

## SEMINAR Department of Public Health



University of Otago, Wellington | 23A Mein Street | Newtown | Wellington

## Privacy Issues for Community Social Services

## **Brenda Pilott, Chair ComVoices**

Brenda will discuss social service agencies' concerns with the proposal from the Ministry of Social Development that all community agencies receiving government funding obtain and supply the personal details of all their clients.

Serious issues of privacy were at stake and the Privacy Commissioner conducted an investigation into what MSD was proposing. There were substantial concerns that this government demand would result in reduced use of services and support.

This proposal, now withdrawn, is only one of several involving intrusive demands for and/or use of the data of vulnerable service users and children. There is little evidence to suggest that government is retreating from this approach. Brenda will discuss the additional administrative load that this proposal would have placed on agencies and the ongoing changes such demands place in the relationship between independent agencies and the Government



Brenda Pilott is Chair of social service agencies collective ComVoices. ComVoices is a Wellington based network of national community and voluntary sector organisations. It was established so that sector organisations would have a more powerful voice at Government level and in the community.

Friday 9 June 2017 12.30 to 1.15

Small Lecture Theatre, Level D, University of Otago Wellington

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