



Western Australian Network of
Alcohol & other Drug Agencies

5 September 2016

Letters to the Editor
WA Newspapers
PO Box 1959
OSBORNE PARK DC WA 6916
Email: letters@wanews.com.au

Dear Letters Editor,

Re: Fall in crime reports is a welcome relief for community

Alcohol and other drug treatment services are seeing increasing numbers of people who identify methamphetamine as their primary drug of concern. It is encouraging that many in our community are seeking treatment, information and support when needed, with health and social benefits for communities in Western Australia (Fall in crime reports is a welcome relief for community).

Unfortunately, while the number of people seeking treatment is increasing, funding for increased services has not yet reached the not-for-profit agencies who offer this specialist treatment.

State Government funding for increased residential beds is a welcome and sound investment in a difficult budget environment, but it will not reach services until January 2017.

Treatment specific funding from the Federal Government, promised in December 2015 in response to the National Ice Taskforce, is still to be allocated.

There is an urgent need for increased alcohol and other drug services in Western Australian as we work to reduce methamphetamine-related harm for individuals, families and communities. Both State and Federal Government must ensure that adequate funding reaches the services most able to make a difference – alcohol and other drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation services - as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Jill Rundle
Chief Executive Officer
WANADA