

13 May 2009

Stuart Francis
Francis Group Consultants Ltd
PO Box 181
Wellington
New Zealand

Dear Stuart

Informing the 2009 Problem Gambling Needs Assessment: Report for the Ministry Of Health

The Ministry is pleased to advise you that it accepts as final the Francis Group's report, *Informing the 2009 Problem Gambling Needs Assessment: Report for the Ministry of Health*. The report will be posted on the Ministry's website.

The work Francis Group undertook in engaging stakeholders was of considerable benefit to the process of preparing the report, and the feedback from across the sector was positive. The project was a challenging one, given the range of information sources and the team's limited experience in the gambling/problem gambling field. The multi-disciplinary approach the team brought to the project was valuable in addressing the range of work streams making up the project.

The report is a valuable resource, helping inform the Ministry's problem gambling needs assessment and contributing to the overall picture of gambling and problem gambling in New Zealand.

The Ministry acknowledges that its feedback may have been more extensive than Francis Group anticipated, and acknowledges the team's additional work in addressing the feedback and peer review comment on earlier versions of the report.

The Ministry would like to thank you for the work undertaken on this project.

Yours sincerely

Barbara Phillips
**Group Manager, Minimising Harm
Population Health Directorate**