



26 May 2011

Ms Tracy Martin
National President
Australian College of Midwives
Via email: executiveofficer@midwives.org.au

Dear Ms Martin and ACM Board Members,

Thank you for providing a draft copy of the Homebirth Position Statement for our consideration.

As you are aware key stakeholders developed a homebirth position statement in October 2009, namely, Homebirth Australia, Maternity Coalition, Australian Private Midwives Association and the Australian College of Midwives.

As this document was developed together and drafted in a spirit of consensus we believe this document adequately reflects appropriate midwifery practice, based on the ICM definition and the rights and responsibilities of women who chose to give birth at home.

Our organisations are unable to endorse the ACM draft document.

Our combined position is that the October 2009 document (along with contemporaneous flow-chart) remains the agreed position until all parties, through consensus, draft another document.

We have engaged with homebirth and maternity interest groups from across the country. Our united position is supported by the following organisations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Caines".

Justine Caines
Homebirth Australia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S Kerr".

Sarah Kerr
National President
Maternity Coalition

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Heath".

Marie Heath
President
Australian Private
Midwives Association



Robyn Dempsey
National Coordinator
The Australian Society of
Independent Midwives



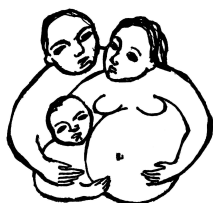
Andrea Quanchi
Secretary
Midwives Australia



Virginia Maddock
Coordinator
Homebirth Access Sydney



Georgina Young
Coordinator
Dunedin Homebirth
Association



Jacquie Harsh
Group Administration
Blue Mountains
Homebirth Group



Chrissy Grainger
Coordinator
Hunter Home and Natural
Birth Support



Claire Amai
Secretary
Homebirth Network of SA



Amy Hourigan
Caesarean Awareness
Recovery Education
Support SA



Joy Johnston
Midwives in Private
Practice

Kirrah Holborn
Coordinator
Nimbin Birth & Beyond

Cc: Ms Angela Pratt - Chief of Staff Minister Nicola Roxon
Ms Rosemary Bryant - Chief Nursing Officer DOHA