

I manage the Eastern and South Eastern AOD programs within Anglicare Victoria, and was forwarded your email asking about workforce increase as a result of the changes that came into effect with the Welfare Reform Bill.

I spoke to a number of the clinicians that I manage and the response was reasonably clear, that our workforce levels haven't increased, but the impact on a number of our clients have been significant. Issues around clients having their payments cut off, and having to attend work capacity meetings without means to use public transport etc. As I'm sure you can imagine, for vulnerable people who are struggling with substance misuse, this sort of pressure or stress can have a significant effect on their recovery journey.

If you require any further info, I can put you in touch with the primary worker who raised these issues.

Kind regards,



Amy Youl

Program Manager | Community Services