

From: Lesley Dwyer [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Date: 11/12/2012 5:10 am
Subject: Fwd: BAC

Again just FYI

However I don't recall Trevor giving me a paper.

As Bill Kingswell is back today, I think it would be prudent to arrange a teleconference with the main players from the Department to strategise the upcoming meeting as the development of options is being seriously put at risk.

I have not been able to listen to Patrick McGorry's statements but again hooking up with him seems like a good idea. See you this morning.

Lesley

Lesley Dwyer
Chief Executive
West Moreton Hospital and Health Service
[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

> From: "Trevor Sadler" [REDACTED]
> Date: 11 November 2012 11:48:34 PM AEST
> To: "Lesley Dwyer" [REDACTED]
> Subject: BAC
>
> Hello Lesley,
>
> Many thanks for coming to the unit on Friday to talk directly to staff.
>
> First, I wrote a document on Friday which I gave you in my office. If the information contained in it was incorrect, I will rewrite it.
>
> Second, child psychiatry colleagues have contacted me since the news broke on Thursday/Friday about BAC. (We're on a group forum.)
>
> I told them the reasons for reviewing its existence (no place at The Park, substandard – no money for refurbishment, "unused" beds in acute inpatient units), no decision has been made without consultation. Some wanted to write to the Minister. I wrote that if they did, could they please CC a copy to you. That's the main reason for writing to you now – to inform you of the process whereby they are writing to you.
>
> BTW, were you aware that if Redlands had gone ahead, we would have been at The Park until the end of 2014? We would have had to put up with these old buildings until then, anyhow. It appears a bit odd to rush this decision. If Springfield was an option, it would be only a year later.
>
> Finally, I really appreciated your comments to only make decisions based on evidence. I don't know how familiar you are with mental health, but it is very easy to interpret behaviour and emotions without adequate evidence to do so. Assumptions are frequently made, without even the basics of asking the relevant questions. It is a discipline I ask of staff – to obtain as much evidence as possible.
>
> Unfortunately it has been my experience that many of those making decisions about services in the past do not do so on the evidence available to them. I once heard the ED of a MHS ask an ED of another MHS if Aaron Groves (Director of MHAODD Directorate at the time) had let her know of her predecessor's concerns about BAC. I found this odd, as the predecessor had not visited BAC in a decade, had not enquired about us or our patients, had not had contact with the patients the services under her jurisdiction had referred. I found it a mystery as to what knowledge she based her opinion on. Not only had her opinion without any apparent evidence been accepted, it was now being promulgated by the Directorate.

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- > With all due respect to you and Sharon, do you ever consider asking the Directorate to establish on what evidence it bases its recommendations about CYMHS? That may sound like sour grapes, but I can supply the evidence why this question should be asked.
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- > Kind regards,
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- > Trevor
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