



Ordinary Meeting

03 March 2009

MAYORAL MINUTE

ITEM NO: MM1

SUBJECT: MEDICAL SERVICES IN WINMALEE

FILE NO: A56343-E

Recommendation:

That the General Manager brings back a brief report within 3 months on the possible ways forward to enable a medical facility to be established in an appropriate location at Winmalee to service the local community.

Minute by Mayor:

Reason for report

Councillor McLaren has approached me in order to gain Council assistance in finding a suitable location for a medical practice to service the Winmalee community. As a result of the outcomes for the Federal Governments recent decision in awarding a funding for medical super centres this need at Winmalee has become more urgent.

Background

Council is aware that the health care practice that currently exists at No.382 Hawkesbury Road Winmalee has outgrown the premises and this was the subject of a report to Council on the 1st April 2008 in response to Minute No 419.

Council is aware that the consortium, lead by Dr DeVries, did not win the super centre contract and that they are keen to remain in Winmalee and service that local remote village. It is clear from past resolutions that Council supports the retention of the medical facilities in Winmalee.

Current position

Given the size of the Winmalee Village Town Centre and the fact that it is at capacity since the Coles development, finding a suitable location is not easy. Whilst it is not normal practice for Council to become actively involved in finding suitable sites for medical practices, it is considered in these circumstances that Council should look at the zoning pattern in Winmalee to examine the potential to locate and provide these services.

I will be recommending to Council that staff report back to the Council with a briefing paper on the existing and potential opportunities for providing suitably located medical facilities to service Winmalee. I am conscious that existing staff resources are stretched and therefore would request that the briefing paper gives a general overview of potential ways forward at this stage.

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