



Press Release

College of Nurses Aotearoa (NZ) supports the call to give new health boss a fair go.

Monday 20 September 2010 Press Release: College of Nurses Aotearoa (NZ)

Mr. Ian Powell, Executive Director of the Association of Salaried Medical Specialists call for new Director-General of Health Dr Kevin Woods to be given a fair go is supported by the College of Nurses Aotearoa (NZ) Board says Co-chair Judy Yarwood

Media reports of Dr Kevin Woods being responsible for the demise of 1,500 nursing positions in Scotland recently are just that, reports. Such reports tend to be used selectively and are frequently taken out of context. 1,500 nursing positions were not chopped, rather hospital boards have been urged to stop using bank or agency nurses, renowned for high staffing costs. Nursing and medical staffing is one of many complexities in health care delivery and one CDHBs have yet to address. However patient care and outcomes must remain central to any monetary reform.

As a world leader in workforce planning, Dr Kevin Woods expertise needs to be welcomed for what it can offer the health ministry working to come to grips with spiraling health costs. Rather than castigating the incoming Director-General of Health, Judy Yarwood says the College of Nurses looks forward to working with Dr Woods in developing a nursing and health workforce that serves the public health needs of all New Zealanders.