



## **DELEGATE'S REPORT**

14 June 2005

<b>DR1</b>	<b>NSW RURAL HEALTH PRIORITY TASKFORCE</b>
	<b>FILE: *                      CLR JHB</b>

### **SUMMARY:**

Reporting on attendance at a meeting of the Taskforce at Kempsey District Hospital on Friday, 13 May 2005.



Also in attendance was Councillor B Green. The NSW Rural Health Priority Taskforce was appointed by the Minister for Health to monitor implementation of the NSW Rural Health Plan.

The Plan included a range of initiatives to recruit and retain health professionals, provide greater certainty about the roles of rural health services and where possible, provide services closer to home.

The opportunity was taken to raise Council's submission in respect to the Health Care Services Plan 2005-2008 and in particular: -

- The urgent need for the allocation of funding for the preparation of a Master Plan for the re-development of Kempsey District Hospital.
- The circumstances surrounding mental health services within Kempsey Shire.
- The impact on health services by the Mid North Coast Correctional Centre.
- The removal of Dr Frumar from the operating lists for Kempsey district Hospital.

It is understood that funding for the preparation of the Master Plan for Kempsey District Hospital will be provided within the 2005 / 2006 finance program.

Dr Sue Page, Chairperson North Coast Area Health Services' Health Care Services Advisory Committee gave me an undertaking to have the matter of Dr Frumar investigated.

Dr page indicated that the Minister for Health is expected to announce the membership of the Advisory Committee prior to 30 June 2005.

The revised draft of the Health Services Plan 2005-2008 has been completed. It is hoped that Mr Chris Crawford, CEO North Coast Area Health Service will respond to Council's request to discuss Council's submission.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the information be noted.**

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**COUNCILLOR J H BOWELL**