

**1 - If elected what will you do to expedite the building of the new Bega hospital and in the meantime what resources will you provide for the current hospital.**

The Greens are the only party strongly committed to fully funded health care. The Coalition is positioning itself to pass the buck to the Commonwealth for the new Hospital. The State has primary responsibility and there is no dodging that for the Coalition. The pathetic \$10M committed by Barry O'Farrell for this vital \$100M project is an insult. The region desperately needs this hospital and an urgent expansion of existing services in the mean time.

Hospital services cannot be viewed in isolation. The Greens are committed to improved primary and preventive health care, especially for our Aboriginal citizens, who face losing important community controlled services due to a bureaucratic and political funding impasse.

The Greens strongly support a wide spectrum of well-funded birthing services, including home birth and an expanded role for midwives. Community based and acute mental health care are urgent priorities, as is universal access to dental care.

**2 - What will you do to make sure the state contribution to the building of the Bega bypass is forthcoming.**

It is ironic that the Princes Highway passes through central Bega today because the Chamber of Commerce in the mid 1970s insisted that it should do so, for fear of losing the business of passing travellers.

Nevertheless, I agree that Bega would be safer and more pleasant without heavy traffic and as a Member of Parliament I would support the bypass. The Princes Highway generally would be safer if the region had better public transport, especially a rail link between major capital cities.

On a personal note, however, I will be sorry that Bega residents will no longer see the 25 log trucks a day (approximately 15% of the total) that pass through town on their way to the Eden woodchip mill. It is too easy already to turn our back on these trucks and the carnage they represent; even more so if we don't see them close up.