

25 February 2009

Torres report released

Queensland Health has today released findings of an investigation into the Mabuag Island incident, where a remote area nurse was allegedly raped in February, 2008.

Director-General Michael Reid said the Crime and Misconduct Commission had reviewed the report by the Ethical Standards Unit and was satisfied with the investigation.

"Some allegations that members of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Health Service District executive did not act appropriately were upheld by this investigation," he said.

"We accept this investigation has found serious faults in the way Queensland Health staff responded to this critical incident and we are taking immediate action."

The CEO of the Torres Strait-Northern Peninsula District has been stood down, effective immediately, while her role with Queensland Health is under further consideration.

Mr Reid noted that one allegation was not substantiated.

"The report found there was no evidence that Queensland Health officers improperly altered the Torres Risk Assessment Report in order to protect the Minister for Health, the Premier or senior management of Queensland Health.

"There was no evidence of any external pressure placed on the report authors to alter risk ratings in their final report."

Report recommendations can be found at www.health.qld.gov.au