



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Tingha Unites For M.P.S

The Independent Member for New England, Mr Tony Windsor was delighted with the turn up of 250 people at the public meeting held last night at the Tingha Town Hall to discuss the provision of acute care and aged care services.

Mr Windsor attended with the Member for Northern Tablelands, Mr Richard Torbay, along with representatives from New England Area Health Service and Aged Care representatives from the Federal Government as well as the Robyn Jackson, Mayor of Guyra Shire Council.

Mr Windsor said, "The meeting has made it clear by unanimous resolution that Tingha would accept no less than an appropriate MPS."

Resolution as put to the meeting by Mr Windsor,

To seek Commonwealth funded residential accommodation care and enhanced community based services for Tingha and district.

This resolution was carried unanimously by a show of hands.

Mr Windsor said, "I am pleased with the response I have received so far from Ministers Andrews and Bishop (the new Aged Care Minister). Both Ministers have said that the negotiating process for Aged Care at Tingha is not over, and that position was confirmed by the Commonwealth Departmental representatives at the meeting last night."

"I was most appreciative of the attendance by Aboriginal Elder Lyall Munro who spoke on the need for the people of Tingha to unite behind the MPS model."

Mr Torbay confirmed the State Government commitment to funding the capital works required for the MPS, subject to a clear funding commitment for the funding of residential aged care beds by the Commonwealth.

Mr Windsor continued, "Having spoken to the new Minister last Thursday on this issue and again to her office prior to last night's meeting I will be reporting the views put forward by the community to the Minister. The clear direction of the meeting will assist me in pursuing the desired outcome with Federal Minister Julie Bishop," Mr Windsor concluded.

For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080