ATTORNEY-GENERAL
ACTING MINISTER FOR ALCOHOL REHABILITATION

FIRST PROBLEM DRINKER ADMITTED TO MANDATORY ALCOHOL TREATMENT

17 July 2013

The first problem drinker has today been admitted to Mandatory Alcohol Treatment where they will receive assistance to overcome their alcohol addiction.

The woman from Alice Springs faced the Mandatory Alcohol Treatment Tribunal after being assessed over the past few days.

Attorney-General John Elferink said the woman appeared before the tribunal after she was placed into protective custody three times in a two month period.

“Alcohol Mandatory Treatment provides problem drunks with an opportunity to sober-up, return to health, and exit the revolving door of protective custody,” Mr Elferink said.

“The Country Liberals Government believes the mandatory treatment will not only benefit the problem drinker, but also their families.

“Treatment can give much needed respite to addicts, addict’s families and the community which are often at the forefront of an alcoholic’s behaviour.

“The Mandatory Alcohol Treatment Tribunal will determine the appropriate treatment to assist people with alcohol addiction to come to terms with their drinking problem and get their lives back on track.

“Treatment options include up to three months in a secure residential treatment facility or treatment in a community residential treatment facility.”

“This Government has invested $45 million into Alcohol Mandatory Treatment this year and more than $100 million over the next three years to ensure problem drinkers have a way to break their addiction,” Mr Elferink said.

The treatment plan will include focussed therapeutic intervention to support behaviour change as well as work and life skills development.

The woman will receive treatment at Alice Springs.

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