

**Deputy J. Dorey, Chairman
Shadow Scrutiny Panel Scrutiny Office
States Building
Royal Square
St Helier
JE1 1BA**

17th May 2004

Dear Deputy Dorey,

**Re: Proposed Review of Implementation of recommendations of the Imperial
College School of Medicine study into drug use in Jersey (April 2001)**

I acknowledge your letter of 20th April 2004 concerning the above issue and wish to apologise for the delay in replying to same.

As you are no doubt aware, the Roseneath Trust has for many years been foremost in the field of rehabilitation of homeless persons and has well established protocols in place to combat primarily the abuse of alcohol and other substance misuse.

Over the past three or so years we have witnessed a steady decline in the number of alcohol related referrals involving agency input from the Alcohol & Drug Services and a corresponding sharp rise in the number of drug related referrals. These in the main have involved individuals on the methadone programme often with an associated daily maintenance of Diazepam. There has been little direct contact with the Service over such placements, other than for chasing up clients who have failed to turn up for appointments. We for our part strive to ensure that such appointments are kept by individuals, thereby ensuring continuity of contact and minimising any time wastage. This observation is not made by way of a criticism of the service in general but more to highlight the fact drug use in the island is still widespread at all levels and that society at large runs the risk of tacitly accepting this as merely a choice of alternative lifestyle.

What has become clear in the context of placements is that there has been a shift in emphasis toward the clients' interests, marginalising the use of ourselves as prime care providers. Whilst we appreciate the imperative for client confidentiality and the need to ensure that clients take responsibility for the causative effects of their addiction problems, it has resulted on numerous occasions is a dearth of essential information surrounding the lifestyle and progress of individuals. This leads to problems in compiling care plans so essential in the rehabilitation and eventual resettlement of individuals. It has never been the Trust's policy to knowingly resettle an individual with an active alcohol or drug related problem.

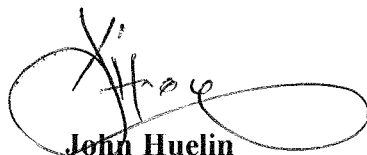
6/7 springfield crescent
trinity road, st helier
jersey je2 4gl
Telephone:
01534 871305
Facsimile:
01534 601048

Over the past three years we have had twelve drug related placements, the vast majority of whom have proved problematic to the point that the Trust has seriously considered confining the scope of its operation to dealing solely with those whose problems are centred around the abuse and misuse of alcohol.

I trust the foregoing will be of some assistance to you but should you need additional input from us please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

For and on behalf of The Rosneath Trust For The Homeless



John Huelin
Manager