Peter LECK - 22 September 2005

Report: DR M NOTHLING: Specialist Medical Practitioner in Psychiatry: Suites 26-29 Silverton Place,

101 Wickham Terrace, Brisbane Q 4000; Ph: (07) 3839 7088; Fax (07) 3832 1629.

To be tendered

He explained that he had had to come in on budget in terms of the overall Bundaberg Health Service. This caused a conflict between coming in on budget and delivering services. He stated a lot of the managers around the state had been removed. Sometimes there had been mixed messages that would come from above. It was not looked on well if complaints were made to the press about the local health service. Most of the outcries came with respect to staff cutbacks as most people would not be able to appreciate the intricacies of the medical services being offered.

He explained there were clinical indicators to assess the medical services, but he relied on the judgement of the Director of Medical Services and the director of mental health services to advise him on those matters.

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He felt that an effective credentialing procedure would have "picked this up". He stated that he believed the systems had not been in place to handle the concerns raised. He stated that staff were simply not confident under the Health Department regime to raise concerns.