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INFO BRIEF

ADVISER: Donisha Duff/Nick Cox

Issue **INDIGENOUS HEALTH FUNDING IN THE ELECTORATE OF EDEN MONARO**

- Key Advice
- The estimated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the Eden-Monaro electorate is 3,336 which is 2.63% of the total population of Eden-Monaro (ABS Census 2006).
 - The Department funds one Aboriginal Health Service in the Eden Monaro electorate, Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community & Medical Services.
 - The Department also funds one Division of General Practice in the electorate to provide *Healthy for Life* Services, Southern General Practice Network (SGPN).

Background **Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community & Medical Services**

CEO: Damien Matcham

Chairman: Ron Mason

- Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community & Medical Services (Katungul) is located at 26 Princes Highway, Narooma NSW, and operates within the Shoalhaven, Eurobodalla and Bega Valley Local Government Areas.
- Katungul receives funding from State and Commonwealth Government agencies to deliver programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Narooma, Moruya, and Bega as well as smaller communities within the region.
- These programs include: primary health care services, counselling and substance use services, dental services, sexual health, maternal and child health programs, aged care and disability services, housing and capital works, and youth and family services.
- The 2009-10 and 2010-11 OATSIH funding for Katungul is as follows:

Program/Project	2009-10 funding (GST Excl)	2010-11 funding (GST Excl)
Comprehensive Primary Health Care	\$1,039,885	\$1,063,802
Bringing them Home (BTH)	\$102,467	\$104,825
Substance Use	\$217,322	\$222,319
<i>Sub total</i>	\$1,359,674	\$1,390,946
Capital Works Project	\$2,000,000	
Total funding	\$3,359,674	\$1,390,946

- The Department contributed capital funding of \$2 million towards the construction of a new health clinic for Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community & Medical Services in Narooma, NSW. The total cost of the project is \$5 million with NSW Health putting in \$2 million and Katungul \$1 million. This project is expected to be completed by June 2012.
- The Department also provided one-off funding of \$194,649 (GST Inclusive) to Katungul in 2009-10 to assist with accreditation, strategic plan development, security, transport for clients, as well as asbestos removal from the Bega clinic.

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Contentious Issues

- Katungul has experienced a number of issues over the last couple of years including the breakdown of their *Healthy for Life* partnership with the Southern General Practice Network (SGPN). A recent procurement process identified SGPN as the successful tenderer for 2010-11 *Healthy for Life* funding. The Katungul CEO has expressed severe dissatisfaction with this outcome.
- Katungul has raised a wide range of issues with the Department over the last five years. These concerns have included levels of funding, the need for capital improvement for the Narooma clinic and services to the Wallaga Lake community.
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Southern General Practice Network Ltd

CEO: Sam Ireland

Chairman: Dr Hamish Steiner

- Southern General Practice Network Ltd (SGPN) is located at 73 Vulcan Street, Moruya NSW.
- SGPN receives funding from the Commonwealth Government both as a Division of General Practice and *Healthy for Life* programs.
- The *Healthy for Life* program aims to enhance the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health services to improve the quality of both child and maternal, and men's health services as well as chronic disease care provided in local communities.
- The 2009-10 and 2010-11 OATSIH funding for SGPN is as follows:

Program	2009-10 funding (GST exclusive)	2010-11 funding (GST exclusive)
<i>Healthy for Life</i>	\$444,704	\$441,460
Total funding	\$444,704	\$441,460

Clearance

Clearance officer: Garry Fisk, Assistant Secretary, Performance and Quality Branch, OATSIH
Ph: (02) 6289 5325
Date: 14 July 2010
Outcome: 8: *Indigenous Health*

Contact Officer: Gayle Anderson, State Manager, NSW Office
Ph: (02) 9263 3500

Attachments:

A. Funding Allocation for NSW under the Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership

Funding Allocation for NSW under the Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership

The Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership (IECD NP) agreement is a joint Commonwealth and State and Territory government commitment in response to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) commitment to *Close the Gap* in Indigenous health outcomes, through improving the health and development of Indigenous children in their early years.

The IECD NP Agreement comprises **\$564 million of joint funding over six years** (ending 30 June 2014) and consists of three Elements:

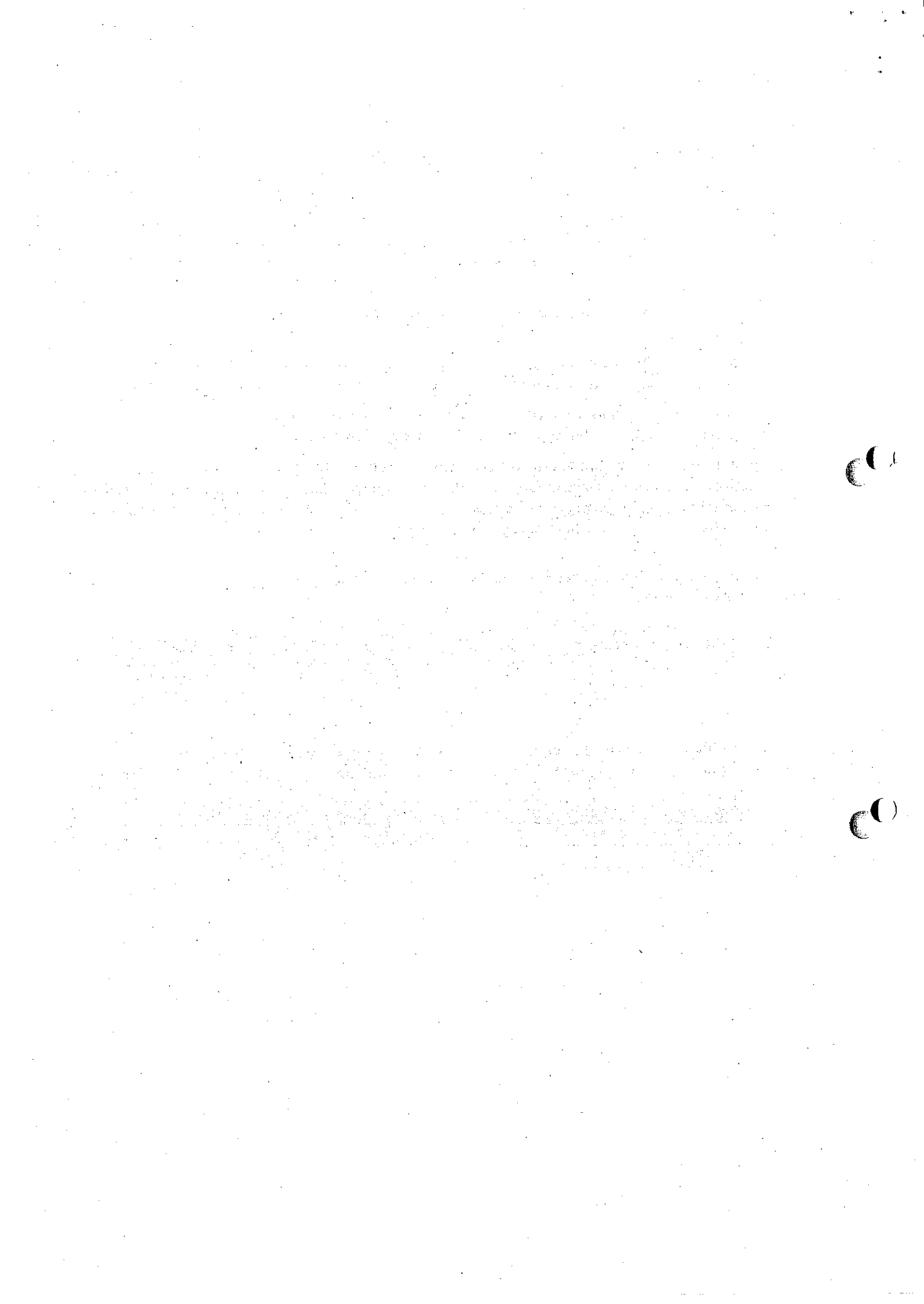
- **Element One: \$292 million over six years** for the Integration of Early Childhood Services through the establishment of at least 35 Children and Family Centres (managed by DEEWR)
- **Element Two: \$107 million over 5 years** for Increased Access to Antenatal Care, Pre-pregnancy and Teenage Sexual and Reproductive Health (managed by DoHA)
- **Element Three: Commonwealth contribution of \$90.3 million over 5 years** through the New Directions Mothers and Babies Services program, complemented by an **additional \$75 million contribution from jurisdictions** to Increase Access to, and use of, Maternal and Child Health Services by Indigenous Families (managed by DoHA)

Table 1: Funding Allocation for NSW under **Element Two** of the IECD NP – Antenatal Care, Pre-pregnancy and Teenage Sexual and Reproductive Health:

In \$m	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
NSW	3.75	5.00	5.75	6.00	6.25	26.75

Table 2: Commonwealth Own Purpose Expenditure Funding Allocation for NSW under **Element Three** of the IECD NP – Increase Access to, and Use of, Maternal and Child Health Services by Indigenous Families:

Commonwealth own purpose expenditure over five years, ending 2014	
	\$m
NSW	20.0



ISSUE

A copy of a 'Community Notice' to community members from Damien Matcham, CEO, Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community and Medical Services (Katungul), regarding the need for Katungul to vacate the Katungul Bega Clinic premises, has been received by South Coast ABC radio.

FACTUAL DOT POINTS

- On 17 March 2010 the Department (OATSIH) provided Katungul Aboriginal Corporation Community and Medical Services (Katungul) with one-off funding of \$67,700 [GST exclusive] to enable the organisation to contract a licensed asbestos removalist to remove the asbestos at the Bega Clinic.
- On 2 August 2010, Katungul provided a document from K20 Architecture dated 30 July 2010 which advised that during the works additional asbestos had been discovered in the sub-floor and roof cavity. K20 Architecture also advised that the Bega Clinic is non-compliant with the Building Code of Australia and that additional works were required. Katungul submitted a quotation to the Department for the removal of the additional asbestos, from a separate removalist organisation to that originally approved, for \$12,600 [GST exclusive]. K20 Architecture also indicated that the building remains unfit for occupancy and is seen as a health risk to staff and clients.
- On 10 August 2010, the NSW State Office sought advice from the OATSIH Capital Works Section on whether the documentation submitted by Katungul provided sufficient evidence and justification for the Department to consider allocating additional funding; and whether this raised significant OH&S compliance issues for Katungul's occupation of the Bega clinic
- On 12 August 2010, the Capital Works Section advised the NSW State Office that there was sufficient evidence to proceed with processing Katungul's application for funding for the removal of the additional asbestos at the Bega Clinic.
- On 16 August 2010, the Department advised Katungul of the plan to progress their request for additional funding to cover the costs associated with removing the remaining asbestos found at the Bega Clinic. Katungul was also advised that it was required to submit a one-off funding proforma as part of this application process.
- To date, the Department has not received any formal requests from Katungul for funding to cover relocation or rent costs associated with a temporary move.
- The Department acknowledges that should Katungul have insufficient funds to rectify the additional non-compliance building issues, it can present a case/proposal to the Department (OATSIH) with three quotes and the Department will consider this request through the normal funding process. The NSW Office of the Department will advise Katungul of this process.

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Current Issue Brief - Caretaker

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- A community meeting has been scheduled in Bega on 23 August 2010 and this meeting is likely to discuss community concerns with existing health services to the Bega and Eden communities.
- An invitation to attend this meeting was sent to Ms Gayle Anderson, NSW State Manager.
- On 17 August 2010, Ms Margaret Teuma, OATSIH NSW telephoned Ms Donna Aldridge, the nominated community representative, advising of Ms Anderson's inability to attend.
- During the discussion, Ms Aldridge expressed concerns with lack of services to the community.

BACKGROUND

- Katungul receives funding from State and Commonwealth Government agencies to deliver programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Narooma, Moruya, and Bega as well as smaller communities within the region.
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Contact Officer: Gayle Anderson	Phone: 02 9263 3500	Branch/Division: NSW State Office	Date Created: 17 August 2010
Clearance Officer: Gayle Anderson	Phone: 02 9263 3500	Outcome:	Updated on:
			Last Reviewed:

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