

Wiimali Chronicle

Volume 11, Edition 1

Overcast and humid, High 32, Low 24

Hospital Alternatives on the way

Local doctors are excited by the news that small communities like Wiimali are going to benefit from regionally based Primary Health Care Organisations. “This initiative comes from recommendations made by the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission and will fund community based alternatives to hospitals” said Dr Philip Kinghorn, GP at the

Wiimali medical clinical. “Primary Health Care Organisations around the country would represent a sweeping reform to support local doctors and community-based patient-focused care”, Dr Kinghorn said. “Similar regional structures, built upon the vital role of local doctors in general practice, have been established in other countries and have effectively supported

comprehensive community based management of people with acute and chronic conditions”, he said. Recommendations from existing Divisions of General Practice to develop these new community based service recognised the networks essential role in communities and the expertise of local doctors and practice nurses in small communities”.

Long wait for pregnant Mum to see Doctor

Problems with the long wait to see the doctor at the Wiimali community hospital are back on the agenda. Ms Whittaker, 8 months pregnant with her second child, was left waiting for 8 hours in the Emergency Department. She had been worried about fluid in her legs but says others had to be seen first because they had more serious problems. Ms Whittaker said that she been unable to get an appointment to see the GP and was advised to go the Emergency Department. “I don’t want to jump the

queue but they told me to go straight to the hospital because of my blood pressure and what might happen to the baby. I had problems with my last pregnancy and lost my baby at 7 months” Ms Whittaker said, “so I don’t want to take any chances this time”. A spokesperson for the hospital said that they had had a particularly busy week and were trying to prioritise urgent cases.

