MEDIA RELEASE
Gerry Wood MLA
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR NELSON

DATE  30/4/13
To contact Gerry: 8983 1302(bh)  8983 1237(ah)  0428 698 037(mobile)

MEDI HOTEL TOTALLY INAPPROPRIATE FOR MANADATORY REHAB

Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says the CLP would be extremely foolish to use the Medi-hostel at RDH as a facility for mandatory rehabilitation.

Gerry says that a mandatory rehabilitation centre should be designed similar to the purpose-built secure care centres in Holtze and Alice Springs.

He says the secure care centre at Holtze is specifically designed so that patients cannot harm themselves. That facility for instance has no hanging points.

Gerry says that people who are being held against their will and going through withdrawal from alcohol could do serious arm to themselves if the facility where they are held has not be designed to eliminate all possible chances of harm or even death from occurring.

Gerry says the Government should also investigate the facilities at Katherine and Alice Springs that they have announced will also be part of the mandatory rehabilitation program, to see if they come up to a ‘no-harm’ standard.

If placing people into facilities where there is a possibility, because of inappropriate design, that something could go seriously wrong, the Government needs to think again.

This is not the time for shortcuts otherwise ‘deaths in custody’ could be a real possibility.

Cessi foro gallinarum sed surgo