencies.

Mission and Goals

Mission

To manage the State's strategy to reduce the extent and impact of abuse of legal and illicit drugs in the community.

Goals and Functions

To reduce the extent of drug abuse and its impact through an integrated whole of government and whole of community strategy.

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office co-ordinates the development and implementation of Western Australian drug strategy. Its core functions are to:

- develop and coordinate a whole of government and whole of community response to drug problems;
- provide advice to government and its agencies; and
- develop and purchase services to assist individuals, families and communities to prevent and reduce the abuse of alcohol and other drugs and its associated harms.

Summary of Key Output

Key Output - Drug abuse strategy co-ordination, treatment and prevention services

Aims	Strategies
To coordinate the drug abuse strategy across the State	Development and promotion of policy and coordination of activity by multiple agencies
	Monitoring and analysis of drug abuse trends and publication of information
To support the provision of treatment and prevention services	Purchase of treatment and support services for people and their families with drug problems
	Development of mainstream human services to address clients' drug abuse problems
	Provision of education programs and support to Local Drug Action Groups and other community based prevention activities

Major Achievements

- 86% of the 109 initiatives under the *WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse Action Plan for 1999-2001* were implemented by June 2001.
- A comprehensive drug diversion strategy for adults and juveniles, developed in partnership with the Police Service and the Ministry of Justice, was commenced to engage offenders into treatment at various levels of the criminal justice system. It encompasses diversion by police direct to treatment for first time offenders and court diversion options through to a dedicated drug court for the most serious offenders. Treatment services were expanded to accommodate diversion.
- The *Working in Partnership with Parents* program developed in partnership with a range of agencies and parents themselves was consolidated with the operation of the Parent Drug Information Service providing parent to parent support, expansion of local community parent support networks and the commencement of family sensitive practice development in agencies.

- Under the Western Australian research strategy, studies of the relationship between cannabis and other drugs and suicide, ambulance responses to heroin overdose and a wide range of statistical bulletins were published.
- Community Drug Service Teams and non government alcohol and drug services had 11,643 admissions to their programs in 2000, a 10% increase from 1999 and an 81% increase from 1998.
- Best practice in treatment was promoted with the publication of key documents summarising indicators of best practice and core counselling skills. The indicators form part of agency contracts and the publications were well received in Western Australia and nationally.
- The comprehensive heroin overdose strategy involving medical and emergency services, alcohol and drug agencies, academics and drug users themselves achieved a small reduction in the number of suspected deaths in Western Australia in 2000 before a substantial fall was achieved across the nation following substantial reductions in heroin supply.
- The School Drug Education Project was positively evaluated by Curtin University and has substantially expanded the number of schools involved in professional development, launched strategies to target the post compulsory years, and commenced the *In Touch* school drug counselling program.
- The *Drug Aware* public education program was expanded with a youth strategy involving community activities to complement specific campaigns and a targeted drugs and driving prevention campaign.
- The number of Local Drug Action Groups increased to its target of eighty groups around the State including seven in remote Aboriginal communities.

Summary of Significant Issues, Trends and Future Directions

Issues and Trends

- Drug abuse continues to be a significant problem in Western Australia as it is throughout Australia and the world.
- Drug abuse is a complex issue, or series of issues, requiring multi-faceted strategies, collaboration across government and non government agencies, and the involvement of the broad community.
- While there is continuing international and national escalation of illicit drug abuse, particularly with respect to amphetamine type drugs, there has been a substantial decrease in worldwide production of heroin and attendant falls in the rates of use and harm in Western Australia and other States.
- Adult alcohol consumption has declined over recent years, however, there is a significant level of 'at risk' drinking among young adults, and increasing levels of 'at risk' drinking among youth, which creates substantial health and social harm in the community.
- Adult tobacco use, after reducing over recent years, has plateaued and continues to create substantial health costs for the community, while smoking by young people has shown some significant decreases since the mid 1990s.

Future Directions

The Government is conducting a Community Drug Summit in which the full spectrum of laws, policies and programs to address illicit drug use will be considered. Co-ordination of the implementation of the Government's response to the recommendations of the Community Drug Summit will follow.

A WA framework for action on alcohol misuse will be developed based on an audit of current activity against the national action plan and identification of additional initiatives. Co-ordination of implementation will follow.

A WA framework for action on solvent abuse will be developed. Co-ordination of implementation will follow.

Report on Key Output

Whole of Government and Whole of Community Coordination

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office's responsibility to co-ordinate a whole of government and whole of community drug strategy has required an ethos and practice of working in partnership.

Working in Partnership

Working in partnership has meant that the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office has supported and integrated the activity of the major participating government departments (Health Department, Police Service, Education Department, Aboriginal Affairs Department, Family and Children's Services and the Ministry of Justice) as well as maintaining specific partnerships with others (Office of Road Safety, Office of Racing, Gaming and Liquor and the Office of Youth Affairs).

This has been assisted by the Ministerial Council on Drug Abuse Strategy and the Senior Officers Group as well as the Education Co-ordination Group, Drug Services Group and the Alcohol and Drug Research and Policy Forum.

Regional co-ordination has been achieved through Community Drug Service Teams working in conjunction with regional school drug education networks, Youth Advisory Councils, Safer WA committees, and supporting the participation of key agencies at a local level as well as action by the community.

Local community action and participation has involved Local Drug Action Groups throughout the State as well as key partnerships with local governments, sporting associations, pharmacy, businesses and tertiary institutions.

This approach has seen 86% of the 109 initiatives planned for implementation between 1999 and 2001, led by various government agencies, implemented by June 2001.

A number of specific drug strategies require cross departmental co-ordination. Some significant examples implemented during the year follow.

WA Drug Diversion Program

The WA Drug Diversion Program was developed in response to the National Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative agreed to by the Council of Australian Governments in 1999.

Western Australia's diversion program includes the cannabis cautioning system for first time cannabis offenders involving attendance at an education intervention in lieu of prosecution, the pilot of diversion of first time offenders for drugs other than cannabis by police directly to compulsory

assessment and participation in treatment, the pilot of specialist drug courts in Perth, the expansion of other court diversion options and a corresponding expansion of treatment services. The key partners in the WA Drug Diversion Program are the Police Service, the Ministry of Justice and the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

Western Australia's approach to police diversion has allowed for first time minor drug offenders who are in possession of drugs up to approximately one quarter of the statutory defined amount indicating a presumption of sale or supply, to be eligible for diversion. This involved over 1,000 cannabis offenders during the 2000-2001 year, while the system for offenders for drugs other than cannabis effectively began in February 2001 in Mirrabooka, Perth and Geraldton police districts and had 14 participants in the year.

Drug courts and expanded court diversion options were launched in December 2000 and effectively began in February 2001. This involves supervised treatment regimes which operate as a condition of bail to divert offenders into treatment (with drug court regimes) within the Court of Petty Sessions, with a dedicated drug court magistrate, the District Court and the Children's Court. In the year to the end of June, there had been some 87 participants in the drug court regime and 53 in expanded court diversion options.

Working in Partnership with Parents

The *Working in Partnership with Parents* strategy involves a range of activities developed in collaboration with community groups and professional services to expand the level of support for families. Specific responses occur through the Parent Drug Information Service and its volunteer network of parents, local parent support networks in conjunction with Local Drug Action Groups, expanded professional support programs in specialist agencies and improving the family sensitivity of alcohol and drug agencies. Key partners in this project with the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office are government and non government alcohol and drug agencies, Local Drug Action Groups, and a substantial network of parents themselves.

Other Partnership Projects

A range of other projects illustrate the breadth of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office's partnership activities.

- The development of a child protection assessment instrument and training together with Family and Children's Services.
- The drugs and driving campaign and program with the Office of Road Safety.
- Public education programs including media campaigns undertaken with the Health Department (Public Health).
- Best practice in alcohol and drug treatment publications developed with the Health Department (Next Step - Specialist Drug and Alcohol Services).
- Drug free prison unit and associated practice development with staff undertaken with the Ministry of Justice.
- Integration of the police role in school and community education with the School Drug Education Project and the work of Community Drug Service Teams.
- The School Drug Education Project involving the government, Catholic and non government education sectors working in partnership with community alcohol and drug services and Local Drug Action Groups.

Monitoring Trends

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office has coordinated the provision of information regarding drug abuse in Western Australia, as well as monitoring and publicising national and international trends.

A range of statistical bulletins have been published outlining trends in drug offences, seizures of illicit drugs, utilisation of sobering up centres, telephone information and advice calls, and distribution of needles and syringes.

Analyses of the latest of Western Australian surveys of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drug use among youth and adults have been produced and disseminated through the WA Drug Strategy website and to interested groups.

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office published three occasional papers focussing on key issues of concern during the year. These covered the issues of management of opiate overdoses, youth suicide involving cannabis and other drugs, and the evaluation of the WA psychostimulants campaign.

A range of activity and outcome indicators reflecting the implementation of the strategic framework underpinning WA drug strategy was published in March 2001 under the title *WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse – Action Plan 1999-2001, Activity and Outcome Indicators 1999-2000*.

The WA Drug Strategy website recorded a total of 123,248 successful requests for downloads of pages during the year. This is an average of 338 per day. Additionally, a total of 8,252 distinct files were requested during the year from the website.

Treatment and Support Services

Community Drug Service Teams and Non Government Organisations

In 2000-2001, the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office funded 86 treatment services provided by six major non government specialist alcohol and drug agencies, eleven other non government agencies providing alcohol and drug services in conjunction with health and welfare services, twelve Community Drug Service Teams managed by a range of government and non government organisations and ten sobering up centres.

In the calendar year 2000, Community Drug Service Teams and non government organisations had 11,643 admissions to their programs. This was a 10% increase from 10,562 admissions in 1999 and an 81% increase from 6,458 admissions in 1998.

Whereas services operated without waiting lists as a general rule in 1999, an estimated 6% of clients spent time on a waiting list in 2000.

Figure 1: Utilisation of services – Community Drug Service Teams/non government organisation programs, number of admissions by type of service, 1998-2000

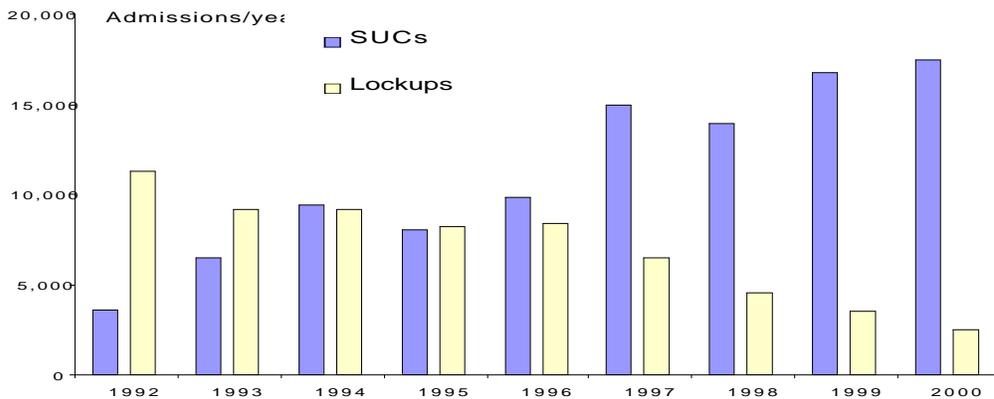
Type of Service	1998	1999	2000
Metropolitan			
Detoxification (inpatient)	634	692	761
Residential	914	1,372	1,753
Outpatient	3,952	6,092	6,468
Other	335	179	334
Total metropolitan	5,835	8,335	9,316
Country			
Residential	100	105	77
Outpatient	523	2,122	2,250
Total country	623	2,227	2,327
Total admissions	6,458	10,562	11,643

Services were significantly expanded to accommodate Western Australia’s comprehensive diversion program outlined in more detail above. Commonwealth funding of \$2.7m included \$1.5m in retainer funding to expand existing services in order for diverted clients to receive treatment without displacing voluntary clients. Ten non government agencies and the twelve Community Drug Service Teams received this funding in order to provide education under the cannabis cautioning system, assessment following police diversion for drugs other than cannabis and expanded outpatient and residential treatment. The National Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative also includes funding for programs for families and schools. This has enabled Community Drug Service Teams to be further enhanced to provide proactive services for families and schools where clients are subject to police or court diversion.

Sobering up Centres

Sobering up centres had 17,468 admissions in the year 2000, a 4% increase from the 16,791 admissions in 1999 and a 26% increase from the 13,908 admissions in 1998. The increase in sobering up centre admissions continued to be offset by a decrease in the number of intoxicated people held in police lock-up, see Figure 2 below. Sobering up centres were expanded during the year with the opening of Mission Australia’s On Track program in the central city which works closely with the Police Service’s Juvenile Aid Group and focusses on reconnecting young people to their families.

Figure 2: Number of intoxicated people held in police lockups & sobering up centres, 1992-2000



Best Practice in Treatment

Promotion of best practice in treatment services was a major focus of the year’s activities. Three publications, *A Summary of the Evidence Based Practice Indicators for Alcohol and Other Drug Interventions*, and the background papers, *A Guide for Counsellors Working with Alcohol and Other Drug Users – Core Counselling Skills*, and *Evidence Based Practice Indicators for Alcohol and Other Drug Interventions – Literature Review*, were published during the year and launched at the Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services Conference in October 2000. The summary indicators form part of the contracts between service providers and the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

Improved outcome measurement reflecting the impact of treatment on drug use, health, social functioning and criminal behaviour, was developed in conjunction with the best practice publications. The uniform outcome measures, together with client satisfaction scales, are included in all contracts of service with the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

Responding to Families

A key area of continuous improvement for alcohol and drug services is inclusion of families. A Family Sensitive Practice Development Project commenced with all alcohol and drug agencies during the

year. It involves education and training, and family policies and action plans being developed by individual agencies to improve support services and the integration of families in the treatment process.

Development of Mainstream Human Services

Practice Development

Following the evaluation of practice development projects with Family and Children's Services and the Ministry of Justice's Community Based Corrections, these projects continued to expand the extent of interventions targeting drug and alcohol abuse in these settings. The effectiveness of a practice development approach that involves organisational development as well as education and training has been clearly demonstrated.

A practice development project was also commenced with Nyandi Women's Prison in conjunction with its trial as a drug free prison unit.

Addressing Heroin Overdose

The coordinated strategy to tackle heroin overdose continued to involve ambulance and hospital emergency and medical services, the Health Department, alcohol and drug agencies, the WA Substance Users Association, the Police Service, the Pharmacy Guild, the National Drug Research Centre and the WA AIDS Council co-ordinated by the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

The strategy managed to keep the number of deaths stable compared to continuing increases in other States with 82 suspected deaths occurring in the year 2000 down from 89 in the previous year. 2001 has seen a substantial decrease in the number of suspected heroin overdoses, a trend also reflected in all other States and considered to be due primarily to a substantial reduction in heroin supply.

Figure 3: Accidental heroin related deaths, WA 1997 quarter 1 – 2001 quarter 2

Year & quarter	Suspected WA Police	Year & quarter	Suspected WA Police
1997		2000	
Q1	21	Q1	17
Q2	23	Q2	28
Q3	22	Q3	16
Q4	18	Q4	21
Total	83	Total	82
1998		2001	
Q1	19	Q1	12
Q2	16	Q2	14
Q3	15	Q3	
Q4	25	Q4	
Total	78	Total	
1999			
Q1	23		
Q2	22		
Q3	18		
Q4	26		
Total	89		

Prevention through Education and Community Action

School Drug Education

The School Drug Education Project developed its third strategic plan, for 2000-2003, following an evaluation of the program by Curtin University's School of Public Health. Some key findings were that curriculum materials were successfully implemented in over 95% of schools undertaking professional development, participants were very satisfied with the quality of curriculum materials, schools undertaking professional development were more likely to report involvement in skills and value based activities than others, all participants in professional development found it to be useful and comprehensive, and schools with more intensive professional development were more likely to have a written drug policy.

Additionally, the School Drug Education Project together with Next Step - Specialist Drug and Alcohol Services developed the *In Touch* school drug counselling program in order to support school counselling, pastoral care and disciplinary staff with the skills to provide early intervention and to support effective linkages with professional services. The *In Touch* program uses a train the trainer model and all school regions have regional trainers in place who undertake individual school training programs supported by Community Drug Service Teams.

Public Education

The *Drug Aware* illicit drug public education program continued through the year and targetted psychostimulants (amphetamines, ecstasy and LSD), heroin and, with support from the Road Safety Council, drugs and driving. *Drug Aware* programs continue to be supported at a community level by Local Drug Action Groups, Community Drug Service Teams and Public Health Units.

The third and final phase of the Host Responsibility campaign, supported by the Road Safety Council and Healthway, targetting the responsible service of alcohol in both social and licensed settings was completed during the year. The program achieved similar results to previous programs and was well supported by the Police Service, the industry and relevant community groups.

Local Drug Action Groups

Local Drug Action Groups continued to expand around the State reaching the target of eighty groups during the year including seven in remote Aboriginal communities. Individual groups continued to support school and public education, parent education and support networks, and activities for youth. They undertook seventy five projects funded through Local Drug Action Group Inc in addition to many other externally funded or purely volunteer activities. Local Drug Action Group Inc as the parent body for all groups assumed a greater level of management for individual groups from the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

Community and Youth Partnerships

Significant new community partnerships were developed with tertiary institutions, universities and TAFEs, implementing a range of education, health promotion and youth activities. Partnerships with night venues and dance promoters were also commenced and involved advertising and outreach at a number of events. Both tertiary and night venue partnerships are strongly integrated with *Drug Aware* education resources and campaign materials.

The Youth Illicit Drug Education Project was undertaken during the year with support from Healthway. This involved training and support for community organisations to provide alcohol and drug free activities for young people integrated with the education resources and campaigns materials of the *Drug Aware* program. Local Drug Action Groups, Community Drug Service Teams, Public Health Units, Youth Advisory Councils and local government youth officers have been enthusiastic in their response.

Community Pharmacy

The partnership with community pharmacy was expanded during the year with the establishment of the Pharmacy Foundation. In addition to a government grant, the Foundation receives income from the sale of needles and syringes in fitpacks. The Foundation's first project has been an ambulance insurance scheme to cover the cost of ambulances attending drug overdose incidents.

Human Resources

In the administration of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office (WADASO), the agency has complied with public sector standards in human resource management, the code of ethics and our code of conduct.

Procedures have been put in place to ensure such compliance and appropriate internal checks have been conducted.

Bureau services to assist with human resource management were provided by the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet's corporate services division.

Disability Services Plan

The agency continued its commitment to ensuring services and facilities are fully accessible to people with disabilities. The agency's disability services plan, prepared in accordance with Section 29 of the Disability Services Act was developed in March 2001 and included on the agency's intranet to improve access and awareness for employees. The plan is to be reviewed regularly and updated on an ongoing basis.

Workplace Reforms

Open consultation with employees was the foundation for the successful negotiation of the first WADASO workplace agreement. This was registered with the Commissioner for Workplace Relations in November 2000, and expires 31 May 2002. It provides employees with a 3% salary increase in June 2001.

Employment Levels

WADASO employed 20 people at 30 June 2001.

Occupational Health

The WADASO had one worker's compensation claim for the 2000/01 financial year, which resulted in lost time from a back injury. The claim has now been settled.

Corporate Governance

Financial Overview

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office's appropriation for capital and recurrent funds in 2000/2001 was \$13.9m being entirely recurrent funds.

With the inclusion of revenue for Commonwealth specific purpose grants of \$3.4m the total budget was some \$17.3m

A Commonwealth specific purpose grant was available for the first time in 2000/2001 for the National Illicit Drug Diversion Strategy, expanding treatment programs to support diversion of drug offenders

by police and courts, and associated school and family programs, as agreed by the Council of Australian Governments in April 1999.

Capital Projects

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office had four capital projects in progress over 2000/2001. These were the establishment of new sobering up centres in Wyndham, Geraldton and Midland, and the redevelopment of the existing sobering up centre in Kalgoorlie. These projects will be completed in 2001/2002.

Advertising and Marketing Expenditure

As required under the *Electoral Act* (S175ZE) shows the Agency's total expenditure and names of recipients under the categories of advertising agencies, market research organisations, media advertising organisations and direct mail organisations is outlined in Appendix 2. There was no expenditure under the category of polling organisation.

Freedom of Information

There were no applications for either personal or non personal information during the year.

Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes

In accordance with section 31(1) of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office is required to comment on the extent to which public sector standards, codes of ethics and any relevant code of conduct have been complied with.

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office adopted policies and procedures supporting public sector standards in human resource management. These were accessible to all employees.

Bureau services to assist with human resource management were provided by the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet's corporate services division.

The applications made for a breach of standards review and the corresponding outcomes for the reporting period are:

- Number Lodged 1
- Breaches found Nil
- Multiple breaches Nil
- Applications under review Nil
- Material breaches Nil

Legislation Impacting on the Agency's Activities

- Disability Services Act
- Equal Opportunity Act
- Financial Administration and Audit Act
- Freedom of Information Act
- Government Employees' Superannuation Act
- Industrial Relations Act
- Library Board of Western Australia Act
- Minimum Conditions of Employment Act
- Occupational Safety and Health Act
- Public and Bank Holidays Act
- Public Sector Management Act
- State Supply Commission Act

- Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act
- Workplace Agreements Act

Output Based Management Measures

As this is the only annual report being presented by the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office, the organisation has been exempted by the Treasurer from providing output based management measures and performance indicators. However, as the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office has produced some of this data in earlier years and considers that comparable data should be maintained as a basis for assessing performance of Western Australian drug strategy into the future, the following unaudited data is reported.

Key Output - Drug abuse strategy coordination, treatment and prevention services

Output description

The coordination of services through the development and promotion of policy and coordination of activity by multiple agencies. Monitoring and analysis of drug abuse trends and publication of information. Provision of treatment and support services for people and their families with drug problems and development of mainstream human services to address clients' drug abuse problems. Provision of education programs and support for Local Drug Action Groups and other community based prevention activities.

Output measures

Measure	1997/1998 Actual	1998/1999 Actual	1999/2000 Actual	2000/2001 Actual
Quantity				
WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse activities and policies implemented	37	35	46	32
Distinct publications produced	450	966	663	739
Treatment programs	38	41	86	86
Prevention activities	68	70	161	162
Quality				
Stakeholders assessing WADASO's role in coordination at a level 'better than satisfactory'	-	67%	83%	80%
Stakeholders assessing WADASO publications at a level 'better than satisfactory'	-	79%	75%	80%
Client satisfaction with treatment programs at a level 'better than satisfactory'	80%	79%	80%	81%
Stakeholders assessing prevention activities at a level 'better than satisfactory'	80%	88%	83%	68%
Timeliness				
WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse activities implemented in the planned time	-	97%	96%	82%
Publications produced as scheduled	-	-	90%	90%
Admissions to treatment programs involving time on a waiting list	-	0%	0%	6%
Prevention activities completed within planned period	-	65%	86%	84%
Cost				
Average cost per coordination (per WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse activity)	\$12,062	\$19,903	\$15,878	\$12,890
Average cost per publication produced	\$63	\$56	\$64	\$97
Average cost per treatment program	\$129,032	\$239,283	\$117,081	\$117,790
Average cost per prevention activity	\$38,458	\$48,076	\$24,321	\$16,954
Effectiveness				
Composite score of difference in prevalence (% ever used drugs: WA vs Australian average)	-	+1%	+2%	+2%

Key effectiveness indicator

Measure	1997/1998 Actual	1998/1999 Actual	1999/2000 Actual	2000/2001 Actual
Proportion of all activities planned as part of the WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse Action Plan for 1999/2001 implemented over the period	-	90%	90%	86%
Overall level of client improvement in treatment programs reported by agencies (a composite score based on levels of reduced illicit drug use, reduced crime, improved health and improved social function)	-	58%	64%	70%
Changes in prevalence of drug abuse over time based on three major prevalence surveys	-	+1%	+1%	-1%

Performance (effectiveness) Measures

Outcome - Reduce the extent and impact of drug abuse

Indicators of effectiveness:

1. Extent to which drug abuse is reduced
2. Extent to which the impact of drug abuse is reduced

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office manages the State's overall drug strategy which involves coordinating the activities of a number of agencies and a whole of government approach to reducing the incidence of and problems caused by drug abuse. The results presented are not claimed to be necessarily a direct result of the activities of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

1. Extent to which drug abuse is reduced

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office seeks to have an impact on the incidence of drug use in Western Australia. The latest available population surveys are presented with comparisons either to national prevalence rates or to the earlier results of the same survey.

The national survey of school students indicates that between 1996 and 1999, with respect to the nine major drug groups in Table 1, there was little change in the overall percentage of students aged twelve to seventeen years who had used any drug in the past month, whereas with respect to the seven illicit drugs in the table, there was an overall decrease of 1% in monthly prevalence.

Table 1: Extent of drug use among youth in Western Australia 1996 vs 1999 (annual prevalence)

Type of drug used in the last month	1996	1999	Difference 1996-1999
Alcohol	48%	52%	+4%
Tobacco	20%	19%	-1%
Cannabis	27%	23%	-4%
Volatile substances	10%	8%	-2%
Amphetamines	3%	7%	+4%
Ecstasy	2%	3%	+1%
LSD	5%	4%	-1%
Opiates	1%	2%	+1%
Cocaine	1%	2%	+1%

Note

This data is from the WA datasets from the 1996 and 1999 Australian School Students' Alcohol and Drug (ASSAD) surveys of school students aged 12 to 17 years. The 1996 survey involved a random survey of 3,325 WA school students and the 1999 survey involved a random survey of 3,458 WA school students aged 12 to 17 years. Comparisons where there are low rates of prevalence are unreliable because of the small sample sizes.

The 1999 national survey of all persons fourteen years and older indicates that overall Western Australian prevalence is on average 2% greater than the national average based on nine major drug groups in Table 2.

Table 2: Extent of drug use among youth and adults in Western Australia vs national rates (annual prevalence)

Type of drug used in the last year	Western Australia	Australia	Difference WA-Australia
Alcohol	86%	81%	+5%
Tobacco	27%	26%	+1%
Cannabis	22%	18%	+4%
Volatile substances	1%	1%	0%
Amphetamines	6%	4%	+2%
Ecstasy	5%	2%	+3%
LSD	4%	3%	+1%
Opiates	1%	1%	0%
Cocaine	1%	1%	0%

Note

This data is from the 1998 National Drug Strategy Household Survey. This survey estimates annual prevalence for the whole population based on people aged 14 years and older. The survey included a national sample of 8,357 private dwellings with a mixture of random and targeted respondent details. Comparisons where there are low rates of prevalence are unreliable because of the small sample sizes.

2. Extent of the impact of drug abuse

The office seeks to reduce the impact of drug abuse on the community by funding treatment programs to assist individuals and families affected by drug abuse. Successful treatment programs were those which reported 'better than satisfactory' performance.

	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001
Programs reporting 'better than satisfactory' performance	na	58%	64%	70%

Note

A 'better than satisfactory' performance is measured by a composite score for the major agencies based on six monthly activity reports from each agency for each distinct program. This score summarises data based on seven standard outcome measures including reason for discharge, improvement in physical health, improvement in mental health, reduction in criminal behaviour, reduction in current drug use, improvement in social functioning and client rating of program effectiveness.

Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the year ended 30 June 2000 and the financial position as at 30 June 2000.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Murphy', written in a cursive style.

Terry Murphy
ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Honey Donovan', written in a cursive style.

Honey Donovan
PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER

31 August 2001



AUDITOR GENERAL

To the Parliament of Western Australia

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DRUG ABUSE STRATEGY OFFICE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2001

Scope

I have audited the final accounts and financial statements of the Western Australian Drug Abuse Strategy Office for the year ended June 30, 2001 under the provisions of the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985.

The Accountable Officer was responsible for keeping proper accounts and maintaining adequate systems of internal control, preparing and presenting the financial statements, and complying with the Act and other relevant written law. The primary responsibility for the detection, investigation and prevention of irregularities rested with the Accountable Officer. Following the abolition of the Office with effect from July 1, 2001 the Treasurer appointed a Reporting Officer under the provisions of section 65A of the Act, who was responsible for preparing and presenting the final financial statements.

My audit was performed in accordance with section 79 of the Act to form an opinion based on a reasonable level of assurance. The audit procedures included examining, on a test basis, the controls exercised by the Office to ensure financial regularity in accordance with legislative provisions, evidence to provide reasonable assurance that the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements are free of material misstatement and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and the Treasurer's Instructions so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Office's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed below has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion,

- (i) the controls exercised by the Western Australian Drug Abuse Strategy Office provide reasonable assurance that the receipt and expenditure of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions; and
- (ii) the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Output Schedule of Expenses and Revenue and Summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Revenue Estimates and the Notes to and forming part of the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and the Treasurer's Instructions, the financial position of the Office at June 30, 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

D D R PEARSON
AUDITOR GENERAL
October 11, 2001



AUDITOR GENERAL

To the Parliament of Western Australia

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DRUG ABUSE STRATEGY OFFICE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2001

Scope

I have audited the final accounts and financial statements of the Western Australian Drug Abuse Strategy Office for the year ended June 30, 2001 under the provisions of the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985.

The Accountable Officer was responsible for keeping proper accounts and maintaining adequate systems of internal control, preparing and presenting the financial statements, and complying with the Act and other relevant written law. The primary responsibility for the detection, investigation and prevention of irregularities rested with the Accountable Officer. Following the abolition of the Office with effect from July 1, 2001 the Treasurer appointed a Reporting Officer under the provisions of section 65A of the Act, who was responsible for preparing and presenting the final financial statements.

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Audit Opinion

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- (ii) the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Output Schedule of Expenses and Revenue and Summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Revenue Estimates and the Notes to and forming part of the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and the Treasurer's Instructions, the financial position of the Office at June 30, 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

D D R PEARSON
AUDITOR GENERAL
October 11, 2001

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

For the year ended 30 June 2001

	Note	2000/01 \$
COST OF SERVICES		
Expenses from Ordinary Activities		
Employee expenses	5	1,243,878
Communication expenses		56,967
Services and contracts	6	14,392,547
Consumables	7	186,674
Grants and subsidies	8	643,711
Accommodation expenses		60,478
Depreciation expense	9	107,870
Net loss on disposal of non-current assets	10	7,822
Total cost of services		<u>16,699,947</u>
Revenues from Ordinary Activities		
Commonwealth grants and contributions	12	3,390,098
Grants from government agencies	13	1,004,950
Other revenues from ordinary activities	11	12,954
Total revenues from ordinary activities		<u>4,408,002</u>
NET COST OF SERVICES		<u>12,291,945</u>
REVENUES FROM GOVERNMENT		
Appropriations	13	13,480,000
Liabilities assumed by the Treasurer	13	75,940
Assets assumed / (transferred)	13	3,635,387
Resources received free of charge	13	58,807
Total revenues from government		<u>17,250,134</u>
NET CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS		<u>4,958,189</u>
Total revenues, expenses and valuation adjustments recognised directly in equity		<u>0</u>
TOTAL CHANGES IN EQUITY OTHER THAN THOSE RESULTING FROM TRANSACTIONS WITH OWNERS AS OWNERS		<u><u>4,958,189</u></u>

The Statement of Financial Performance should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

For the year ended 30 June 2001

	Note	2000/01 \$ Inflows (Outflows)
CASH FLOWS FROM GOVERNMENT		
Recurrent appropriations	13	13,480,000
Net cash provided by Government		<u>13,480,000</u>
Utilised as follows:		
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Payments		
Employee costs		(1,141,016)
Communication		(55,620)
Services and contracts		(14,339,534)
Consumables		(183,938)
Grants and subsidies		(644,876)
Accommodation		(86,618)
GST paid on purchases		(1,532,046)
GST receipts paid to taxation authority		(54,186)
Receipts		
Commonwealth grants and contributions	12	3,390,098
Grants from other government agencies		1,004,950
Interest received		4,087
Other receipts		8,866
GST receipts from taxation authority		1,444,682
GST receipts payable to taxation authority		54,254
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	23(c)	<u>(12,130,897)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payments for purchase of non-current assets		<u>(111,221)</u>
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities		<u>(111,221)</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		1,237,882
Cash at the beginning of the reporting period		0
Cash transferred from other agencies	13	1,847,606
Cash at the end of the reporting period	23(a)	<u><u>3,085,488</u></u>

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2001

	Note	2000/01 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash assets	14	1,714,745
Restricted cash assets	15	1,370,743
Receivables	16	83,071
Prepayments	17	63,508
Total current assets		3,235,067
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	18	2,027,966
Total non-current assets		2,027,966
Total assets		5,263,033
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	19	54,341
Provisions	20	165,521
Other liabilities	21	24,994
Total current liabilities		244,856
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	20	59,988
Total non-current liabilities		59,988
Total liabilities		304,844
Net Assets		4,958,189
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus / (deficiency)	22	4,958,189
Total Equity		4,958,189

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

OUTPUT SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES AND REVENUES

For the year ended 30 June 2001

	Note	Total
Output 1: Drug abuse strategy co-ordination, treatment and prevention services		2000/01 \$
COST OF SERVICES		
Operating expenses		
Employee expenses	5	1,243,8 78
Communication	-	56,967
Services and contracts	6	14,392, 547
Consumables	7	186,674
Grants and subsidies	8	643,711
Accommodation expenses	-	60,478
Depreciation	9	107,870
Net loss on disposal of non current assets	10	7,822
Total cost of services		16,699, 947
Revenues from ordinary activities		
Grants and contributions - Commonwealth	12	3,390,0 98
Grants from government agencies	13	1,004,9 50
Other revenues from ordinary activities	11	12,954
Total operating revenues		4,408,0 02
NET COST OF SERVICES		12,291, 945
REVENUES FROM GOVERNMENT		
Appropriations	13	13,480, 000
Liabilities assumed by the Treasurer	13	75,940
Assets assumed/(transferred)	13	3,635,3 87
Resources received free of charge	13	58,807
Total revenues from Government		17,250, 134
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS		<u>4,958,1</u> <u>89</u>

The Output Schedule of Expenses and Revenues should be read in

conjunction with the accompanying notes.

SUMMARY – CONSOLIDATED FUND APPROPRIATIONS & REVENUE ESTIMATES

For the year ended 30 June 2001

	2000/01	2000/01	
	Estimate	Actual	Variance
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
RECURRENT			
Amount required to fund outputs for the year	15,531	17,888	2,357
Less retained revenue – Section 23A Financial Administration and Audit Act	(2,005)	(4,408)	(2,403)
Item 12 – Amount provided to fund outputs for year	13,526	13,480	(46)
Total recurrent services	13,526	13,891	365
CAPITAL			
Amount provided for capital services for the year	-	-	-
Total capital services	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	13,526	13,480	(46)
Details of Expenditure			
RECURRENT			
Outputs			
Output 1: Drug abuse strategy co-ordination, treatment and prevention services	15,531	17,888	2,357
Less retained revenue	(2,005)	(4,408)	(2,403)
Adjustment for cash balances and other funding sources	-	-	-
CAPITAL			
Capital expenditure	-	-	-
Adjustment for cash balances and other funding sources	-	-	-
Grand Total of Appropriations	13,526	13,480	(46)
Details of Revenue Estimates			
Revenues disclosed as Operating Revenues	2,005	4,408	(2,403)
Total Revenue Estimates	2,005	4,408	(2,403)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2001

Note 1

Departmental mission and funding

The mission of the Office is “*To manage the State’s strategy to reduce the extent and impact of abuse of legal and illicit drugs in the community.*”

The Office is predominantly funded by Parliamentary appropriations, together with grants from Commonwealth and State agencies. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the Office controls resources to carry on its functions.

Note 2

Significant accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

(a) General Statement

The financial statements constitute a general purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Urgent Issues Group (UIG) Consensus Views as applied by the Treasurer's Instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's Instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording. The Financial Administration and Audit Act and the Treasurer's Instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards and UIG Consensus Views. The modifications are intended to fulfil the requirements of general application to the public sector together with the need for greater disclosure and also to satisfy accountability requirements.

If any such modification has a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and where practicable, the resulting financial effect are disclosed in individual notes to these financial statements.

(b) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention.

(c) Appropriations

Appropriations in the nature of revenue, whether recurrent or capital, are recognised as revenues in the period in which the Office gains control of the appropriated funds. The Office gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited into the Office's bank account. Appropriations which are repayable to the Treasurer are recognised as liabilities.

(d) Net Appropriation Determination

Pursuant to section 23A of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act*, the net appropriation determination by the Treasurer provides for retention of the following moneys received by the Office:

- Proceeds from fees and charges; and
- Proceeds from training courses provided.

Retained revenues may only be applied to the outputs specified in the 2000-2001 Budget Statements.

Details of retained revenues are disclosed in the Summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Revenue Estimates.

(e) Grants and Other Contributions Revenue

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the Office obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon their receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

(f) Depreciation of Non-current Assets

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation is provided for on the reducing balance basis, using rates which are reviewed annually. Useful lives for each class of depreciable assets are:

- Buildings 25 years
- Computer equipment 4 years
- Furniture and fittings 5 to 15 years
- Other plant and equipment 4 to 10 years

(g) Employee entitlements

Annual leave

This entitlement is recognised at current remuneration rates and is measured at the amount unpaid at the reporting date in respect to employees service up to that date.

Long service leave

A liability for long service leave is recognised, and is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Consideration is given, when assessing expected future payments, to expected future wage and salary levels including relevant on costs, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using interest rates to obtain the estimated future cash outflows.

This method of measurement of the liability is consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standard AAS 30 “Accounting for Employee Entitlements”.

Superannuation

Staff may contribute to the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act Scheme, a defined benefits pension scheme now closed to new members, or to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme, a defined benefit lump sum scheme now also closed to new members. All staff who do not contribute to either of these schemes become non-contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme, an accumulation fund complying with the Commonwealth Government's *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*.

The superannuation expense comprises the following elements:

- i. change in the unfunded employer's liability in respect of current employees who are members of the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act Scheme and current employees who accrued a benefit on transfer from that Scheme to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme; and
- ii. notional employer contributions which would have been paid to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme and West State Superannuation Scheme if the Office had made concurrent employer contributions to those Schemes.

(The superannuation expense does not include payment of pensions to retirees, as this does not constitute part of the cost of services provided by the Office in the current year).

(h) Leases

The Western Australian Drug Abuse Strategy Office has entered into operating lease arrangements for the rent of buildings and office equipment where the lessors effectively retain all of the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the items. Equal instalments of the lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Performance over the lease term as this is representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property.

The Office has no contractual obligations under finance leases.

(i) Receivables

Receivables are recognised at the amounts receivable as they are due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off. A provision for doubtful debts is raised where some doubts as to collection exists.

(j) Accrued Salaries

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year, as the end of the last pay period for that financial year does not coincide with the end of the financial year.

(k) Payables

Payables, including accruals not yet billed, are recognised when the Office becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. Payables are generally settled within 30 days.

(l) Resources Received Free of Charge or For Nominal Value

Resources received free of charge or for nominal value which can be reliably measured are recognised as revenues and as assets or expenses as appropriate at fair value.

(m) Recognition of Revenue

Revenue from the sale of goods, disposal of other assets and the rendering of services, is recognised when the Office has passed control of the goods or other assets or has delivered the services to the customer.

(n) Comparative Figures

As the Office commenced operations on 1 July 2000, comparative figures are not provided.

Note 3

Outputs of the Office

Output 1: Drug abuse strategy co-ordination, treatment and prevention services.

Output Description

The co-ordination of services through the development and promotion of policy and co-ordination of activity by multiple agencies including the Department of Health. Monitoring and analysis of trends and publication of information. Provision of treatment and support services for people and their families with drug problems and development of mainstream human services to address clients' drug abuse problems. Provision of education programs and community based prevention activities.

Note 4

2000/01

Trust accounts

\$

a) COAG trust account

The Office administers a trust account to fund expenditure in accordance with the Deed of Agreement for the COAG Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative.

A summary of the transactions for this trust account is as follows:

Opening Balance	-
Add Receipts	
Commonwealth grants	3,390,098
Interest	4,087
Less Payments	
Payments for WA Diversion of Drug Offenders program	(1,741,475)
Payments for WA School program Supporting Police Diversion	(111,000)
Payments for WA Family program Supporting Police Diversion	(185,040)
Payments of GST	(2,927)
Closing Balance	<u>1,353,743</u>

Note 5

Employee expenses

\$

Salaries - general	1,045,310
Salaries - COAG	25,100
Superannuation	75,940
Movement in leave provisions	(2,070)
Other employee expenses	99,598
	<u>1,243,878</u>

Note 6	2000/01
Services and contracts	\$
Services and contracts - general	12,380,872
Services and contracts - COAG	<u>2,011,675</u>
	<u>14,392,547</u>
Note 7	2000/01
Consumables	\$
Consumables - general	185,935
Consumables - COAG	<u>739</u>
	<u>186,674</u>
Note 8	2000/01
Grants and subsidies	\$
Government agencies	101,749
NGOs	409,273
External bodies	<u>132,689</u>
	<u>643,711</u>
Note 9	2000/01
Depreciation expense	\$
Buildings	44,920
Furniture and fittings	242
Computer hardware	19,020
Other equipment	9,622
Leasehold improvements	<u>34,066</u>
	<u>107,870</u>
Note 10	2000/01
Net profit/(losses) on disposal of non-current assets	\$
Photocopier	(5,104)
Furniture	(4,041)
Gross proceeds on disposal	<u>1,323</u>
	<u>(7,822)</u>
Note 11	2000/01
Other revenues from ordinary activities	\$
User charges and fees	7,129
Interest - COAG	4,087
Other	<u>1,738</u>
	<u>12,954</u>

Note 12	2000/01
Commonwealth grants and contributions	\$

Recurrent:	
COAG - Diversion	2,702,096
COAG - Family	322,490
COAG - Schools	365,512
	3,390,098

Note 13	2000/01
Revenues (to)/ from Government	\$

Appropriation revenue received during the year :	
Recurrent	13,480,000

Grants from government agencies during the year:	
Recurrent	
Health Department	482,900
Department of Transport	294,000
Healthway	220,000
	8,050
Total grants from government agencies	1,004,950

The following liabilities have been assumed by the Treasurer during the financial year:

Superannuation	75,940
Total liabilities assumed by the Treasurer	75,940

The following assets have been assumed from Family and Children's Services during the financial year:

Cash	1,847,606
Land	312,000
Buildings	1,033,099
Office equipment	22,892
Computer hardware	29,240
Furniture and fittings	1,995
Leasehold improvements	616,134
Total assets assumed	3,862,966

The following liabilities have been assumed from Family and Children's Services during the financial year:

Leave liability	
Annual leave	81,912
Long service leave	145,667
Total liabilities assumed	227,579
Net assets assumed from Family and Children's Services	3,635,387

Resources received free of charge

Determined on the basis of the following estimates provided by agencies:

Ministry of Premier and Cabinet	46,058
Office of the Auditor General	10,000
Treasury Department - Commercial Property Branch	2,749
Total resources received free of charge	58,807

Note 14	2000/01
Cash assets	\$
Cash on hand	300
Operating account	1,714,445
	<u>1,714,745</u>

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand, cash advances and cash at bank. Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position

Note 15	2000/01
Restricted assets	\$
COAG trust account	1,353,743
Accrued salaries suspense account	17,000
	<u>1,370,743</u>

Funds held in the COAG trust account are to be used only in accordance with the Deed of Agreement for the COAG Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative.

Amount held in the Accrued Salaries suspense account is only to be used for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a financial year, which occurs every eleven years.

Note 16	2000/01
Receivables	\$
Current:	
GST receivable	83,142
	<u>83,142</u>

Note 17	2000/01
Other Assets	\$
Current:	
Prepayments	63,508
	<u>63,508</u>

Note 18	2000/01
Property, plant and equipment	\$
Land:	
At cost	312,000
Total Land	<u>312,000</u>
Buildings:	
At cost	1,201,703
Less accumulated depreciation	(134,821)
	<u>1,066,882</u>

Furniture and fittings:	
At cost	2,423
Less accumulated amortisation	(670)
	<u>1,753</u>
Computer hardware:	
At cost	72,092
Less accumulated depreciation	(34,874)
	<u>37,218</u>
Other equipment:	
At cost	47,776
Less accumulated depreciation	(19,731)
	<u>28,045</u>
Leasehold improvements:	
At cost	681,326
Less accumulated depreciation	(99,258)
	<u>582,068</u>
Total of property, plant and equipment	<u>2,027,966</u>

Note 19 **2000/01**
Payables **\$**

Current	
Creditors	54,273
GST payable	68
	<u>54,341</u>

Note 20 **2000/01**
Provisions **\$**

Current	
Annual leave	68,910
Long service leave	96,611
	<u>165,521</u>
Non-current	
Long service leave	59,988
	<u>59,988</u>

Employee entitlements - The aggregate employee entitlement liability recognised and included in the financial statements is as follows:

Provision for employee entitlements:	
Current	165,521
Non-current	59,988
	<u>225,509</u>

Note 21 **2000/01**
Other liabilities **\$**

Current:	
Accrued salaries	24,994
	<u>24,994</u>

Note 22	2000/01
Equity	\$

Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Office. The Government holds the equity interest in the Office on behalf of the community.

Contributed equity	
State equity contributions	0
Accumulated surplus / (deficiency)	
Opening balance	0
Change in net assets from operations	4,958,189
Net initial adjustments on adoption of a new accounting standard or UIG consensus view	0
Closing balance	4,958,189

Note 23	2000/01
Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows	\$

(a) Reconciliation of cash

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash at bank, amounts in suspense and restricted cash. Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

Cash assets	1,714,745
Restricted cash assets	1,370,743
	3,085,488

(b) Non-cash financing and investing activities

During the financial year, there were net assets of \$1,787,781 assumed from other government agencies not reflected in the Statement of Cash Flows.

(c) Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operations

Net cost of services	12,291,945
Non-cash items:	
Depreciation expense	(107,870)
Superannuation expense assumed by Treasurer	(75,940)
Resources received free of charge	58,807
Profit / (loss) from disposal of non-current assets	(7,822)
(Increase)/decrease in assets :	
Prepayments	(63,508)

Increase/(decrease) in liabilities :	
Current accounts payable	54,273
Current provisions for employee entitlements	165,521
Accrued salaries	24,994
Non-current provisions for employee entitlements	59,988
Cash transferred from FCS in respect of liabilities	(244,656)
Change in GST in receivables/payables	(86,003)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>(12,130,897)</u>

Note 24 **2000/01**
Commitments for expenditure **\$**

(a) Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted: capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:

Within 1 year	524,000
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	0
Later than 5 years	0
	<u>524,000</u>

b) Operating lease commitments:

Commitments in relation to non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:

Not later than one year	52,116
Later than one year, and not later than five years	138,413
Later than five years	0
	<u>190,529</u>

Note 25
Contingent liabilities

It is the Office's policy to disclose as a contingency any material future obligations which may arise, due to special circumstances or events. At the reporting date the Office is not aware of any such material future obligations.

Note 26
Events occurring after reporting date

There were no significant events occurring after the reporting date, which have a material effect on the financial statements.

Note 27
Explanatory statement

a) Significant variations where actual expenditure exceeded estimates for the financial year.

	2000/01	2000/01
	Actual	Estimate
	\$	\$
Recurrent		
Output 1: Drug abuse strategy co-ordination, treatment and prevention services.	17,888,000	15,531,000

The variance is due to the spending of additional funding received from the Commonwealth for the COAG Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative.

b) Significant variations where actual revenues exceeded estimates for the financial year.

	2000/01 Actual \$	2000/01 Estimate \$
Retained revenue - COAG grants	3,390,098	0

The variance is due to funding received under an agreement with the Commonwealth for the COAG Illicit Drug Diversion, which had not been signed at the time of the 2000-01 Budget.

Note 28
Financial Instruments

(a) Interest rate exposure

The Office's exposure to interest rate risk is nil as the relevant financial instruments, consisting of cash and amounts in suspense, accounts payable, accrued salaries and employee entitlements are all non-interest bearing.

	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Floating interest rate \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Total \$
<u>30 June 2001</u>				
Assets				
Cash resources	4.85	1,353,743	1,731,745	3,085,488
Receivables			86,071	86,071
Other			63,508	63,508
Total financial assets		1,353,743	1,881,324	3,235,067
Liabilities				
Payables			54,341	54,341
Accrued salaries			24,994	24,994
Employee entitlements			225,509	225,509
Total financial liabilities			304,844	304,844

(b) Credit risk exposure

The Office's exposure to credit risk is nil as there are no amounts receivable.

Note 29

Remuneration and retirement benefits of senior officers

Remuneration

The number of senior officers, whose total of fees, salaries and other benefits received, or due and receivable, for the financial year, falls within the following bands:

	2000/01
\$40,001 - \$50,000	1
\$50,001 - \$60,000	-
\$60,001 - \$70,000	1
\$70,001 - \$80,000	1
\$80,001 - \$90,000	-
\$90,001 - \$100,000	1

The total remuneration of senior officers is: \$284,010

2000/01

\$

Retirement benefits

The following amounts in respect of retirement benefits for senior officers were paid or became payable for the financial year.

1. Redundancy payments	-
2. Total notional contributions to Gold State Superannuation Scheme and West State Superannuation Scheme	31,241
3. Contributions to other superannuation funds	-

No senior officers were members of the Superannuation and Family Benefits Act Scheme:

2000/01

0

0

0

Note 30
Related bodies

The Office had no related bodies during the financial year.

Note 31
Affiliated bodies

The Office had no affiliated bodies during the financial year.

Note 32
Supplementary information

Write-Offs

During the year, there were no assets written off the Office's asset register.

Losses through theft, defaults and other causes

During the year, there were no losses of public moneys and public and other property through theft or default

Gifts of Property

There were no gifts provided by the Office during the year.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Advertising and Marketing Expenditure

Section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, requires the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office to include a statement in the annual report, setting out details of expenditure incurred by the agency on certain classes of organisations.

The expenditure for various classes of organisation comprises the following:

Category/organisation	Total category amount
(a) Advertising agencies	\$673,782
The Brand Agency	
Vinten Browning	
Media Decisions	
Marketforce Productions	
Ministry of the Premier & Cabinet	
(b) Market research	\$131,166
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	
Curtin University	
Donovan Research	
IG Jacobs Consultancy	
K Krazlin	
University of WA	
(c) Polling organisations	Nil
(d) Direct mail organisations	\$3,907
Northside Distributors	

Appendix 2

Funded Services

Organisation

Bega Garnbirringu Health Services
Catholic Education Office (with Education
Department and Association of Independent Schools)
Centrecare
Cyrenian House
Cyrenian House / Palmerston Association
Daughters of Charity Services
Drug-Arm WA
Eastern Goldfields Halfway House
East Pilbara Health Service
55 Central Inc
Garl Garl Walbu Aboriginal Corporation
Geraldton Health Services
Halls Creek People's Church
Holyoake Institute

Joondalup Youth Support Services Inc
Kimberley Northwest Mental Services
Life Education WA Inc
Local Drug Action Group Inc
Midwest Alcohol Rehabilitation Service Inc
Mission Australia

Milliya Rumurra Aboriginal Corporation
NACCHAMASAC
Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services
Palmerston Association Inc

Port Hedland Sobering Up Centre
Roebourne Sobering Up Shelter
Salvation Army

Serenity Lodge
St Bartholomew's House Inc
St John of God Health Care
St John of God Health Care

St Patrick's Care Centre
Swan Emergency Accommodation (Inc)
WA Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies
WA Substance Users Association
Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation
Women's Health Care Association / Perth Women's
Centre
Wesley Mission Perth

Services

Kalgoorlie Sobering Up Centre
School education services

Goldfields Community Drug Service Team
Treatment and support services
Inner City Community Drug Service Team
Treatment and support services
Treatment and support services
Treatment and support services
Pilbara Community Drug Service Team
Treatment and support services
Derby Sobering Up Shelter
Mid West Community Drug Service Team
Halls Creek Sobering-up centre
Treatment and support services:
North East Metropolitan Community Drug Service
Team
Wheatbelt Community Drug Service Team
Treatment and Support Services
Kimberley Community Drug Service Team
School education services
Prevention / community action services
Treatment and support services
Treatment and support services
South East Metropolitan Community Drug Service
Team
Broome Sobering Up Shelter
Wiluna Sobering Up Shelter
Fitzroy Sobering Up Shelter
Treatment and support services
Great Southern Community Drug Service Team
South Metropolitan Community Drug Service Team
Port Hedland Sobering Up Shelter
Roebourne Sobering Up Shelter
Treatment and support services
Perth Sobering Up Centre
Treatment and support services
Treatment and support services
North Metropolitan Community Drug Service Team
South West Metropolitan Community Drug Service
Team
Treatment and support services
Treatment and support services
Peak body for alcohol and other drug field
Support services
Kununurra Sobering Up Shelter
Treatment and support services

Treatment and support services

Appendix 3

Research and Evaluation Studies

Occasional Paper No 1:

Pre-hospital management of opiate overdoses in Perth, Western Australia.

Jacobs, Ian, Director, Western Australian Pre Hospital Care Research Unit. June 2000.

Occasional Paper No 2:

Youth suicide in WA involving cannabis and other drugs.

Hillman, S D, Silburn, S R, Green A and Zubrick S R, TVW Telethon Institute for Child Health research, WA Youth Suicide Advisory Committee. June 2001.

Occasional Paper No 3:

The Drug Aware Psychostimulants Campaign. How to develop a campaign aimed at preventing the use of party drugs.

Costello, E. March 2001.

Statistical Bulletin No 9:

Drug offences in WA, 1998-1999

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

July 2000.

Statistical Bulletin No 10:

Drug offences in WA, 1998-2000

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

February 2001.

Statistical Bulletin No 11:

Utilisation of sobering up centres and their impact on detentions for drunkenness in WA, 1990-2000

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

April 2001.

Statistical Bulletin No 12:

Seizures of illicit drugs in WA, 1998-2000

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

May 2001.

Statistical Bulletin No 13:

Drug related telephone calls in WA, 1986-2000

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

June 2001.

Statistical Bulletin No 14:

Distribution of needles and syringes in WA, 1987-2000

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

July 2001.

Appendix 4

Other Publications

WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse Action Plan 1999-2001, Activity and Outcome Indicators: 1999/2000. WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office, February 2001.

Indicators of Drug Abuse in Australia Compared to other Countries. WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office, December 2000.

Illicit Drugs in Western Australia – Current Services and Strategies. Working Paper by the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office for the WA Community Drug Summit. June 2001.

Illicit Drugs in Western Australia – Facts and Figures. Working paper prepared by the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office for the WA Community Drug Summit. June 2001.

Coercing Offenders into Treatment – A Comprehensive Statewide Diversion Strategy. Paper presented by Terry Murphy to the Society for the Study of Addiction Annual Symposium, Leeds, United Kingdom. October 2000. See also *Addiction Biology* 6, 267-268, 2001

Community Partnerships – Reducing the Risk Factors in the Local Communities. Paper presented by Terry Murphy to the Reducing Criminality – Partnerships and Best Practice Conference, Perth. August 2000

Website

www.wa.gov.au/drugwestaus/

Total of 739 pages on website at 30 June 2001.

Total of 123,248 successful requests for pages in year 2000/2001. This is an average of 338 per day.

Total of 8,252 distinct file requests in year 2000-2001.

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office

Annual Survey of Stakeholders

**Summary of Findings
From Surveys for Financial Years
1999/2000 and 2000/2001**

August 2001

Web Only Document

This publication is available online at <http://www.wa.gov.au/drugwestaus/>

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Annual Survey of Stakeholders

1. Background

The WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office produces an annual report that contains data which attempt to measure outputs in accordance with Government requirements for departments to report on their activities. This reporting process addresses five broad output based management (OBM) areas:

- quantity;
- quality;
- timeliness;
- cost; and
- effectiveness.

The quality output measure contains four items, two of which are based on information gathered from surveys that measure perceptions by stakeholders of WADASO's performance in relation to its two roles, cross sectoral coordination and publication of information, as follows:

Stakeholders assessing WADASO's role in coordination at a level 'better than satisfactory'.

Stakeholders assessing WADASO publications at a level 'better than satisfactory'.

This report contains a summary of the results from the stakeholders' questionnaire surveys conducted in the 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 years. A number of the comments and observations have also been included to illustrate issues and concerns.

A copy of OBM annual reports for the years 1997/1998, 1998/1999, 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 is contained in Appendix 1.

2. 2000/2001 survey

2.1 Introduction

In 2000/2001 a total of 30 respondents replied to the survey. Two issues were addressed in the survey, WADASO's performance in its coordination role and the quality of WADASO publications produced during the year.

2.2 Coordination function

Feedback on the coordination function was elicited by the three questions rated by a four point scale from very satisfied to very dissatisfied. Results for each of these questions are as follows.

How satisfied are you with the coordination activities of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office (eg development of WA action plan and support for specific cross agency initiatives)?

Rating	No. of respondents
Very satisfied	12
	14
	4
Very dissatisfied	-

How satisfied are you with being able to access the appropriate staff member to deal with your needs?

Rating	No. of respondents
Very satisfied	19
	9
	2
Very dissatisfied	-

How satisfied are you with WADASO's level of understanding of your needs?

Rating	No. of respondents
Very satisfied	14
	13
	2
Very dissatisfied	1

2.2.1 Comments

Organisational issues

A number of respondents made observations about the broader organisational context in which WADASO operated, especially about the transfer of WADASO to the health portfolio, “WADASO should be separate from the Health Department”.

Another respondent expressed concern about whether the transfer to the health portfolio would cause some loss to the benefits of the arrangements that have been established over recent years.

“I am very happy with the service from WADASO and trust it will not disappear in the Health Department”.

There was also a comment about changes in some of WADASO personnel that had occurred during the year and how this had impacted to some extent on access.

“The number of staffing changes have not helped with access, however we look forward to staff and WADASO status settling down soon. is particularly helpful.”

Interagency relationships

There were positive remarks made by a number of respondents about how WADASO has actively improved cooperation between agencies.

“An excellent agency to work across government and collaboratively with.”

“WADASO has worked very closely with the Police Service.”

The role of WADASO in facilitating relationships across different levels throughout the alcohol and other drug field was commented on favourably.

“WADASO has done much to consolidate the relationships between the providers and policy workers in the AOD area. The coordinated approach to drug strategy in WA is streets ahead of other States.”

A respondent also commented on a broader issue about the need to have improved cooperation between Government departments. This remark would appear to reflect concerns about government services in general rather than necessarily confined to the alcohol and other drug field.

“More cooperation with govt services. We are all doing very similar jobs but there are too many bureaucratic positions and different rates of pay. Agencies should be working together at all levels.”

Consultation and input

A respondent expressed the view that there should be more input from service providers as those in the field had a breadth of experience and knowledge that was useful and relevant to policy makers.

“Would like to see greater consultation with expertise in CDSTs and acknowledgement of input by individuals.”

2.3 Publications

Feedback on WADASO’s publications function was elicited by two sets of questions, covering usage of the web site and the quality of specific publications produced during the year.

2.3.1 Content and presentation of website

There were five statements related to the content and presentation of the website, each of which was rated on a three point scale, from excellent, OK or poor, as follows.

Ease of finding information

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	11
OK	13
Poor	-

Organisation and layout

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	15
OK	9
Poor	-

Presentation and appearance

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	15
OK	9
Poor	-

Information is up to date

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	15
OK	9
Poor	-

Variety of information

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	14
OK	10
Poor	-

2.3.2 Quality of publications

There were four questions related to the quality of WADASO publications, each of which was rated on a three point scale, from excellent, OK or poor, as follows.¹

Local Drug Action Group Newsletter

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	6
OK	10
Poor	-

*In Touch*²

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	5
OK	12
Poor	-

Statistical Bulletins

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	22
OK	6
Poor	1

Occasional Papers

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	19
OK	5
Poor	-

2.3.3 Comments

There was a high level of positive feedback about the WA Drug Strategy website, overall with 80% of respondents indicating that the quality of publications was of a standard that satisfied the definition of being better than satisfactory. *“The website is very helpful.”*

There was a specific observation about the need for a more user friendly search facility on the website.

Another concern was raised that there needed to be a broader range of information about licit drugs, such as alcohol. It was suggested that the perception of limited information on alcohol could be interpreted that this drug was of less concern compared to other drugs (ie illicit drugs) which often get a greater amount of coverage.

“Focus more on alcohol issues - seems to get forgotten. There is a complacency that all is well when stats are increasing re deaths and road injuries.”

¹ The number of responses varied depending on whether respondents had used a specific publication.

² Local Drug Action Group monthly newsletter.

3. 1999/2000 survey

3.1 Introduction

In 1999/2000 a total of 20 respondents replied to the survey. Two issues were addressed in the survey, WADASO's performance in its coordination role and the quality of WADASO publications produced during the year.

3.2 Coordination function

Feedback on the coordination function was elicited by the three questions rated by a four point scale from very satisfied to very dissatisfied. Results for each of these questions are as follows.

How satisfied are you with the coordination activities of the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office (eg development of WA action plan and support for specific cross agency initiatives)?

Rating	No. of respondents
Very satisfied	11
	8
	-
Very dissatisfied	1

How satisfied are you with being able to access the appropriate staff member to deal with your needs?

Rating	No. of respondents
Very satisfied	14
	5
	-
Very dissatisfied	1

How satisfied are you with WADASO's level of understanding of your needs?

Rating	No. of respondents
Very satisfied	11
	8
	-
Very dissatisfied	1

3.2.1 Comments

Respondents were also invited to provide additional comments about WADASO in relation to suggestions, how services could be improved and additional services required. These are summarised below.

Inter agency relationships

There were positive remarks about the existence of cross agency programs and initiatives which it was observed minimised duplication. Events such as the Rock Eisteddfod which involved a number of agencies such as WADASO, Healthway and OYA and the Host Responsibility initiative were specifically mentioned as good examples of cross agency relationships.

There were some useful suggestions of room for improvement in this area, such as by ensuring more obvious linking of activities to other agencies and to better emphasise the volunteer aspects of LDAGs.

Improvements to services

There were some concerns expressed by respondents about the number of activities which they felt WADASO needed to improve the way it undertook its responsibility. A number of respondents made suggestions about the role and relationship between LDAGs and preventive law enforcement activities such as GURD, Safer WA, Neighbourhood Watch etc.

The comments of a respondent illustrates some of the depth of concern felt on this issue.

“My frustration has been around the LDAGs and the FCS connections with these groups. Many FCS staff have sought clarification on their role and boundaries etc. I haven't been able to engage WADASO staff to explore these issues.”

Indigenous people

Comments were received with respect to WADASO making a greater contribution towards helping remote Aboriginal communities develop alcohol control agreements by diverting and/or providing additional resources. A suggestion was made that an Aboriginal/cultural liaison officer should be considered. A number of respondents noted the need for support for additional resources for remote Aboriginal communities and indigenous people in major centres.

Regional

A respondent observed that there was at present a significant gap of coordination of services and strategies at a regional level as follows.

“I believe strongly that regional coordination & strategy is highly under developed and presents a significant gap in overall response.”

Availability of service

A respondent also noted that publicity could be provided about Community Drug Service Teams. Another respondent also noted that there needed to be an improved level of information about funded services.

“An area for further consideration is the provision of information brochures ... This issue is one confronting all of us, ie how do people get info about where to go for help?”

Consultation and input

A respondent raised a concern of insufficient acknowledgment of the roles and input of other agencies and their programs in the *WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse Action Plan 1999-2001*.

3.3 Publications

Feedback on WADASO's publications function was elicited by two sets of questions, covering usage of the web site and the quality of specific publications produced during the year.

3.3.1 Content and presentation of website

There were five statements related to the content and presentation of the website, each of which was rated on a three point scale, from excellent, OK or poor, as follows.

Ease of finding information

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	7
OK	4
Poor	-

Organisation and layout

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	8
OK	3
Poor	-

Presentation and appearance

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	8
OK	3
Poor	-

Information is up to date

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	6
OK	4
Poor	-

Variety of information

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	6
OK	5
Poor	-

3.3.2 Quality of publications

There were seven questions related to the quality of WADASO publications, each of which was rated on a three point scale, from excellent, OK or poor, as follows.³

WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse Newsletter

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	11
OK	6
Poor	-

³ The number of responses varied depending on whether respondents had used a specific publication.

Local Drug Action Group Newsletter

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	1
OK	9
Poor	-

Sports Bulletins

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	-
OK	2
Poor	-

Statistical Bulletins

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	7
OK	5
Poor	-

WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse Action Plan 1999-2001

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	8
OK	9
Poor	-

Drug Aware parent booklet, posters

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	5
OK	3
Poor	-

Drug Free booklets and pamphlets

Rating	No. of respondents
Excellent	5
OK	5
Poor	-

3.3.3 Comments

The overall response was that current publications were useful and that respondents would like to see more printed information which they could distribute to individuals and interested groups.

“We never seem to have enough newsletters. I'm always giving them out.”

Statistical Bulletins were rated as important resource because they contained useful information. It was noted that the website should be more widely promoted, such as including the URL on letterhead.

Another respondent suggested that tobacco needed to be given an emphasis as a priority drug issue for parents, schools, LDAGs etc.

Appendix 1

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office: Output based management

Drug abuse strategy coordination, treatment and prevention services

Output description

The coordination of services through the development and promotion of policy and coordination of activity by multiple agencies. Monitoring and analysis of drug abuse trends and publication of information. Provision of treatment and support services for people and their families with drug problems and development of mainstream human services to address clients' drug abuse problems. Provision of education programs and support for Local Drug Action Groups and other community based prevention activities.

Output measures

Measure	1997/1998 Actual	1998/1999 Actual	1999/2000 Actual	2000/2001 Actual
Quantity				
WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse activities and policies implemented	37	35	46	32
Distinct publications produced	450	966	663	739
Treatment programs	38	41	86	86
Prevention activities	68	70	161	162
Quality				
Stakeholders assessing WADASO's role in coordination at a level 'better than satisfactory'	-	67%	83%	80%
Stakeholders assessing WADASO publications at a level 'better than satisfactory'	-	79%	75%	80%
Client satisfaction with treatment programs at a level 'better than satisfactory'	80%	79%	80%	81%
Stakeholders assessing prevention activities at a level 'better than satisfactory'	80%	88%	83%	68%
Timeliness				
WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse activities implemented in the planned time	-	97%	96%	82%
Publications produced as scheduled	-	-	90%	90%
Admissions to treatment programs involving time on a waiting list	-	0%	0%	6%
Prevention activities completed within planned period	-	65%	86%	84%
Cost				
Average cost per coordination (per WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse activity)	\$12,062	\$19,903	\$15,878	\$12,890
Average cost per publication produced	\$63	\$56	\$64	\$97
Average cost per treatment program	\$129,032	\$239,283	\$117,081	\$117,790
Average cost per prevention activity	\$38,458	\$48,076	\$24,321	\$16,954
Effectiveness				
Composite score of difference in prevalence (% ever used drugs: WA vs Australian average)	-	+1%	+2%	+2%

Key effectiveness indicator

Measure	1997/1998 Actual	1998/1999 Actual	1999/2000 Actual	2000/2001 Actual
Proportion of all activities planned as part of the WA Strategy Against Drug Abuse Action Plan for 1999/2001 implemented over the period	-	90%	90%	86%
Overall level of client improvement in treatment programs reported by agencies (a composite score based on levels of reduced illicit drug use, reduced crime, improved health and improved social function)	-	58%	64%	70%
Changes in prevalence of drug abuse over time based on three major prevalence surveys	-	+1%	+1%	-1%

Appendix 5

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office Location

WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office
Level 1
6 Thelma Street
West Perth WA 6005

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www.wa.gov.au/drugwestaus/