

Report: National Distribution of JUST US to Mental Health Consumers in Locked Hospitals

draft 240919

Justice Action attempted to distribute the [Just Us newspaper](#) to individuals in mental health facilities across all eight states and territories for the 2019 Federal elections. The newspaper was created to improve voting accessibility for physically isolated people. All political parties contributed their policies for this purpose.

The purpose of this report is to hold the executives who refused to disseminate the publication accountable and to ensure the distribution is accepted in all areas. This report will be sent to mental health ministers and other authorities for their consideration.

It is the constitutional right of all Australian citizens, including prisoners and mental hospital patients, to engage in political communication.¹ It is also the right of political parties to spread their goals and aims to each Australian citizen, regardless of their status. This freedom has been recognized by the High Court of Australia.² Justice Action's Just Us publication, which has been circulated around Australia places of detention since 2004, provides an important platform for the communication of such information.

The publication also provides the contact information of various legal firms, thus allowing consumers to assert their rights to justice. The entitlement to distribute the publication has been to the NSW Supreme Court [three times](#). Although the election is now over, the right of citizens to receive the paper between elections remains. [See case.](#)

Support for the Just Us newspaper across Australia has been widespread. The acting CEO of the Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council, Victoria's peak consumer body, stated: "I read it [Just Us] and found it enlightening and potentially very useful to a range of consumers across Australia. We support its circulation in Victoria." Other peak consumer representatives have also added their support.

Justice Action has been in contact with the authorities in all 8 states and territories. We contacted 71 health services in Australia and 25 approved the distribution of Just Us newsletter. 13 are still in negotiation and 33 have been rejected. The following report outlines the responses of each district regarding the distribution of the Just Us newsletter.

¹ *Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1901* (Cth) ('Constitution') ss 7 and 24.

² *Lange v Australian Broadcasting Corporation* [1997] HCA 25.

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ACT Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action consulted 1 Primary Health Service and 1 Forensic Health Service within the Australian Capital Territory where one facility has refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each district regarding the distribution of the Just Us newspaper.

Approved

1. Facility: Justice Health

CEO: Jon Peach

Executive Director

ACT Corrective Services | Justice and Community Safety

Tel: (02) 620 70879 Fax: (02) 620 72965

Email: jon.peach@act.gov.au

People in the ACT who are deemed mentally ill and not guilty are frequently held in the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).

11/07/2019 – Copies for the Alexander Maconochie Centre accepted by Executive Director Jon Peach, and newspapers have been sent.

Rejected

2. Canberra Health Services

CEO: Bernadette McDonald

Nicole Stevenson ^{L}_{SEP}

Business Manager to the Chief Executive Officer

Phone: 02 5124 4702 | Mobile: 0411 154 648

Email: nicole.stevenson@act.gov.au

Address: Building 24, Level 2, Canberra Hospital, Yamba Drive, Garran ACT 2605

08/07/19 – Nicole Stevenson, Business Manager for the CEO rejected distribution, stating: “Canberra Health Service will not be distributing the newsletter to consumers.”

NSW Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action has contacted 15 local health networks and two special health NSW networks where ten facilities have refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each district regarding the distribution of Just Us newsletter.

Approved

1. Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District

CEO: Margot Mains

Alanna Beardsley, Manager Media and Communications, approved distribution on behalf of CEO

02/05/2019 - 10 copies were distributed.

2. Northern NSW Local Health District

CEO: Wayne Jones

07/05/2019- there was a telephone conversation between Brett Collins and Jenny Cleaver approving Just Us. The newsletter was distributed prior to the election.

3. South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

CEO: Tobi Wilson

Tobi Wilson approved

Andrea Barrington, executive assistant approved on behalf of the previous CEO Gerry Marr

08/05/2019- specified desired quantity. Publication was sent and distributed.

4. St. Vincent's Hospital Sydney

CEO: Anthony Schembri

Anthony Schembri approved

15/05/2019 – 27 copies were sent.

5. Western NSW Local Health District

CEO: Scott McLachlan

Scott McLachlan approved

10/05/2019 - disclosed the quantity they required.

Publication sent and distributed.

Still in negotiations

6. Sydney Local Health District

CEO: Teresa Anderson

04/06/2019 - follow up email was sent

24/06/ 2019- a follow up call was made, where they stated they would have a look at the email and we could expect a reply. No response has been received.

30/07/2019 – follow up email was sent

12/08/2019 – Follow up email not found, suggest emailing the manager of the community and consumer participation as Cherie Puckett noted-

Email: slhd.consumer@sswahs.nsw.gov.au

23/08/2019 – email with draft Just Us report was sent to Cherie P with above email address

27/08/2019 – no response to email yet *need to do a follow up call inquiring about confirmation of receipt and stance on distribution

7. Western Sydney Local Health District

CEO: Graeme Loy

10/04/2019- Caroline Olalia declined distribution in her TAB A response

17/07/ 2019- follow up email was sent

25/07 /2019- Email received from Pamela Leslie which stated she is out of office.

Redirected us to contact WSLHD-Cumberland-MHS-

PatientLiason@health.nsw.gov.au

27/08/2019 – developing draft email to send email to

Rejected

8. Central Coast Local Health District

CEO: Andrew Montague

16/05/2019 - Paula Bell replied stated they are currently circulating the material with carers and consumers but has not ordered copies from us.

09/06/2019 – “Please be advised Central Coast Local Health District will not require any newspapers as we will not be distributing this material.”

9. Far West Local Health District

CEO: Stephen Rodwell

Email communications with Jodie Miller, Associate Director (Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Service) and Kate Williams, Executive Assistant (CEO) reject distribution on the grounds that there are safety mechanisms and protocol in place; after consultation with their Advisory Group, this publication will not be distributed.

21/06/2019- Dallas Seager, Executive Assistant called; she stated that they were indeed not a ‘locked hospital’ and they will not be requiring the newsletter

10. Hunter New England Local Health District

CEO: Michael DiRienzo

09/03/19 – first contact with office of April Brown-Turner, communication officer, strategic relations and communications.

26/03/19 – rejection of distribution, no reason given

2/05/19, 13/05/19, 14/06/19 – same email sent to April, no response

27/06/2019- contacted the office of April Brown-Turner and was told by her assistant that she may be “waiting for approval” and will call once she has a response

10/07/2019- email received which states “After consideration of the matters in the Justice Health Settlement Offer you provided to us, a senior clinician has determined not to release the material to patients in the locked ward for clinical reasons.”

11. Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

CEO: Gary Forrest

03/07/2019- Email was sent to an updated. No reply was received.

04/07/2019- Phone call was made at 2:40pm. The receiver was unwilling to provide a further contact and denied further communication.

12. Mid-North Coast Local Health District

CEO: Stewart Dowrick

13/06/2019 – Last email correspondence was sent to MNCLHD (Scheree Jones) on this date, to follow up on an email dated 2/5 that the Mid North Coast **will not distribute**.

18/06/2019 - Followed up through a phone call regarding their recommendations. We were advised we would receive a written response from them shortly. No response was received.

15/07/2019 - A call was made to Scheree Jones who stated that she was too busy and would call back – did not call back

25/07/2019 – 13/6 email was forwarded directly to Scheree Jones' email. Awaiting response.

20/08/2019 – confirmed the rejection of distribution in the Mental Health units, which are not locked units, based on material not being suitable to distribute.

13. Murrumbidgee Local Health District

09/04/2019 – Initial email sent regarding distribution of JUST US.

17/04/20 – Response from Sally Druitt (Public Affairs Manager) received stating that they are declining our offer, as they believe it is not “suitable for the inpatient unit and all consumers will be able to vote”.

08/05/2019 – Sent follow up email asking for support in the distribution of JUST US.

27/06/2019 – Sent additional follow up email calling for the distribution of JUST US. No response has been received.

14. Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District

CEO: Kay Hyman

18/06/2019- Ms Hymans' PA told us no further emails or calls will be responded to.

15. Northern Sydney Local Health District

CEO: Deb Willcox

15/05/2019- Deb Wilcox declined distribution stating;

“... The nature and content of the flyer does not align with our service's ethos of recovery orientated service delivery, and was considered as not conducive to the recovery processes of people with mental health issues.”

16. South Western Sydney Local Health District

CEO: Amanda Larkin

Rejected on grounds that the publication is not recovery focused and the target audience appears to be prisoners, not mental health inpatients.

13/06/2019- email received from the Mental Health Executive Unit stating they do not distribute any political material

20/08/2019 – sent a draft of the report, to which they replied with amendments in track changes, based on the letter from the Chief Executive to Justice Action.

17. Southern NSW Local Health District

CEO: Andrew Newton

Estelle Blackburn has been communicating on behalf of CEO.

10/04/2019- An initial email was sent out containing the Just Us newspaper. The email detailed the aims of Justice Action and the newspaper and requested that it be distributed by Southern NSW Health District

18/06/2019- A follow-up email from Justice Action was sent with attached legal support.

19/06/2019 – A response from Estelle Blackburn was received acknowledging the previous email. Stated that it would be forwarded to the Executive Director and that we would receive a response. No response has been received since.

25/07/2019 – Follow-up email was sent. Awaiting response.

25/07/2019 – email received from Ms. Blackburn saying that she no longer works at Southern NSW local health district and to contact David Hohnke, the general manager for media and communications.

26/07/2019 – email sent to Mr Hohnke awaiting response.

30/07/2019 – still no email response from Mr Honke, attempted to make a follow up call however no response, currently drafting a response for a follow up email to be sent.

02/08/2019 – sent follow up email to Mr Hohnke.

12/08/2019- David Hohnke forwarded email to Cherie Puckett on 28/7- Email states that she does not make these decisions regarding inpatient consumers and will not accept the newspaper on behalf of the people that are in inpatient services.

28/08/2019 – Sent out draft report. No response has been received.

NT Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action consulted 3 Local Health Districts, as well as 2 forensic hospitals within the Northern Territory. One facility has refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each district.

Approved

- 1. Tamarind Centre, Top End Mental Health Service**
General Manager of TEMHS: Richard Campion
14/05/2019: Jessica Lew Fatt (Executive Assistant to the COO) accepted 40 copies for distribution.
- 2. Central Australia Health Service**
COO: Sue Korner
17/07/2019: Adrian Renzi (Stakeholder Engagement Officer) requested 50 copies for distribution.
1/08/2019: 50 copies were distributed.
- 3. Royal Darwin Hospital Top End Mental Health Services Inpatient Units Cowdy Ward, Joan Ridley Unit, CAU**
General Manager of TEMHS: Richard Campion
17/07/2019: 40 copies accepted for distribution.
- 4. East Arnhem Mental Health Team**
General Manager of TEMHS: Michelle Evison-Rose
22/08/2019: Emma Wardle (Executive Assistant to TEMHS) accepted 20 copies for distribution.

Rejected

- 5. Katherine Mental Health Service**
Clinical Nurse Specialist of Katherine Mental Health Service: Paul Rugen
04/07/2019: Rejected and responded that they are not responsible for it.

QLD Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action has contacted 14 local health networks and one clinical forensic service in QLD where eight facilities have refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each district regarding the distribution of the Just Us newspaper.

Approved

1. Cairns and Hinterland Health Services

CEO: Ms Clare Douglas

Trish McIntyre

Senior Correspondence and Liaison Officer

Communications, Office of the Chief Executive,

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service

Phone: 07 4226 3364

Address: GHD Building, 85 Spence Street, Cairns Q 4870

Email: MD20-CairnsHinterland-HSD@health.qld.gov.au

Trish McIntyre, Senior Correspondence and Liaison Officer from the Cairns and Hinterland jurisdiction approved distribution.

24/05/19 – Hard copies were made available.

2. Central Queensland Hospital and Health Services

CEO: Mr Steve Williamson

Robert Forsythe, Acting Executive Director of Rural and District Wide Services approved distribution.

Email: MD13-CentralQLD-HSD@health.qld.gov.au

07/06/19 – Sent to CQ Mental Health Services for distribution.

3. Central West Health Services

CEO: Ms Jane Hancock

Jane Hancock, Chief Executive Officer in the Central West jurisdiction approved distribution.

16/05/19 – 12 copies approved for distribution via phone call.

23&24/9/19- Called twice to follow up on whether copies have been distributed, still waiting for a response.

4. Darling Downs Health Services

CEO: Dr Peter Gilles

Lee Jenson, Email: Lee.Jenson@health.qld.gov.au

Lee Jenson, Acting Media Manager (Media, Communication and Engagement) approved distribution.

24/05/19 – Soft copies were delivered to Lee for onsite printing and dissemination.

5. West Moreton Health Services

CEO: Dr Kerrie Freeman

Charity Britnell
Acting Manager, Governance Compliance and Risk
Statewide Operations Directorate
Charity.britnell@dcs.qld.gov.au

Ph: 3565 7310

Charity Britnell (Acting Manager, Governance Compliance and Risk) confirmed distribution.

03/06/19 – Distribution of May edition of Just Us by QCS was confirmed. No further copies were required.

6. Sunshine Coast Health Services

CEO: Shaun Drummond/Adjunct Professor Naomi Dwyer

Naomi Ford

Director of Communication and Corporate Affairs

Email: Naomi.Ford1@health.qld.gov.au

Distribution address: Communications and Corporate Affairs, Sunshine Coast University Hospital, 6 Doherty Street, Birtinya QLD 4575.

12/09/19 - Naomi Ford received the distributions and delivered them to their mental health services.

Still in negotiations

7. Wide Bay Health Services

CEO: Mr Adrian Pennington

Deyarn Williams

Correspondence Coordinator

Office of the Chief Executive

Phone: 07 4150 2043

Address: Bundaberg Hospital, PO Box 34, Bundaberg Qld 4670

Email: MD18-WideBay-HSD-Home@health.qld.gov.au

Deyarn Williams (Correspondence Coordinator, Office of the chief executive) rejected on the basis that concerns have been raised as to Just Us being seen as an endorsed publication by Queensland Health if distributed through its facilities.

We were recommended to discuss with Independent Patients Rights Advisors and QCS concerning distribution.

19/08/19 - Deyarn Williams replied in email “The Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service (WBHHS) wishes to clarify it did not ‘reject’ the request. Instead, WBHHS reserved its decision so consideration could be given to a statewide approach from the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist, for possible coordination with the Independent Patients Rights Advisors network.”

Rejected

8. Clinical Forensic Medical Unit

Phone: 07 3405 5755

Email: CFMU@health.qld.gov.au

Address: 51 Herschel St Brisbane Qld 4000

11/07/19 – Rejected via email correspondence from Tasman Scanlan (Admin Officer) stated “management rejected the newsletters since they didn’t have a facility”.

06/09/19 – Followed up by phone regarding written confirmation of rejection.

Scanlan said Adam Griffin was responsible for correspondence. Initial email resent to CFMU for Griffin to respond. Scanlan replied saying they “do not require this publication.”

9. Metro North Health Services

CEO: Jackie Hanson

Sue-Ellen Sanderson

Office of the Chief Executive

Metro North Hospital and Health Service

Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital

HERSTON QLD 4029

Phone: 3647 9510

Email: MD16-MetroNorthHHS@health.qld.gov.au

Sue-Ellen, Correspondence Unit, rejected on the grounds of no legislation or cases requiring dissemination of the newspaper and disinclination to foster appearance of endorsement.

10. Gold Coast Health Services

CEO: Ron Calvert

Sue Coventry

Health Service Correspondence Coordinator | People and Corporate Services

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service

Gold Coast University Hospital

1 Hospital Boulevard

Southport QLD 4215

Email: MD06-GoldCoast-HSD@health.qld.gov.au

Sue Coventry, Health Service Correspondence Coordinator in the Gold Coast rejected distribution, as they do not distribute material on behalf of a third party. Additionally, this facility does not have a channel to deliver mail to patients.

19/08/19 - Sue Coventry replied in the email “The Gold Coast HHS has no further response at this time”.

11. Metro South/Sunshine Coast Health Services

CEO: Shaun Drummond/Adjunct Professor Naomi Dwyer

Naomi Ford, Director of Communication and Corporate Affairs from Hospitals within Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service in Metro South rejected on the grounds they are not a locked hospital and their patients already have “easy access” to information linked to the election.

16/08/19 - Naomi Ford said she “was with Sunshine Coast only”. So the person in charge of Metro South should be identified and contacted.

12. Torres and Cape/ Mackay Health Services

CEO: Jo Whitehead/Beverly Hamerton

Phone: 07 4226 5970

Fax: 07 4226 5678

Deborah Stoffell, Manager Office of the Chief Executive rejected distribution on the grounds that Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Services mental health cases, in an open or locked environment, are referred to Cairns hospital and “reasonable effort“ is made to allow them to vote.

13. Townsville Health Services

CEO: Mr Kieran Keyes

Narelle Baker

Email: narelle.baker@health.qld.gov.au

Narelle Baker, Executive Assistant to the CEO rejected distribution on the grounds that the hospital works closely with the AEC “to ensure eligible voters can cast their vote whilst receiving care”.

14. North West Health Services

CEO: Lisa Davies Jones

Curtly Smith

Manager Executive Support Services

Office of the Chief Executive

North West Hospital and Health Service | Queensland Government

Phone: 07 4744 4469

Address: 30 Camooweal Street, Mount Isa, QLD 4825

Email: Curtly.Smith@health.qld.gov.au

Curtly Smith, Manager Executive Support Service from facilities in the North West rejected distribution on the grounds that they do not have any detained patients.

16/08/19 - Curtly Smith rejected in email that “NWHHS does not have mental health patients in locked wards therefore distribution in the NWHHS is not applicable”.

15. South West Health Services

CEO: Linda Patat

Executive Support Officer to Chief Executive

Phone: +61 7 4505 1568; (07) 4505 1500

Fax: +61 7 4505 1550

Email: SWHHS-HSCE@health.qld.gov.au

Executive Support Services (no name was provided) rejected distribution on the grounds that ‘it is not relevant’ to their health services.

SA Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action has contacted five local health networks, and one state-wide Forensic Service. At present, one facility has refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each district regarding the distribution of *'Just Us'* newsletter.

Approved

1. Central Adelaide Local Health Network [Network of hospitals]

CEO: Lesley Dwyer

Marcia Octoman, Manager Engagement, Business Operations, Mental Health Directorate, CALHN, approved distribution.

01/08/2019 – 50 hard copies distributed to Marcia Octoman. Also electronically distributed via Nurse Unit Managers to inpatient units in the Mental Health Directorate, CALHN.

19/08/2019 – Emailed Marcia the draft report about the Just Us distribution, she replied with amendments to the document.

Still in negotiations

2. Central Northern Adelaide Health Services (CNAHS)

CEO: Maree Geraghty

03/06/2019 – last email correspondence was sent on the 14/06 and 19/06 due to a lack of response.

14/06/2019 – 03/07/2019 Phone correspondence with Amanda (Receptionist) who corrected the initial email address and then provided an alternative address. No email response received.

08/08/2019 - Amanda said she was not able to give out another relevant email, since needs to obtain authority. The person able to grant authority is currently on sick leave however, name of authority was not provided.

3. Country Health SA Local Health Network [Network of hospitals]

CEO: Christopher McGowan

18/02/2019- Email about Just Us distribution sent, and re-sent on 06/05, 09/05 and 15/05 due to no response.

23/05/2019 - Received email response from Emily Jones (A/ Reception-Administration Officer). Reply sent and re-sent on 23/05 and 05/06.

28/06/2019 - Call was made to Emily Jones who stated that our email was forwarded to relevant authority. Follow up emails sent 21/06 and 27/06 due to a lack of response.

12/07/19 - Follow-up phone call – Spoke with Ashley who said she would forward it to Carol.

08/08/2019 - Follow up phone call to Carol on 8/8 – Said that she forwarded email to the most relevant person and did not receive a response. She could not provide us with the name or the contact details for the ‘relevant person’.

4. Northern Adelaide Local Health Network [Network of hospitals]

CEO: Maree Geraghty

14/2/2019 - Email about Just Us distribution sent, and re-sent on 9/5, 16/5 and 3/6 due to lack of response.

19/06/2019 – Acknowledged receipt of follow up email; email was forwarded to Bernice Gray, the Director of Community Engagement & Consumer Experience.

Follow-up call on 03/07 and emails on 12/07 and 02/08.

08/08/2019 - Follow up email on 08/08/2019 to Hayley in Marketing & Media department. Hayley provided JA an alternate email address.

05/09/19 – Emailed Bernice Gray responding to previous email and for a follow-up, he replied and directed our enquiry to the Northern Local Adelaide Health Network’s Office of the Chief Executive via health.NALHN-OCEO@sa.gov.au

06/09/19 – Sent email about Just Us distribution. Awaiting response.

5. James Nash House

04/09/2019 – Called the listed number to inquire about accessing an email address and contact options, told there was no director or person responsible. James Nash House appears to be part of the NALHN (above), so distribution likely is dependent on their response.

Rejected

6. Southern Adelaide Local Health Network [Network of hospitals]

CEO: Susan O’Neill

18/02/2019 - Email about Just Us distribution sent, and re-sent on 09/05, 16/05 and 03/06 due to lack of response.

18/06/2019 - Spoke with Tracy who said that the email has been received and we will receive a response soon.

12/07/2019: Called on 12/07 following up the email sent on 14/06. The proposal of the Just Us Newspapers was rejected, reasoning that “so many organisations trying to put things into hospitals, and we can’t accept all of them...”

Tasmania Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action has contacted 2 Local Health Districts in Tasmania. Both facilities have refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each District regarding the distribution of the Just Us newspaper.

Approved

The distribution of Just Us has yet to be approved by anyone in TAS.

Rejected

1. Millbrook Rise Centre

Manager: Tom O'Brien

Email: tom.o'brien@ths.tas.gov.au

Phone: (03) 6166 0557

No response from previous correspondence with Steven Zache (02/08/19 and 15/08/19).

04/09/19 – Spoke to manager Tom O'Brien on the phone, and obtained a contact email address. Was told that Millbrook is an open centre.

05/09/2019 – Received email from joanne.berry@ths.tas.gov.au with a link to the terms of leave, but the facility was not explicitly stated as 'non-locked'

06/09/19 – Drafted email to Tom O'Brien to obtain confirmation of Millbrook as non-closed in writing.

2. Tasmanian Health Service

COO: Nicola Dymond

30/5/2019: Initial email sent to Michael Pervan. No response received.

24/6/2019: Telephone call with Rohan Wade (Operations Manager) – our initial email was received but they refused to provide an email response. No further correspondence.

Victoria Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action has contacted 13 Local Health Districts and 1 state-wide Forensic Service in Victoria. Five20 facilities have refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each District regarding the distribution of the Just Us newspaper.

Approved

1. Alfred Health

CEO: Andrew Way

15/05/2019: Accepted over phone call and 15 copies were distributed.

2. Austin Health Services

CEO: Sue Shilbury

15/05/2019: Accepted by Narelle Butt (General Manager) and 30 copies were distributed to Acute Psych Unit.

3. Barwon Health Service

CEO: Frances Diver

11/07/2019: Email sent to Perry Muncaster (Chief of Workforce and Culture) and the general media. No response.

19/08/2019: Email from Katherine Jess stating that they are happy to accept our publication. 32 copies were requested.

4. Broadmeadows Inpatient Unit (BIPU)

CEO: Christine Kilpatrick (NorthWestern Mental Health)

15/05/2019: Accepted over phone call and 27 copies were distributed.

5. Latrobe Regional Hospital

CEO: Peter Craighead

25/07/2019: Accepted by Cayte Hoppner (Executive Director Mental Health and Chief Mental Health Nurse) and 45 copies were distributed.

6. Thomas Embling Hospital

Interim CEO: Margaret Grigg

23/07/2019: Accepted by Lisa McGowan (Executive Assistant).

24/07/2019: 50 copies distributed.

7. Monash Health

CEO: Andrew Stripp

15/07/2019: Telephone call with Paula Hakesley (General Manager Mental Health) wherein she advised that she is waiting for confirmation from her manager and will get back to us by 17/07. No email received.

19/08/2019: Accepted by Tom Pickup (Operations Manager)
20/08/2019: Tom Pickup requested 200 copies, which were distributed accordingly.

Rejected

8. Melbourne Health

CEO: Christine Kilpatrick

Two emails were sent to Christine Kilpatrick on 15/02/19 and 09/05/19 to which no response was received. A follow up call was made on 16/05/19 where the respondent claimed to not have seen the email and was not interested.

9. South Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network

CEO: Elisabeth Deveny

16/05/2019: Email from Brian O'Sullivan (General Manager; Strategic Relations):
"*SEMPHN has no role in providing content or approving this document*".

10. Albury Wodonga Health Service

CEO: Susan O'Neill

19/06/2019: Telephone call with Marianne Johnston (Media and Communications Coordinator, Senior Management and Support and Executive Services) – they
"*don't want to receive any political information*".

11. Bendigo Health Care Group

CEO: Peter Faulkner

18/06/2019: Telephone call with Vanessa on behalf of Peter Faulkner – they "*do not want to participate*". No further correspondence.

12. Eastern Health

CEO: David Plunkett

15/05/2019: Telephone call – they will not be distributing the JUST US Newspaper because they are a psych-ward (logged into Victoria Mental Health Mailing List in physical folder) and do not need it. No further correspondence.

13. Goulburn Valley Health Service

Interim CEO: Matthew Sharp

15/07/2019 (12:09pm): Telephone call with Matthew Sharp's PA who said that they will not be distributing the JUST US Newspaper and did not want to receive any further correspondence from us. No further correspondence.

14. Peninsula Health

CEO: Felicity Topp

27/02/2019: Email from Felicity Topp – they "*appreciate [our] reminder*" but patients are already "*provided with VEC face-to-face voting facility opportunities, along with posters and information regarding the election process inclusive of postal votes.*" Follow-up emails and calls were unsuccessful. No further correspondence.

WA Report

DRAFT – 20th SEPTEMBER 2019

Justice Action has contacted 9 local health networks and 1 statewide Forensic network, and other bodies that do not directly preside over hospital wards and prisons. At present, five facilities have refused distribution. The following report outlines the responses of each district regarding the distribution of Just Us newsletter.

Approved

3. Great Southern Health [WA Country Health Region with hospitals] and South Metropolitan Health Service [Health district with hospitals]

Regional Director: David Naughton

Shauna Rose, Assistant Coordinator and Alison Carpenter, Mental Health Safety and Quality Officer approved distribution on behalf of David Naughton.

22/07/2019 – Alison Carpenter (Mental Health Safety and Quality Officer) provided JA with a mailing address and order of 50 copies.

26/07/2019 – 50 copies delivered.

Still in negotiations

4. Kimberley Health [WA Country Health Region with hospitals]

Regional Director: Bec Smith

01/02/2019 – Email correspondence about JUST US distribution was sent, received acknowledgment of receipt on 19/02.

19/06/2019 – A call was made to Darellyn (Personal Assistant to Bec Smith) who could not locate the original email so we re-sent it. Follow-up email was sent on 11/07.

25/07/2019 – Made another call and Vanessa picked up, stated that both Darellyn and Bec Smith were in a meeting and would call later in the afternoon. Call was not received.

26/07/2019 – Called Darellyn and forwarded the email dated 11/7 again. Still awaiting acknowledgement of receipt and response.

19/08/2019 – sent the draft report to Darellyn and received a response that they will communicate to their Communications team seeking advice.

5. Pilbara Health [WA Country Health Region with hospitals]

Regional director: Margi Faulkner

01/02/2019 – Email about JUST US distribution sent and follow-up emails were sent on the 13/05 and 21/05.

13/06/2019 – Made a call and Debbie stated that Margi would be unavailable until 19/6.

01/07/2019 – Telephone – [No name recorded] stated that they would contact us and send back an acknowledgement of receipt. Awaiting response.

11/07/2019 – Sent a follow up email.

25/07/2019 – Called the number multiple times however no one answered. Still waiting on an acknowledgement of receipt.

6. South West Health [WA Country Health Region with hospitals]

Regional director: Kerry Winsor

10/05/2019 – Email correspondence about Just Us distribution was sent. No response/acknowledgement has been received. For the CEO, Lee returned our call on 19/06 and provided a new email. Email sent to the new address on the 19/06.

11/07/2019 – Called and spoke to Julieta who stated that she would look at the emails. At that point, Lee Merrick was on leave and Kerry Winsor was in a meeting.

25/07/2019 – Made multiple phone calls however no one answered.

25/07/2019 - 26/07/2019 – Made multiple calls, and again no answer.

02/08/2019 – Called and said email sent on 19th June to Lee is being forwarded to HR department. Awaiting response.

12/08/2019 – 30/08/2019 – Lee is away on leave.

7. WA Country Health Service [Health service with hospitals]

Regional Director: Neale Fong

13/5/2019 - Email about JUST US distribution sent on 13/05. Re-sent an email on the 05/06 due to the lack of response.

19/06/2019 – Made a call and was provided with a new email address for the Communications Department. Re-sent the emails to both addresses on the 12/07.

12/07/2019 – Email sent to Neale Fong, however we received no response.

09/08/2019 – Found number for an executive secretary (9195 2450), need to call to follow up.

Rejected

8. East Metropolitan Health Service

CEO: Liz MacLeod

12/04/2019 – Liz MacLeod rejected the distribution of the newspaper, stating that the EMHS works in conjunction with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to support patients with voting and enrolment to vote. This includes the AEC providing information to the patients on “how to vote”.

9. Midwest Health [WA Country Health Region with hospitals]

Coordinator Executive Services: Michele Young

20/06/2019 – Michele Young stated that “Midwest health region does not currently have a mental health inpatient facility.” However, she reassured that WA Country Health Service has processes to ensure people admitted to an inpatient mental health facility “are enabled to vote assuming capacity at the time”.

10. Goldfields Health [WA Country Health region with hospitals]

Regional Director: Geraldine Ennis

19/06/2019 – Telephone – Peter Tredinnick (Acting Director) said, “I have no authority to approve your request” and “not interested in distributing the newspaper.” Instead, he stated that we should contact MHAS (see below).

25/06/2019 – MHAS has no authority over mental health facilities. Contacted Peter Tredennick who was not interested but agreed to be sent our JUST US information email.

11/07/2019 – A follow up email was sent regarding the 25/6 email. However, no response was received.

11. North Metropolitan Health Service [Health district with hospitals]

Regional Director: Robyn Lawrence

27/06/2019 – Telephone – (Name not recorded) stated that their health service is unable to distribute JUST US to consumers.

27/06/2019 – Email – We emailed asking them to provide us with a reason why.

04/07/2019 – Received an email response from Nicole Bennett (Office of the Chief Executive) stating the reasons why NMHS is not able to distribute the paper because “NMHS is unable to distribute non-health information to consumers and patients in our facilities”.

12. Graylands Hospital

Director (SFMHS): Edward Petch

Refused, as Graylands Hospital is part of the North Metropolitan Health Service.